



Robert J. "Bob" Heenan

December 5, 1955 - July 22, 2014

Robert J. "Bob" Heenan, age 58, passed away on July 22, 2014.

Beloved husband of 30 years to Jill (née Fulsang) Heenan. Devoted father of Megan Heenan (Stephen Fox) of Milwaukee, Katie Heenan (Joshua Parker) of Vermont, and Ellen Heenan of Clarendon Hills. Son of the late Thomas and Catherine (née Kenney) Heenan. Loving brother of John Heenan of California, Thomas (Donna) Heenan of Tinley Park, and James Heenan of Orland Park. Son-in-law of Marian and the late Larry Fulsang of Plainfield. Kind brother-in-law of Barb (late Mark) Layer, Dawn (Steve) Pelletier, Maria (Frank) Hutchinson, and Paul Fulsang. Fond uncle of 11 nephews. He had many lifelong friends who will miss his humor and friendship.

Robert was a proud graduate of Brother Rice High School, Northern Illinois University and the University of Oregon. Robert was a teacher and coach for track and cross country at Grissom Middle School in Tinley Park for 25 years. Prior to joining the Grissom staff, he taught at Rickover Jr. High School in Sauk Village.

Visitation Sunday, July 27, from 4-9 p.m. and Monday, July 28, from 9 a.m. until time of service at 11 a.m. at Heartland Memorial Center, 7151 W. 183rd Street, Tinley Park.

Interment private.

Memorials may be made to KEA Scholarship Fund Grissom Middle School 17000 S. 80th Avenue, Tinley Park, Illinois 60477 or to the American Cancer Society.

For info or to sign the guest book (708) 444-2266 or heartlandmemorial.com

Tribute Wall

PD

“ Jill -- you and your family and in our prayers -- I just found out and I am so sorry for the loss of your loving husband and father.

Pam and Denny Delnagro - August 09, 2014 at 12:12 PM

BR

“ Jill, my deepest sympathy for you and your family. You have all been in my thoughts and prayers.

Brenda (Bryan) Reilly - July 28, 2014 at 06:06 PM

DS

“ My deepest sympathy to the family of Mr. Heenan. He was a wonderful teacher to my three children at Grissom. They were all very fond of him for the kind teacher he was in every way. I remember how wonderful he spoke to the parents on orientation nights. He will be sorely missed and I will keep his family in our prayers for healing. God takes the best. Sincere sympathies to the entire family.
Donna Serafin and Family

Donna Serafin - July 27, 2014 at 10:23 PM

KH

“ So sad to hear that Mr. Heenan passed away. I will never forget his positive energy! I never liked running but because my parents thought I needed to be involved and have some school spirit back in Jr. High, I found myself on the cross country team. I never did learn to like running, but he was a great man, a fun coach and I'm so grateful to have known him. I thought of him recently when I purchased a pair of very expensive running shoes in hopes that they would help make me want to run. He was very loved and will be missed. My heart goes out to the Heenan family, you are not alone in your grief.

Katie Hynes - July 27, 2014 at 08:27 PM

JD

“ Mr. Heenan was an amazing teacher and coach who dedicated his life to his students. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Heenan family as well as the Grissom faculty. He will truly be missed.

Jennifer Doede (Grissom Class of 1990) and the Victor J. Andrew Physical Education Department

Jennifer Doede - July 27, 2014 at 04:33 PM

MJ

“ Mr. Heenan was an amazing teacher and coach! If it weren't for him I wouldn't be the runner I am today! I'm going to miss ninja ing him! He gave me the last ninja and he deserved it! Rip Heenan always in my heart!
-Maddie Jager-



Maddie Jager - July 27, 2014 at 10:50 AM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Robert J. "Bob" Heenan.



July 27, 2014 at 09:34 AM

KA

“ Kirby Education Association purchased the Blooming Garden Basket for the family of Robert J. "Bob" Heenan.



Kirby Education Association - July 26, 2014 at 08:02 PM

DC

“ I am so sorry for your loss. My deepest sympathies.-Dee Castello

Dee Castello - July 26, 2014 at 05:22 PM

AD

“ Mr. Heenan was more than just an amazing person, teacher, and coach- above all else, he was an incredible friend. He taught me invaluable life lessons in the short time that I had with him- lessons that I will never forget...
He taught me the pleasures of hard work
And the importance of teamwork.
He showed me the joys of reaching a goal
And the satisfaction of finishing strong.
He explained to me the beauty of integrity
And the fulfillment of fitness.
He knew my name
And demanded my best.
He did these things because he loved his students, athletes, friends, & family
And respected them.
I've become the young lady I am today because I learned by Mr. Heenan's example...

