



R.L. "Bob" Heaton

May 31, 1945 - September 28, 2020

Robert Leon Heaton Jr. (75 years young) passed away peacefully Tuesday, September 29, 2020. He was known to many as R.L., Officer Bob, Tomato Plant, Uncle Jupy, Daddy and Paw Paw. He was a "10-10" to all and will be greatly missed.

Born May 31, 1945, to Louise (Harrod) and Robert L. Heaton Sr. in Frankfort, KY. He graduated from Franklin County High School. After going to Georgetown College (well, walking in the front door of the admin building and straight out the back) he decided to join the Frankfort Police Department; graduating the Lexington Police Academy Class 1968. While in Frankfort he dated a young lady, then he preferred her roommate, and he and Rose Ellen Wiley were married March 8, 1971. In 1972 they packed up and moved to Louisville. He enjoyed a long 31-year career as a proud Officer with the Jefferson County Police Department (Adam District). He was known throughout the community during his time with the department. He provided security for too many places to list; though his favorite had to be working the Ballard HS Football games in the late 90's. He retired in 2003 and tried his hardest to relax. That just wasn't in his nature, so after a few jobs, he landed as Chief of Police for the City of Woodlawn Park, Louisville, KY. From 2005-2018, every day he worked hard, cracking down on residents who let their grass get too long. In 2018, he knew it was time to walk away from being a Policeman, and actually really retire. That was a very hard decision for him, for nearly 50 years public service was all he knew. In retirement he found a new passion...as a YouTube influencer! Yep, he decided to document his travels and start a YouTube Channel, "Ridin' with Uncle Jupy." Luckily for us all, his legacy will live on.

He taught us all not to take life so seriously - to love hard and laugh loud...even when in public, and not to worry about judgement, that you, and the people you are with, are who matters in the moment. He certainly lived by the lyrics of his favorite song, "My Way." He joins in Heaven his parents, Louise (Harrod) and Robert L. Heaton Sr., and his beloved nephew, J. Michael Clark.

He leaves behind to miss his jokes and laughter, his tolerant wife of 49 years Rose (Wiley) Heaton. As a Girl Dad he taught his daughters Rebecca Ellen Oeffinger (Rich) and Bobbi Lynn Croce (Kevin) to be strong and that no dream is too big. Being big brother to his sisters Sandy Clark (Jim) and Marcia Southworth (Wayne) was a role he adored. He was

fun Uncle Jupy to his niece and nephews. His proudest title was being Paw Paw to his grandchildren: William Robert, Katherine Rose, and Stella James Croce; Isla Rose and Wesley Harrison Oeffinger. He made friends anywhere he went and will be missed and celebrated by all who were lucky enough to cross paths with him.

Yuckadee

Services will be held at Harrod Brothers Funeral Home on Monday, October 5, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. with Bro. Jim Powell officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends at Harrod Brothers Funeral Home from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 4, 2020, and from 11:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2020.

In lieu of flowers, expressions of sympathy may be made in Bob's honor to the Louisville Metro Police Foundation, <http://www.saferlouisville.org>

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory. Condolences may be shared via the online guestbook at <http://www.harrodbrothers.com>

Cemetery

Sunset Memorial Gardens

3250 Versailles Road
Versailles, KY,

Events

OCT **Visitation** 01:00PM - 05:00PM

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Harrod Brothers Funeral Home
312 Washington Street, Frankfort, KY, US, 40601

OCT **Visitation** 11:30AM - 12:30PM

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Harrod Brothers Funeral Home
312 Washington Street, Frankfort, KY, US, 40601

OCT **Service** 01:00PM

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Harrod Brothers Funeral Home
312 Washington Street, Frankfort, KY, US, 40601

Comments



“ I was on Middletown fire department in the 80's. Tomato plant you were a great man especially when I bought donuts up to the old Adam station on Whoops mill road...you loved kickin' back at that place. Thank you for the honor of knowing you and the great CB radio. God Speed and enjoy your life. Tomato plant is 10-10...but I will always remember you my friend.
Steve Dixon

