



Robert F. Tumber

June 1, 1926 - March 10, 2019

Townsend: Robert F. Tumber, 92, a lifelong resident of Townsend died Sunday, March 10, 2019 at the Lahey Hospital in Burlington, from complications of pneumonia.

He was married for 60 years to Barbara A. (Scurrah) Tumber, who passed away in March of 2010.

Mr. Tumber was born June 1, 1926, a son of Edward W. and Myrtle (Hobart) Tumber and was a 1944 graduate of Townsend High School. He continued his education at Northeastern University where he received a Bachelors Degree in Business.

During WWII he served his country in the United States Navy and was a charter member of the Townsend's American Legion and VFW Posts in which he was very active, especially on Memorial Days.

For nearly 50 years, Mr. Tumber owned and operated the West Side Package Store in West Townsend. A place where many Towns' people met to not only purchase product but to hear Bob's daily opinions.

Known to many as the "Mayor" of Townsend, Bob was always willing to give of himself to his community. Bob was always known to have an opinion in

Townsend politics, he served as a Town Constable, member of the Town Cemetery Commission, the Town's Finance Committee, member of the Townsend Volunteer Fire Department, over saw the Reading Room in West Townsend, plus being active member with the Senior Citizens. In his retirement he remained very active in the North Middlesex Regional High School Athletic Booster Club and for years was seen taking tickets at the gate of football games and basketball games. He participated in many town functions from behind the scenes. He received many awards from different Town's organizations. In 2005 he was recognized as an Outstanding Member of the Community by the William E. May Endowment Committee.

Bob was a devoted & loving family man. He enjoyed the simple pleasures in life. His favorite past times were BBQs with the family, watching the Celtics game as well as Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy. Bingo at the Townsend Senior Center. He loved spending time with his Grandchildren. He taught them how to drive in his 1964 Ford Falcon and how to fly a kite at the beach. He loved being at the ocean with his family. His laughter filled the room as his smile was a ray of sunshine.

He leaves two daughters, Ruth F. Coole and her husband Robert of Windham, NH, Nancy A. Finch of Lowell; three Grandchildren, Kathryn (Coole) McClellan and her Husband Patrick, Robert Coole, and Ryan Finch.

He was predeceased by his brother, Edward W. Tumber Jr, his nephews James Tumber and Gerald Tumber, and his granddaughter Jacqueline Marie Finch.

In keeping with Bob's wishes, funeral services will be held privately. There are no calling hours.

In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial donations be made to a charity

of ones choosing.

The Anderson Funeral Home, 250 Main Street, Townsend Center is assisting the family with arrangements.

Tribute Wall

EC

“ *Ellen Creighton lit a candle in memory of Robert F. Tumber*



Ellen Creighton - March 28, 2019 at 06:35 PM

EC

What a wonderful life! My sincere condolences to Ruth, Nancy and all of the family and friends who are missing his laughter.

Ellen Creighton - March 28, 2019 at 06:39 PM

CB

“ *Bob Tumber will truly be missed in our community. I consider myself fortunate and blessed to have known Bob. Stopping in to check on him and chat for a while was always insightful. His passion for Townsend was evident in the stories he shared. I will hold close our conversations, his insight, sincerity, wisdom, and laughter. My thoughts and prayers go out Ruth, Nancy, his grandchildren, extended family and to those he touched over the years through all of his civic engagements and owning the West Side Package Store. Such a loss to our town of one of our "elders" and leaders. Rest in peace sir - you have earned it. Chief Bailey*

Chief Rick Bailey - March 19, 2019 at 11:06 PM

CC

“ *Such a warm and friendly smile. Bob will be missed. He was so kind to my dad whenever we visited his store and I always saw him at the NMRHS football games. Our sympathy to his family. The Cameron Family*

Catherine Cameron - March 16, 2019 at 06:21 PM

JS

“ *Via con Dios Bob! I'll raise a glass to 'The Mayor' :) Sincere sympathies to Ruth & Nancy and all who loved this guy. 'Jay' Shaughnessy*

John Shaughnessy - March 16, 2019 at 12:25 PM

PR

“ *Paula Rhodes lit a candle in memory of Robert F. Tumber*



Paula Rhodes - March 15, 2019 at 01:06 PM

RL

“ *Ramona Lill lit a candle in memory of Robert F. Tumber*



Ramona Lill - March 15, 2019 at 05:47 AM

RL

My condolences to the Tumber family Bob was a wonderful man he will be missed by so many. Rest in peace Mayor Bob, Townsend has lost a wonderful man!

