



## Robert Alan Raboin

December 14, 1950 - May 6, 2019

NORWAY- Robert Alan Raboin age 68 of Norway, died Monday, May 6, 2019 at his home in Norway.

He was born December 14, 1950 in Norway, the son of the late Alan and Marilyn (Willis) Raboin.

He graduated from Niagara High School in 1969 and continued his education at UW Superior graduating with his bachelor degree in 1976.

Bob married Susan Russ on June 18, 1977 and taught school for 30 years at Coolidge Elementary School in Neenah, Wisconsin, where he was the Wisconsin State Teacher of the Year in 1987.

Bob loved music, singing and playing the guitar, he always enjoyed being with others and sharing his musical talents.

He was a big supporter of his family, especially his sons. He never missed any of their sporting events or things they were involved with.

Bob is survived by his wife of 41 years Susan; his sons Peter Raboin of Oshkosh, WI and Charlie (Samantha) Raboin of Colorado Springs, CO; grandson Nolan Raboin; sister Jeri (Roger) Allen of Niagara, WI; father-in-law

Pete Russ of Norway; sister-in-law Kathy (Wes) Palmer of Norway; brother-in-law Jim Russ of Green Bay, WI; many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his son Jon Raboin.

Family will greet friends on Saturday, May 11 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at the Ortman Funeral Home in Norway.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the Ortman Funeral Home.

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ I’m a school counselor who worked with Bob at Coolidge. He cared deeply for, believed in and fought for his students. He told me it was simple: “every kid can learn; it just takes some kids longer.” He found a way to reach & motivate & create a place for each one.... his classroom...he changed the world there.. he was willing to break a few rules to do it. He was creative colorful & full of life. I’ve met many fine teachers but none quite like Bob.  
Thanks, Mr Raboin! You gave it all! Enjoy eternity!  
Louise Hildebrandt

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**Mary Louise Hildebrandt** - May 16, 2019 at 09:15 AM

BW

“ Dear Sue and family. I am so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. The memories of our college years are flooding in, especially the weekends in the little house next to the store where you lived during college. We were fraternity brothers though not good fraternity members. I went home with you and him one weekend. Good times.

Bob was a really good man. Smart, funny, extremely talented and kind. I learned from him to tell you the truth. He had awesome values. In reading the obituary I am not at all surprised to read he was a great father. Not surprised at all. .

I don't think I can say anything to relieve your sadness. But I will be thinking of Bob and you all for a while and though I don't pray in the traditional manner I will send you all as good energy and thoughts as I can.

Sue. Take care. I send you much love.

Bill Ward.

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**Bill Ward** - May 14, 2019 at 02:45 PM

CC

“ Sue, Peter and Charlie - so sorry to hear of Bobs unexpected passing. I know he was a great father and you have so many wonderful memories.

*You're all in my thoughts.*

*Carol Clochesy*

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**carol clochesy** - May 12, 2019 at 07:23 PM

GR

“ I was so saddened to hear about Bob's death. I have not seen him since we were bandmates in "The Red Line", over 50 years ago. I love this photo of our band which was taken in the summer of 1967, just after we had won a battle of the bands in Iron Mountain. To me he remains, "Bobbie Raboin", our young, bright eyed drummer proudly sitting on top of that Vox amp. Rock on old friend.



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**Gary Richard** - May 11, 2019 at 03:11 PM

JP

*To Bob's family. I'm so sorry to hear of Bobbi's unexpected passing. I knew him around the time this picture was taken. Found memories of "The Red Line" playing at the team center in Norway.*

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**Jo Anne Marcell Pearson** - May 20, 2019 at 10:43 PM

GR

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Gary Richard** - May 11, 2019 at 01:59 PM

RW

“ You have my sympathy in this sad time. I remember his musical talent that he shared with his family and was enjoyed by all.