RIP Coach- always in my heart

*With Love,
Amanda Dexter*

Amanda Dexter - July 25, 2014 at 07:38 PM

EL

“ He would always make me laugh and tell me stories of my brothers who were students years before..Mr.heenan had a great sprit and still does. He never got mad at me when I was talking in class. My condolences to Mr.Heenans family, the sweetest teacher ever ,RIP we love u!

elmo - July 25, 2014 at 09:17 AM

TF

“ Bob Heenan was a wonderful person. Our five kids and myself have him to thank for introducing us and sharing with us his love of running. Bob always took time and loved to hear all about each and everyone of our kids and their races. He was so proud of his family, and especially his daughters and their college adventures. We can't believe he is gone. Turtle Head will not be the same with out Mr. Heenan at the finish line. Surely he is organizing a run up in heaven. Rest in peace Mr. Heenan, you will be dearly missed. Bob, Mary Fran, Bridget, Colleen, Olivia, Kevin and Sarah xx

The Teshher Family - July 25, 2014 at 01:28 AM

C.

“ I'll never forget how encouraging and motivational he was as a running coach. He had a story for everything and truly had a passion for the kids. Before every race, he would walk up to each of his runners at the mark and high five us and say "good luck." My friends and I will miss him and send our condolences.

C.C. - July 25, 2014 at 01:02 AM

AL

“ I remember you were our gym teacher! You didnt deserve to die so early\: it's so hard to believe your gone. You will be missed by many. RIP Mr. Heenan.

Alexa - July 25, 2014 at 12:45 AM

DB

“ Our family will never forget him! He taught gym to our sons Steven and David Buckley. He was David's coach for track and cross country. I, Donna Buckley (their mom), was a crossing guard at Grissom for 4 & 1/2 years. He was always kidding around with the students, the other teacher and myself! We would talk whenever he had door duty. He was always was in a good mood! He will be dearly missed! He would always greet me by "Hello Mrs. Buckley"!

Donna Buckley - July 24, 2014 at 09:24 PM

LY

“ Cross country coach.. I was a loner and I remember his pep talks to everyone. At the end he pointed at me and just said " I expect something great from you." Gave me motivation and i did really Well that meet. That and he shared his water.

lydia - July 24, 2014 at 09:11 PM

FK

“ Heenan Family- So sorry for your loss. Hal and Francie Krick

Frrancie Krick - July 24, 2014 at 07:59 PM

BR

“ Brigette Racine purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Robert J. "Bob" Heenan.



Brigette Racine - July 24, 2014 at 05:14 PM

EM

“ *emma : you were the best teacher i ever had!*

emma - July 24, 2014 at 03:46 PM

TH

“ *Mr. Heenan was the best coach and teacher ever. He was the funny one that would always have me smiling even if I wasn't having the best day. He told me to never give up at running and high jump, which I never will. He was so great. Rest in peace! We love you!!*

Taylor Hannemann - July 24, 2014 at 02:33 PM

AP

“ *So sad to hear this... the man was an amazing fitness instructor and even more amazing coach... touched so many lives over the years, mine and my sisters included... prayers and sympathies to the heenan family, you are not alone in your grief*

AJ Pope - July 24, 2014 at 01:25 PM



“ *All 3 of my children had Mr. Heenan as a teacher and or coach. What a wonderful role model he was!! An inspiration for both of my girls to run in high school. Our deepest condolences!*

The Plefka Family

Karen Plefka - July 24, 2014 at 10:43 AM

KE

“ *Heenaan Family*

My deepest sympathy goes to your family. I know Bob was a great man and will be missed by many.