Steve Stevie Dixon - June 13, 2021 at 11:55 AM



“ Whipps mill Rd not whoops

Steve Stevie Dixon - June 13, 2021 at 11:57 AM



“ Dear Rosie and girls,
I was heartbroken to get the news of Bob's death. He was such a pleasure to work with at Hurstbourne Apartment Homes. I loved his humor as security he was "Light Bulb Bob"
He made my Hurstbourne memories happy ones.
You are in my heart and prayers.
Donna Olsen

Donna W Olsen - December 10, 2020 at 03:21 PM



“ Still heartbroken, the world is a much sadder place. Bob was the kind of guy who immediately noticed people, and made them feel like he'd been friends with them for years.

He was the best wheel-man a silly rock band could ever hope for, and I'm sure he saved our lives a couple of times on the road without us even knowing it as we napped in the back seats. After all, we felt safe -- Bob was in charge!

The one thing that always was obvious when it came to Bob was just how proud he was of his family. Becky and Bobbi Lynn, you are so lucky to have him as a Dad, he absolutely beamed when he talked about you guys and the families you started. I will never forget how much he made me smile, I will never forget how much he made me feel welcome, and I will never forget how much he was impressed by my electric lawn mower.

Trust me, you had to be there. And Bob was.

I am heartbroken. I miss you Bob!

Much love to all the Heatons,

-- Ben Schneider and Family

Ben and Amanda Schneider - October 16, 2020 at 10:59 PM



“ I am very sorry for your loss Rosie, Becky, Bobbi Lynn and family. Uncle Jupy was always a lot of fun to be around. He always seemed to be in good spirits and loved making jokes. I have a lot of good memories of him throughout the years.

Gerald Lang - October 06, 2020 at 10:03 AM



“ I know this must have been a difficult day for everyone. I wish I could have been there with you all today, but know that I am with you heart and soul. Jupy was always the life of the party with his infectious laugh and quick wit. My thoughts and prayers go out to each of you. He was such a special person and I will miss him deeply. -
Love, Paula & Christina Gatti

Paula Gatti - October 05, 2020 at 05:36 PM



“ I am a cousin of Jupy's who lives in Florida. I want the families to know how deeply sad I am over the loss of their beloved Jupy, the only name us cousins knew him to be. Living states away I only got to see Jupy when he was passing through In Florida, heading home. I know the grief of losing an older & only brother. Life seems forever when you are young, then comes the aging yes when reality sets in as we see our friends & family leaving us. My sincere, loving thoughts are with each member of the families. Jupy was special, always positive, and he enjoyed life. Love, Linda

linda brandfass - October 05, 2020 at 04:16 PM



“ I don;t have the words to tell Rosie and his girls and family, how sorry I am for their loss. Bob made everyone he knew fell better just for knowing him. I remember a trip to Florida with him and Rose and the girls. He and I went to Orlando to visit a friend of his and we stayed a little longer than we had planned. We were going to grill out back at Pierside Inn. I was driving and Bob said go as fast as you can I have my Badge and ID. We made it back 54 miles in under 30 minutes. That is when he told me that he really did not think his badge would cover us for that kind of a trip! I;ll always think of him when I drive that car. Rest in Peace my friend. Dan Staples

Dan Staples - October 05, 2020 at 02:10 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Heaton family. Bob will be missed. Bob always had a smile on his face and great sense of humor. The world has lost a wonderful man, father, husband,and grandfather. Rest In Peace. God bless

elaine richardson - October 05, 2020 at 12:46 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to Rose and the entire Heaton family. Bob was always a gentleman and a joy to work with.

With Kindest Regards,
Bill Stivers

Bill Stivers - October 04, 2020 at 10:17 PM



“ So many hugs and thoughts for Bob’s family. What an incredibly warm, kind, and funny man. It was always such a treat to see him and crack bad jokes with him. He was a classic, I always had such a warm spot for him and hope he knew it.