*Ruth Wohlers (Sue's mom)*

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**Ruth A Wohlers** - May 10, 2019 at 07:57 PM

CS

“ When I think of Bob, I smile. I'm grateful for his example to me as a teacher and as such a positive influence on two of our daughters as their teacher. I can still see his Volkswagen van painted by his students every year!!! Amazing!! 😂!!! You will be in our thoughts.  
*Sincerely, Cindy Shutt*

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**cindy shutt** - May 10, 2019 at 06:56 PM



*Dear Bob, how blessed I was to meet up with you and Ted at my sisters New Year's Eve party so many years ago and heard the both of you singing. I chimed in and the rest, as they say, is history! I will never forget all of our performances for family and friends and in public and the joy it gave me to make beautiful music together. You often said that performing together with Ted and I was a highlight of your life and it was certainly a highlight of mine as well. I am so grateful for the good times we had together. May you rest in peace.*

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**Katy King** - May 11, 2019 at 09:48 AM

KZ

*Mr. Raboin had such strong connections with his students. Our Friday sing along to The Beatles, Jim Croche, and many others taught us to read lyrics. I never thought of it as reading at the time, just fun to listen to his guitar and join in.*

*Favorite songs: Ticky Tacky Boxes, Puff the Magic Dragon, Albert Hall, Vincent, and many, many more.*

*I hope your Gold VW Bug was your chariot. Rest in peace.*

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**KarieAnn Zeinert** - May 12, 2019 at 04:01 PM

ES

“ *One of the teachers I think of most often and most fondly of - each time a Beatles or Simon and Garfunkel song comes on, the fact that I know the worlds to "We didn't the fire" or to the rise of Dreamcatchers again recently and our memories of making them with yarn and popsicle sticks in his classroom. He was also my teacher the year the Berlin Wall fell and I can picture exactly which desk I was sitting in while we talked about it. And those don't even scratch the surface of the life lessons earning those songs and craft projects had on us or the message of those songs and his teaching. His life has had and will continue to have such a lasting impact on so many of us and those we teach or raise. Thank you for sharing him with so many of us. We are sending your family so much love from all of the Shutt girls and "Mrs. Shutt" who was fortunate enough to teach along side him at Coolidge.*

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**evin (shutt) staskewicz** - May 10, 2019 at 04:35 PM

JK

“ *Like many have already said, I cannot listen to The Beatles without thinking of Mr. Raboin sitting up by the projector belting out his favorite songs. He taught us so much when we were so little and made a lasting impression on everyone. I will be thinking of your family and Mr. Raboin during this time.*

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**Jen Kehler** - May 09, 2019 at 10:27 PM

RC

“ One of the most memorable teachers I ever had. So many memories of the cool art projects, stories and books, and the love of music. To this day I remember him telling stories about his sons and all his motivational words of encouragement! Rest in peace and stay groovy!

Russ C - May 09, 2019 at 08:35 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert Alan Raboin.



May 09, 2019 at 08:29 PM

KJ

“ Dear Susie,  
I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. It's been so long since I've seen you. Wish I could give you a big hug! My deepest sympathy to you.  
Kathy Jung

Kathy Jung - May 09, 2019 at 12:16 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert Alan Raboin.



May 09, 2019 at 11:02 AM

KM

“ Dear Susie,  
I am sorry to learn of Bob's passing. I am keeping you and your family in prayerful thought. I pray God will comfort you and give you peace in the difficult days ahead.  
Love,  
Kim (Griffin) McDonell

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Kim McDonell - May 09, 2019 at 09:48 AM

JL

“ To Susan, Peter, and Charlie- I was very sad to see Bob's obituary in the paper this morning. Although I have been retired from delivering mail for almost 3 years, it was ALWAYS such a treat to see Bob outside and shoot the gift of gab with him and find what he was “tinkering “ with. Of course, I didn't mind seeing the dogs either. That was truly the best part of my day. Our prayers go out to all of you during this time. I'm sorry I never said anything to you when Jon died. I guess I didn't really know what to say . It was so tragic. On a positive note, I'm loving retirement and am enjoying making beef jerky for people to enjoy. If you were still on Doemel, I'm sure I would have stopped over and gave some to Bob !

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james ledwith - May 09, 2019 at 08:46 AM

TW

“ I had Mr. Raboin as a teacher at Coolidge Elementary. He was an amazing man. He taught with his heart and soul. I am so grateful for that experience. I will never forget the books he encouraged me to read, his stories, now and later, and music Friday's. He will be forever Feeling Groovy. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family.