Ramona Lill - March 15, 2019 at 05:53 AM

DF

“ *My heart goes out to Nancy, Ruth and the whole Tumber family. Bob.....'The Mayor'he was all of that. Bob was a piece of Townsend. So seriously sad to learn of his passing.*

David Freeman - March 14, 2019 at 08:59 PM

RS

“ Love of family, country, Townsend, and it's people was Bob. Constantly thinking and questioning processes and methods, to better his hometown was always on his agenda. His stories and laughter will long be remembered. We are sorry for his family's and our loss and grateful to have known Bob. Rest in peace. Ron and Sue

Ron and Sue - March 13, 2019 at 09:55 AM

LA

“ I have very fond memories of Bob (Mr. Tumber) from my childhood - having grown up practically across the street from his store. He (and Barbara) were very kind, thoughtful neighbors. Bob had a contagious laugh, a big, big heart, and I always cherished the free pretzel stick each time he saw me. I remember him running out of his store when my bicycle handlebars came apart from the rest of my bike, sending me onto his parking lot pavement in tears. He dusted me off, gave me a pretzel and reattached my handlebars with a wrench. He was a very dear man.

Lee Arnott - March 13, 2019 at 09:29 AM

LS

“ To the entire Tumber family We are very sorry for your loss. He was at Town Hall Town Clerk's office more than anyone I knew of. He will certainly be missed. The Shifrin Family

Laura E Shifrin - March 13, 2019 at 08:21 AM

BA

“ *Very sorry to hear of your loss. He was a great man who touched many lives.*

Bob Allard - March 13, 2019 at 08:15 AM

NR

“ *Neil Rhodes lit a candle in memory of Robert F. Tumber*

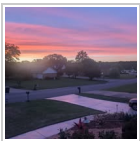


Neil Rhodes - March 12, 2019 at 07:51 PM

AK

“ *Ruth and Nancy
There is nothing I can say that will help make the loss of your dad my uncle and the Mayor of Townsend stop the hurt. But the memories of his laugh will be with us all forevermore.
With all my love Alan*

Alan Keefe - March 12, 2019 at 06:10 PM



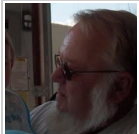
“ *Bob was a great human being. Good friend and citizen of Townsend. I always enjoyed my conversations with him. Heaven is a little brighter today. Rest peacefully sir!*

Henry Albro - March 12, 2019 at 05:06 PM

ST

“ *Mr. Tumber was one of a kind. He loved to laugh and especially loved making others laugh with him. Although it had been several months since I had seen him, hearing his voice over the phone at the pharmacy always brightened my day. In one of our last conversations I called him Mr. Tumber, as I always did. He told me to call him Bob because Mr. made him feel old. So I said how about I call you Bobby. I can't even begin to tell you the laugh I heard on the other end of the line. It was our little joke, my young boy Bobby. Rest easy Bobby* ❤️

Shannon Tesini - March 12, 2019 at 03:36 PM



“ *THE TOWN HAS LOST A WONDERFUL MAN*

Ed Rauhala - March 12, 2019 at 03:01 PM

LS

“ *Tumby...loved by everyone, such a wonderful man and special friend.*

Lisa Struthers - March 12, 2019 at 01:10 PM

M(

“ *I enjoyed how people would talk about UNCLE BOB, and I would say that's MY UNCLE BOB he's married to my dad's sister. I always loved his laugh and just how much he loved all of his family and friends. He was a very special person and touch the heart of every person he met. He will be missed. Love Muriel, Doug, Brandon and Tyler*

Muriel Lewis (niece) - March 12, 2019 at 12:26 PM

CF

“ *Cecile (Wilson) Franco lit a candle in memory of Robert F. Tumber*



Cecile (Wilson) Franco - March 12, 2019 at 10:53 AM

CF

To the Tumber Families The Angels has taken another icon from. Always enjoyed talking with Bob. He was one of a kind. Love the Wilson Family from Townsend Harbor

Cecile (Wilson) Franco - March 12, 2019 at 10:57 AM

BR

“ *Brenda Rodgers lit a candle in memory of Robert F. Tumber*



Brenda Rodgers - March 12, 2019 at 09:29 AM

BR

Bob will surely be missed by many in this town. I remember going with my Dad to Bobs package store for a visit. I wouldn't leave without one of those pretzel rods. My heart goes out to his family.

Brenda Rodgers - March 12, 2019 at 09:32 AM

LM

Bob was a humble, modest man who did so much for Townsend and it's veterans' groups, etc without expecting credit. I knew him first from his phone calls for the census, and when I put a poster up in his liquor store in West Townsend. Later, I would often visit at his home to hear him tell about growing up in Townsend and look at his photos of early days in Townsend. I would take him banana bread, and we would watch tv...I had just made banana bread last week, and was thinking of taking him some again...I will miss the "Mayor of Townsend," my friend Bob Tumber. 😞
-Lee McTighe

Lee McTighe - March 12, 2019 at 07:56 PM

PL

My heartfelt sympathy to the family of Bob Tumber! He was a kind man and a friend to all!! Loved listening to his stories of Townsend! Will be missed by all!
Patti (Schulze) Ladue

Patti Ladue - March 14, 2019 at 11:18 AM