Gina Moeller - October 04, 2020 at 09:18 PM



“ I will never forget the time Bob volunteered to drive a bunch of scruffy musicians to an out of town gig in Georgia. On the way we had a blowout on the freeway at night. I don’t know that I appreciated at the time how fortunate we were to have him behind the wheel that night, but as I look back on it now I realize that he probably saved our lives. He had the most fun-loving spirit and yet was also amazingly grounded. Always had a word of advice for people that needed it, or a ridiculous joke if the room needed higher spirits. He was truly an original, and I will never forget him. Our lives are better having known him. My deepest sympathies to his wife, daughters and grandchildren.

Paul-John Moeller - October 04, 2020 at 09:15 PM



“ Jupy was an idol to me when we lived next door on Stevenson Dr in Frankfort back in the late 50s. He was always bigger than life to a 4 and 5 year old. Not sure if it was us or the Heatons that moved first. Funny that we never crossed paths here in Louisville. Also funny that we moved from Woodlawn Park in 98 before he became an officer there. Sorry to have missed him. I missed him when was little. I know he will be missed now

Larry Reynolds - October 04, 2020 at 08:10 AM



“ Bob was more than Police Chief, he was also a friend.

YUCKADEE!

Larry Lewis - October 03, 2020 at 03:36 PM



“ JOAN TAYLOR sent a virtual gift in memory of R.L. "Bob" Heaton



JOAN TAYLOR - October 02, 2020 at 11:01 PM



“ Remember Lucas Lane Lucian Parker Stanley Jones Clara and John Howard families good times growing up Rosie Family Prayers May God Be With you always Joan Howard Taylor

JOAN TAYLOR - October 02, 2020 at 11:05 PM



“ I worked with Bob at Woodlawn Park . His sense of humor always made me laugh. The story of why they called him Jupy was the best. He was a pleasure to be around and will be missed by all.

Gloria Curran



Gloria Curran - October 02, 2020 at 02:12 PM



“ Uncle Jupy was one of the sweetest and funniest people I've ever known. I didn't get to see him for a really long time but I will always hold a special place for him in my heart. I'm glad I can go back and listen to all his YouTube videos and remember his silliness. Love you, Jupy. RIP



Jenny Lang - October 02, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ RIP Bob & 1010 my Friend... You were one of a kind no one can ever replace. Our Thoughts & Prayers to Rose and family.



Terry Haycraft - October 02, 2020 at 12:24 PM



“ We hadn't been in contact for years but I often thought about all the crazy things we did together, memories I'll always cherish. You are in our prayers Rosie. Roger Maddox

Roger Maddox - October 04, 2020 at 12:58 PM



“ 69 files added to the album LifeTributes



Harrod Brothers Funeral Home - October 02, 2020 at 11:52 AM



“ Kristin Hinshaw lit a candle in memory of R.L. "Bob" Heaton



Kristin Hinshaw - October 02, 2020 at 10:18 AM



“ Prayers to Rose and the Family. He was one of a kind and he'll be missed. RIP Bob.

Laura Lutts - October 02, 2020 at 10:13 AM



“ JOANN DEAN lit a candle in memory of R.L. "Bob" Heaton



JOANN DEAN - October 01, 2020 at 10:10 PM



“ R I P- R L BOB HEATON. PRAYER TO ALL HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

JOANN DEAN - October 01, 2020 at 10:14 PM



“ he will be missed

Terry Steier - October 01, 2020 at 07:47 PM



“ My heart aches for all of the family and friends that had “Robert”. in their lives. So many stories can be told of his antics. I remember plainly talking with the “tomato plant” back in the early days. He gave me my permanent name The Mouse. Bobby and girls went to Florida same time as I and my boys went (my mom too) leaving Rose at home still working as my secretary. The trip was a hoot, dog races and all. So many years of being blessed by this.
Truly one of a kind, and will be missed

Micki Roberts - October 01, 2020 at 04:37 PM