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Tate Whitlinger - May 09, 2019 at 08:41 AM

JW

*My favorite teacher EVER!!! The only year in all my school days, that I had perfect attendance 👍 He was the real deal.....*

**Jill Wilke** - May 09, 2019 at 10:31 AM

SK

“ Susan,  
*I am so sorry to hear of your loss for you and the boys. Please know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers. I am wishing you well and miss you dearly. Sara Kroll*

**Sara Kroll** - May 09, 2019 at 07:13 AM

GA

“ Gail A. purchased the Emerald Garden Basket  
*for the family of Robert Alan Raboin.*




**Gail A.** - May 08, 2019 at 09:16 PM

DH

“ Suzie, boys, jeri, and family; I am so very sorry for your loss! I have so many wonderful memories of Bobby from school, skiing, and of course his music! We all spent so many great times together. I'll always cherish my memories of Bobby, and you all!  
*Deb Wodenka Hanes*

**Deb Wodenka Hanes** - May 08, 2019 at 04:03 PM



Elizabeth Paul

“ Among the lessons that Mr. Raboin taught me in 5th grade, I count knowing the all words to *Feeling Groovy*, *Sound of Silence*, and *We didn't Start the Fire*, as one of the best. He was an amazing educator who made a difference in the lives of countless children.

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**Elizabeth Paul** - May 08, 2019 at 03:38 PM

TS

“ I am sending my condolences to Bobby's family, and to Jeri. I live in the Valley but did not get to see Bobby when he lived here. So sorry for that. He use to visit us on the farm outside of Niagara. Had many good times with our city cousin. So sorry for your loss. Tedi DeClark Scully

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**Tedi Scully** - May 08, 2019 at 02:58 PM

BW

“ No other teacher had as much impact on me as Mr Raboin. I missed 5 weeks of school in 5th grade and he'd walk me though each lesson every time so I could get caught up. I don't hear the Beatles, David Bowie or *We Didn't Start the Fire* without thinking of him. A true innovator. Anyone that had him for a teacher at Coolidge was lucky. I can still hear him tell the class about having 2 sons and an "alien" and about his travels to Saudi Arabia and driving a Jeep in the desert at night. May his family find peace.

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**Beni Westgor** - May 08, 2019 at 12:17 PM

MH

“ I had Bob as a teacher twenty-one years ago, and he made a lasting impression on my life. He genuinely cared for his students, and made us care about the things he taught. His classroom was a shrine to the things he loved, full of Star Wars figurines and Beatles album covers- it's imprinted in my memory as a testament to the fact that we don't need to let go of the things that bring us happiness as we age. With a twelve string guitar and an overhead projector, he taught us the value of celebrating a job well done. I (and, I suspect, many others) carry a deep love of music and reading that was fostered in his classroom, and as we started to love these things, Mr. Raboin pushed us to form our own opinions and think critically. He made us feel like our thoughts and opinions mattered, a rare currency when you're ten years old, and a practice which must have taken more patience and compassion than I ever could have understood at the time. A lot of his students owe a lot to him, and I'm grateful to have had him as a teacher.

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**Mike Hughes** - May 08, 2019 at 12:10 PM

JG

“ So sorry for your loss. I remember hearing Bobby sing with my cousins, Bobby & Lisa Steeno. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this difficult time.

*Jenni Giguere*

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**Jenni Giguere** - May 08, 2019 at 12:03 PM

SC

“ Shelly and Chico purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Robert Alan Raboin.



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**Shelly and Chico** - May 08, 2019 at 08:22 AM

MD

“ Mike and Rosemary Dietz purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Robert Alan Raboin.



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**Mike and Rosemary Dietz** - May 07, 2019 at 10:31 PM

 Kate Powell

“ Mr. Raboin was an amazing teacher. He always would sing and play guitar on Fridays for his students. I remember singing Beatles songs. So sorry for your loss. he was a great man

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**Kate Powell** - May 07, 2019 at 08:44 PM



“ Mr. Raboin was an amazing teacher, and a wonderful and kind man. I will always love The Beatles because of him.

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**Megan Fine** - May 07, 2019 at 08:17 PM

JM

“ Mr. Raboin was one of a kind. He was such an inspirational teacher who was amazing at his job. He would give out laffy taffy's to reward us, and play guitar and sing on Fridays. He was my favorite teacher ever.

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**Jessica Martin** - May 07, 2019 at 07:43 PM

BR

“ I worked with Bob at Coolidge. He was the consummate teacher and mentor to the kids. He taught them to love music, nature, reading and art. I will never forget Bob and the world has lost a great light. But heaven has gained an amazing man, singer, teacher and guitarist.

*My sympathy to his family and all who loved him.*

*Bernie Roggenbauer*

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**Bernie Roggenbauer** - May 07, 2019 at 06:55 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Robert Alan Raboin.



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May 07, 2019 at 06:39 PM