



## Robert W Cole

February 1, 1946 - April 4, 2022

Robert W. Cole, age 76, passed away peacefully after a brief illness on Monday, April 4, 2022 at his home in Gurnee, IL.

Bob was born February 1, 1946 at Springfield Memorial Hospital in Springfield, IL. He spent his early school days in Deerfield, IL. After his family relocated to Wisconsin, Bob attended and graduated from Wauwatosa West High School. He completed his undergraduate degree in Education before continuing on to earn his Master's degree from the University of Illinois. Bob was a member of Alpha Delta Phi and worked as a school psychologist for the Waukegan Public School District for 30 years.

Bob had many hobbies and interests including extensive travel throughout Europe, cooking for and entertaining family and friends, and tutoring many students. He was a member of the Dutch Club and was active in the foreign exchange program. Bob was proficient in several languages, liked to research his family genealogy, and enjoyed music, history, and global cultures.

He is survived by his brothers Don (Sandy) Cole and Gary (Cindy) Joy; his nieces Terri (Jeff) Clay and Tammy (Dale) McGregor; a dear friend Pat Kenny; several great-nieces and nephews, numerous cousins, and several close friends all over the world.

He was preceded in death by his parents Luella Jane Tipps and Glenn Selby Cole.

Our family would like to thank the doctors, nurses, and caretakers who made this difficult time much easier with the care and compassion that they have shown all of us.

A memorial visitation will be 4 - 6:00 pm on Monday, May 9, 2022 at Ringa Funeral Home, 122 S Milwaukee Ave, Lake Villa, IL 60046. Memorial service will begin at 6:00 at the funeral home.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

MAY 9. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Ringa Funeral Home  
122 S. Milwaukee Ave.  
Lake Villa, IL 60046  
(847) 356-2146  
info@ringafuneralhome.com  
<https://www.ringafuneralhome.com>

## Remembrance

MAY 9. 6:00 PM (CT)

Ringa Funeral Home  
122 S. Milwaukee Ave.  
Lake Villa, IL 60046  
(847) 356-2146  
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# Tribute Wall



“ *Robert W Cole*

October 04, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Deerfield High School Classmate 1964. Good friends throughout HS.*

*Shared a lovely lunch in Wauwatosa several years ago, I live in California. Grateful we could meet up to reminisce. Love to your family!! Bob was a sweetheart!!*

**Stephanie Fitts** - September 25, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Robert W Cole*

December 31, 2022 at 11:36 AM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Robert W Cole.*



May 07, 2022 at 01:25 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Mikkel Preisler** - May 02, 2022 at 03:48 PM

RW

“ *Bob and I worked together in Waukegan for thirty years. However, our best times together were 2005-2021 after retirement and in Illinois and Florida. In Illinois we regularly met for lunch. In Florida we spent time at the pool in Hidden Gardens and went out for lunch or dinner. My post-COVID plans had included meeting up with him again in Florida, but that will not be happening. I miss him. Bob Wirsing.*

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**Robert Wirsing** - April 29, 2022 at 04:50 PM

PS

“ *Bob was a cousin but more importantly an interesting friend whom I adored. Blessings on you dear Bob. Sympathy and love to Sandy and Don*

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**Patricia Montgomery Sturmon** - April 28, 2022 at 12:01 PM

KE

“ I am so incredibly sad to learn of his passing. I saw him around the holidays after a long time of not seeing him. He was a wonderful man and it was so good to hear his resonant voice and we enjoyed some laughs even when talking through some more serious life experiences. He believed in me and supported my small opera troupe as well opening his home and sharing his amazing rice table meal with my friends and in laws. I am truly grateful to have known him. My condolences to his family of which he always spoke so fondly.

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**Kelli** - April 28, 2022 at 01:25 AM

NS

“ Bob was a dear friend and is dearly missed. We had so much fun and made great memories together over the years. From annual family/friend weekends in Janesville, the Queen's Ball and other Dutch Club events, trips to the barn (thanks to Don and Sandy) and a fabulous trip to Europe that Bob arranged for Bill's 50th birthday. Bob was more than a friend, he was part of our family. We shared a love of plants and enjoyment of historical fiction. Bob was a caring and generous soul. His passing will leave a hole in our lives but he will live forever in our hearts and minds.

*Bill and Nancy Shea* 🌸

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**Nancy Shea** - April 24, 2022 at 11:56 AM

PP

“ Our dear friend Bob has touched many lives, all in a positive way. We have known him since our college days at U of I. We will miss you. God bless all who knew him, it was our honor and privilege. With love from Patricia and Paul Plikaitis

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**Patricia and Paul Plikaitis** - April 19, 2022 at 05:30 PM

DL

“ Bob will be missed! We were blessed to see him many times when we visited Aunt Pat. We enjoyed playing games and chatting with him. Jim and Diane Langdon.

