



Robert "Bobby" Hodges

January 18, 1948 - February 2, 2019

Robert "Bobby" Hodges, 71, of Bushnell, Florida, passed away Saturday, February 1, 2019 at the Baldomero Lopez State Veterans' Nursing Home in Land O' Lakes surrounded by close family. Bobby was born January 18, 1948 in Dade City, Florida to Leon and Sarah Hodges and graduated from South Sumter High School in 1967.

Bobby then served in the Vietnam War as an Airplane Mechanic, and, shortly after being honorably discharged from the Air Force in 1972, built and operated his own fish tackle and boat/motor sales business, Panasoffkee Tackle Shop. In 1988, Bobby was hired by the VA and helped open the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, FL, where he eventually became a supervisor. Bobby retired from the job he loved in 2012.

Bobby was an avid Gator fan and football season ticket-holder - he never missed a home or away football game. He also loved spending time in his garden and famously sharing peas, okra, and peanuts with others in the community. Bobby will always be remembered as a "giver."

Bobby is survived by his wife, Pat Hodges, of Bushnell, FL, and two children, son: Jody Hodges of Bushnell, FL; daughter: Sandy Young (Robert) of Bushnell, FL; two grandchildren: Kirsten Carroll and Kylee Young; his brothers: Bill and Wade Hodges (Sheila) of Bushnell, FL; sister: Virginia

Crawford of Mascotte, FL; along with several nieces and nephews; sister-in-law: Willieta Hodges, of Lake Panasoffkee. He was preceded in death by his brother: Wallace "Bud" Hodges.

In lieu of flowers please consider making a donation in his memory to Operation Patriot, P.O. Box 2443, Brandon, FL 33509 (Operationpatriot.net) Memorial Service A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, February 8, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. (with visitation from 10:00 to 11:00 prior to service) in Purcell Funeral Home Chapel, with Pastor Donald Northcutt officiating. Graveside service will be held at 12:30 p.m. at Florida National Cemetery with military honors provided by U.S. Air Force Honor Guard and Sumter County Honor Guard.

Arrangements entrusted to Purcell Funeral Home, Bushnell, Florida.

Tribute Wall

SP

“ I worked with Bobby at the Busnell National Cemetery, Bobby took me under his wing and trested my like family! I learned a lot from Bobby, he had me over to help with the new pigs a few times and it was something I will never forget. I am not sure I told him how much he ment to me. Thank you Bobby! Next time im in Florida I will be by to visit.

Shawn Pullen - May 04 at 11:53 PM

BM

“ I was the Director Florida national cemetery for many years Bobby loved his Job so much I appreciate the fine job he did and I know his family was very proud of him working at the Florida national cemetery he also served his country he was a veteran he will be missed I many including me. So sorry to hear about him passing away I'm glad he Is buried at the Florida national cemetery it was really a great employee

Billy Murphy - July 09, 2021 at 06:47 PM

MA

“ My condolences to the Hodges family. I had the pleasure of working with Bobby at the Florida National Cemetery. Bobby never met a stranger and could strike up a conversation with anyone and immediatly make a new friend! I will always remember his love of gardening and the Florida Gators. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Melinda Newman Anello - February 12, 2019 at 01:16 AM

SG

“ Bobby living just across the field from you and you living next to my Uncle Wilmer, I know that you too have a big garden in heaven full of peas, okra, greens and boiled peanuts. David said he hopes you have a big bag of Cheetos and that you was a great boss at the Florida National Cemetery As the say in the Air Force - Hua!

it stands for Heard, Understood, Acknowledged

stella gustafson - February 07, 2019 at 04:30 PM

CM

“ Bobby was one of the first people that I met when we moved to FL in '85. I met him at his tackle shop. Since I was new to the area, I found that Bobby had an answer for just about every question I had, about schools, stores, activities...you name it. I bought greens from him, after he told me how to clean and cook them. I'll always be thankful to Bobby for his help and his greens. RIP, Bobby. Sorry for your loss, Ms. Pat.

Charlotte Meyer - February 07, 2019 at 08:30 AM

JP

“ Bobby was a truly a caring, loving person. He was always smiling and sincerely interested in those around him. He was loved and he will be missed.
Praying for all the family and friends. May God give you comfort and peace and wonderful memories.

Jackie Peterson - February 06, 2019 at 10:18 PM

LW

“ I am sorry for your loss. I worked for Bobby under the 6 month temporary position thru a federal program back in 2001. He was a very nice person and I enjoyed his supervision. My daughter, Tralene Lucas, also a friend of Jody's, called me to tell me about Bobby. I live in Tennessee. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Linda Wilkins - February 05, 2019 at 06:28 PM

FG

“ I am so sorry for the passing of Robert, my condolences to his Family. I know too well the pain of losing a loved one in death. During that difficult time I found it comforting to focus on God's promise at Revelation 21:4- "And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away." Soon death will be done away with and we will see our loved ones again. I hope this promise from God's word comforts you also.

Franklin G - February 05, 2019 at 05:38 PM