



## Mr. Robert Crocker Howe

July 10, 1947 - February 12, 2023

Robert Crocker Howe 75, of Homer, died on Sunday February 12, 2023 at Guthrie Cortland Medical Center. Born July 10, 1947 in Cortland, Bob was the son of Robert E. Howe and Myrl Rose Crocker. who have both preceded Bob in death. Bob was also the grandson of Glyndon H, Crocker, Sr. former Director of the J.C. Penney Co. and the founder of the Crescent Corset Co.

Bob received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Rider University in New Jersey and did Post Graduate work at Bernard Baruch College in New York City. He was a graduate of the Simmons School of Mortuary Science in Syracuse and was a licensed funeral director in New York State since 1976. His work experience was as an assistant buyer with J.C. Penney Co, Fairchild & Meech, Inc. Funeral Home, Syracuse, N.Y., C.E. Chappell & Son where he was an Asst. Manager and Supervisor and was also a Real Estate Broker. Active in politics for most of his life, Bob formerly served as a Cortland County Coroner and was currently serving as the Republican Election Commissioner for Cortland County, a position he has held since 1995. Additionally, he served for many years on the Board of Directors of The 1890 House Museum and Center for the Victorian Arts and the Hospice Foundation of Cortland County. Bob was a member of the Homer Elks and an Elder in the United Presbyterian Church.

He is survived by his family; Ahmed Ebrahim, Jeffrey Crocker of Mobile,

Alabama. Joan M. Sheridan of Wilmington, N. Carolina and Tracy Crocker of Minneapolis. Bob loved to travel and very much enjoyed his travels to Egypt. He recently commented to his friends and family, "travel, travel often and do it while you are young." Bob was truly a people person, he loved his family and friends and always had a way of bringing his special brand of kindness and laughter to any situation. He was a true friend to many and will be missed by all who had the pleasure of calling him their friend.

Funeral services will be conducted on Tuesday February 21, 2023 at 11 a.m. at the United Presbyterian Church 25 Church St., Cortland, N.Y. The family will receive friends on Monday from 5-7 p.m. in the Chapel of Riccardi Funeral Home 69 N. Main St., Cortland, N.Y. Contributions in Bob's memory may be made to Hospice Foundation of Cortland County Inc. Kennedy Parkway Cortland, N.Y. 13045.

Condolences may also be sent by visiting [www.riccardifuneralhome.com](http://www.riccardifuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall

PH

“ *Bob was a wonderful man who always had a smile and a kind word. Our world is a little bit less bright with the loss of such a great man. Please accept my heartfelt condolences in your loss.*

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**Patricia Hansen** - February 23, 2023 at 07:35 PM

FK

“ *Bob and I were members of the Rotary Club of Cortland. We served together on the Cortland Hospice Foundation Board of Directors. We also shared the challenge of living with cancer. Like others who have written here, Bob and I did not share the same political views. Those differences, however, were overshadowed by a mutual respect and other shared values, which included community service and being there for others, regardless of their politics.*

*Bob showed good will to everyone. You could not help being infected by his humor, his energy, his intellect and his obvious love of life. He seldom talked about his medical challenges. And when he did it was with the same humor that was his trademark.*

*Whether you were life long friends, colleagues or simply acquaintances ... whether you interacted with him regularly or only on occasion ... Bob was significant. He touched your life ... and lit it up. He will be missed and he will be remembered ... with a smile.*

*Frank Kelly*

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**Frank Kelly** - February 22, 2023 at 08:07 AM

MB

“ My fond memories of Bob started in Mr. Lindbergh’s history class at HCHS in 1963/64 because seating was done alphabetically Howe sat in front of me and always found a funny way to tease me and make me laugh. Always glad to see me when I returned to Homer. Bob and my husband Stephen always found something to talk about, Bob’s sunny disposition made him many friends; he will be sorely missed. We will be going to Bob’s calling hours shortly - am sure Homer’ Class of 1966 will be there too. Bob, miss you already!! Thanks for the happy memories! RIP well deserved.  
- from Marcia Jones Blay

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**Marcia Jones Blay** - February 20, 2023 at 03:52 PM

DF

“ My wife and I had the great privilege to meet Bob (and his mother) when I first ran for NYS Assembly in 1992. I have so many fond memories of Bob; too many to list. I will always remember his wonderful outlook on life, his love of people and his smashing sense of humor! Bob was a bright light to me and so many others. My sympathies to his family and his countless friends throughout Cortland County and beyond. I shall miss and always remember my good friend Bob.  
Dan Fessenden

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**Daniel J. Fessenden** - February 20, 2023 at 12:05 PM

SC

“ 1 file added to the album Bob Howe & Governor Paterson



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**Sean Cummins** - February 17, 2023 at 02:25 PM

TS

“ Tom & Bill and John & Stephen purchased the [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) for the family of Mr. Robert Crocker Howe.