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**Diane Langdon** - April 18, 2022 at 12:33 PM

SF

“ Dear friend and classmate, May you Rest In Peace my friend!! Love and prayers go out to your family and friends!!  
Stephanie Fitts

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**Stephanie Fitts** - April 15, 2022 at 03:59 PM

SS

“ How sad. Bob was such a nice guy. Happy that we reconnected at the reunions. Very sad for his family and friends.

*Susan Heinlein Schilder '64*

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**Susan Schilder** - April 15, 2022 at 02:40 PM

JD

“ From the day I met BOB, he always made me feel welcome in his home. He always had a great smile and warmth about him. His door was always open. I will miss him so. God bless you, Rest In Peace.



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**Juan Diaz** - April 14, 2022 at 09:35 PM

DB

“ *The 1964 Class of Wauwatosa West High School in Wisconsin has lost one of its proudest classmates. Bob worked tirelessly on searching for classmates over 55 years to help in bringing us all together for our frequent reunions of our Wauwatosa East & West classmates. Bob also continued to be a generous financial supporter over these many years of the musical productions of both high schools. He will be missed by many, especially by our high school reunion committee members! RIP Bob!*

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**Denise DeLopst Bartlett** - April 14, 2022 at 11:34 AM

MM

“ *Bob and Sandy,  
So very sorry to hear of Bob's passing. We always enjoyed visits with him. And really liked to hear the genealogy on the family.  
You are in our thoughts and prayers.  
Paul and Marilyn Montgomery*

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**marilyn Montgomery** - April 14, 2022 at 09:50 AM

PW

“ *Thoughts and Prayers are with you. He was a great guy. We had many dinners and get togethers. I was so sad to hear about his cancer. At the end of the day, I am glad he did not suffer long and didn't have to go through the surgery. GOD is good. He is at peace.*



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**Paul and Teri Wakolbinger** - April 13, 2022 at 06:13 PM

KH

*i am so numb...i can not believe he has passed, i don't think any of us on the committee knew he had cancer...he was a delight to have on our committee, always bringing wit to our lunches. came religiously to the meetings, driving from illinois..thoughts and prayers to his family.*

*kathy schwab/haggith*

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**kathleen haggith** - April 18, 2022 at 12:50 AM

LP

*Don , Sandy and the entire Cole family...so sorry to hear about Bob's passing. He was such a kind and gentle soul.I am sure by now he has located Pete and they are sharing stories and laughing. I remember his sense of humor and how he always made us laugh.He will be missed! Sending love and hugs to you all. Linda Pekkarinen and family❤️*

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**Linda Pekkarinen** - April 19, 2022 at 06:56 AM

SD

*To Bob's Family: I am very sorry for your loss. Bob is a fellow alumnus of the Alpha Delta Phi Fraternity at the University of Illinois, and I wanted you to know what a huge contribution Bob made to the fraternity, especially over the past few years. As a member of the Alumni Association Communications Committee, Bob spent hours and hours over several years personally contacting every single Illinois Alpha Delt alum (over 1000 brothers!) to get their updated information. If he didn't have a brother's contact information, he did the research using public records to try to find him. Bob was doing updates to our database as recently as this past winter. Again, and on behalf of the Alpha Delta Phi, we are sorry for your loss and mourn the passing to the Chapter Eternal of such a loyal brother. We will respect his memory!*

*Shawn Diggory  
Alpha Delta Phi  
University of Illinois, Class of 1987*

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**Shawn Diggory** - April 28, 2022 at 05:26 PM

CJ

*Don and Sandy, Gary and Cindy, and Bob's Other Relatives,*

*It was my privilege and honor to call Bob my friend for over 50 years. We met at an Alpha Delta Phi luncheon in Chicago back in 1967 or 1968 and formed a special bond, visiting each other in the Chicago area or on the East Coast in several of his travels east. He served as an usher at my August 1970 wedding. I remember best his always ready smile and welcoming nature, his great sense of humor, and his sensitivity. He was of course a talented chef, and it was a true pleasure to share one of his meals and the bonhomie around the table. In later years, when I was in Lake Forest several times a year, we would always meet for a cheeseburger and beer at the Lantern in LF, which Bob always enjoyed. We were scheduled for a lunch this past December, but Bob called the day before to say that he just wasn't up to it. I will miss him and his special qualities. May he rest in peace.*

*With deepest sympathy,*

*Carl Johnson*

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**Carl Johnson** - May 09, 2022 at 12:40 PM