Tom & Bill and John & Stephen - February 17, 2023 at 09:48 AM

SH

“ So sad to hear of Bobby's passing. Bob and I grew up together on East River Road and were Homer School bus buddies. He and his family were such good people and neighbors over the years -- and Bobby always brought laughter into the room. Sending love to his family. You will be deeply missed, Bobby.

Susie Higgins - February 16, 2023 at 07:08 PM

SC

“ Sandra Comfort lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Crocker Howe



Sandra comfort - February 16, 2023 at 02:42 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Robert Crocker Howe.



February 16, 2023 at 01:21 PM

FF

“ I got to know Bob during our years together as Trustees on the SUNY Cortland Foundation. His warmth, laughter and generous spirit made for many memorable evenings as we shared a bottle of wine. He was a wonderful person, and he will be missed.

Fritz Favorule - February 16, 2023 at 11:00 AM

SH

Bob was a classmate and a true friend. Always had a great time with many friends after high school. Will miss you st our friends group get together. RIP dear friend.

Sharon Hollenbeck - February 16, 2023 at 11:59 AM

CR

“ Rest in Peace! Cathy Rogers



Cathleen Rogers - February 16, 2023 at 08:38 AM

NG

“ Bob and I served many years together as NYS Election Commissioners. As a matter of fact, Bob is a former president of the NYS Election Commissioners Association and served on all of its committees at one time or another. He was a true election professional leader. But most of all, I will remember Bob as knowledgeable, always willing to help and funny as hell. The year Bob was inducted as our NYS ECA president, He chose to have a hysterical full blown crown/robe and all the trappings regal coronation at the then 1,000 Island annual election meeting for leader of 62 NYS Counties. Bob was a serious election professional, but never took himself too seriously. I am sorry to read of his loss.

*Norman P Green*

*Election Commissionrr-Retired*

*Chautauqua County*

*PS Bob was a Republican and I a Democrat. We respected each other to the highest degree and remained friends in life to the end.*

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**Norman P Green** - February 15, 2023 at 09:26 PM

BF

“ Bob will definitely be missed. My condolences to his family, friends and co-workers.

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**Bill Fruci** - February 15, 2023 at 02:12 PM

KS

“ All of us at the State Board of Elections send condolences to Bob's family. He will be missed. Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky, Co-Executive Director.

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**Kristen Zebrowski Stavisky** - February 15, 2023 at 02:01 PM

BB

*Wonderful friend and will be missed.*

**Bev Berry** - February 15, 2023 at 03:33 PM

FN

*I loved getting together with Bob and having lunch and a Guinness. We did that a couple times a year for 25 to 30 years*

**Francine Nash** - February 15, 2023 at 07:51 PM

KA

*I was a member of the Cortland Rotary Club that Bob belonged to. I appreciated his witty sense of humor, his big smile, and the way he said what was on his mind. Even if I might have a different opinion, there was something refreshing about that. He will be missed.*

**Kimberly Allen** - February 16, 2023 at 10:27 AM

MS

*I became acquainted with Bob during my years of membership in the Cortland Noontime Rotary Club. I was impressed with his colorful personality, obvious sense of humor, and stimulating conversation. We did not share the same political views, but that never impeded our friendship. I offer my condolences to Bob's family and in particular to Jeff Crocker who was my classmate in Homer Elementary School many moons ago. Rest in peace, Bob.*

**Martin Sweeney** - February 16, 2023 at 11:56 AM

CH

*I just learned of Bobs passing and will treasure my wonderful conversations with this tremendously kind, funny, good soul. They broke the mold when they made Bob.*

**Colleen Hamilton** - June 16, 2023 at 02:07 PM