Karen Engel

Karen Engel - July 24, 2014 at 10:33 AM

AM

“ *He was a lot of fun!*

Amber - July 24, 2014 at 10:00 AM

CD

“ Heenan Family-

So truly sorry to hear of your loss. Words can not even express how much of an impact having known Mr. Heenan had in my life. My mom encouraged me to pick one sport to get involved in and stick with through middle school and hopefully high school too, however this was not an easy task for me because I tend to have zero coordination skills and don't usually have enough interest/ attention to play other sports. When Grissom Middle School mailed out summer camp information the summer before I started middle school my mom saw the info on cross country camp and talked me into giving running a shot. Mr. Heenan instantly made me feel right at home on the first day of camp and because of him I developed a love for running and being healthy that continued with me through high school and even still today in college. Middle school was a bit of a rough ride for me, however Mr. Heenan was always right there and took care of me as though I was one of his own daughters whenever problems came up. His smile was contagious and he always made me feel better with his quirky jokes and laugh a little when I would see his crazy socks. I will miss seeing him around so much but am glad that he is at peace. Mr. Heenan's "luck" he would bless his runners with before races remains with us all.

Colleen Danaher - July 24, 2014 at 09:33 AM

SC

“ Mr. Heenan thank you for being an amazing coach and awesome teacher. You were a great mentor to many athletes and students over the years. I was so sad to read the news about you passing and hope you're still running in heaven. RIP

sarah swayka callow - July 24, 2014 at 08:49 AM

SG

Deepest sympathies from the Garcia family. He was a great man and a wonderful inspiration to so many kids.

sandra garcia - July 24, 2014 at 03:26 PM

DB

“ Had him as a track coach and health/pe teacher. What a great man always smiling and willing to help out others. I remember one time passing out. He made sure no one made fun of me and took care of me like I was one of his kids. What a loss to his family and the world. Such a great man. Rip. Prayers to his loved ones.

Dana Szafranowski (Blocker) - July 24, 2014 at 07:39 AM



“ I worked with Bob for 11 years at Grissom. What a great guy. You will be missed

Judy Hudik-sutter - July 24, 2014 at 07:31 AM

MW

“ All three of our girls had Mr. Heenan either in track or PE/health. Always smiling. I remember standing inline to purchase PE uniforms, probably a long day for him, but we was happily chatting away with kids and parents. Forever a part of Grissom.

Mary Jo Werbiansky - July 24, 2014 at 07:00 AM

A2

“ I remember always having to go to the nurse at grissom. He treated me like his own daughter and took care of me.

Amber Mccord student 2004-2008 - July 24, 2014 at 06:54 AM

UM

“ You were one of my favorite teachers. I remember you'd always slap my back to wake me up in your class, and call me McKeon all the time. You were such a good teacher and friend. Rest in Peace. You will dearly be missed from so many people.

Una McKeon - July 24, 2014 at 01:58 AM



“ I remember in health he always told storys of him as a child and stories about his life and i will never remember them. He will be missed

Jon Mandernach - July 24, 2014 at 01:55 AM

SD

“ He may have been crazy about biking in gym but he showed me how to work hard and make myself better

Sean Doody - July 24, 2014 at 12:34 AM

BC

“ Having him as a gym teacher and track coach 7 years ago. He was truley inspiring. Saw a smile on his face everyday and really motivated me in gym class. R.I.P

Brad Clemmer - July 23, 2014 at 11:50 PM

TJ

“ It's pretty amazing how a person like coach touches so many lives. I remember running "tours" with him on a daily basis like it was yesterday. And that was 20 years ago! A strong, gentle leader. RIP coach.

TJ - July 23, 2014 at 11:14 PM

DO

“ All of my children had Mr. Heenan as their teacher at Grissom. He was a wonderful teacher truly dedicated and gifted, he will be sorely missed. Our deepest sympathy to his family, he will never be forgotten. The Serafin Family

Donna - July 23, 2014 at 10:18 PM

BK

“ RIP Mr. Heenan. These next 100 calories burned will be in your honor!!!

Brad Kaiser - July 23, 2014 at 09:32 PM

SB

“ Mr. Heenan was the man who introduced me to the wonderful sport of track and field. I never had too many friends in middle school.. not many at all.. it was a super depressing time.. until he taught me how to run and make friends with all of my teammates. Not to mention how I'm in SUPER great shape and I have a dream of coaching my own track team and becoming a personal trainer. I was next to tears when I heard he left. But at least he's touched all of our hearts before he left.. rest in peace Coach?

Samuel Bohlin - July 23, 2014 at 08:46 PM

GH

“ My deepest sympathy to Jill, Megan, Ellen and Kattie, during this most difficult time. My prayers are with the entire family. Bob was taken too soon. He ran hard his whole life and now he will rest in the arms of those who have gone before. May you find peace in his rest.

Gladys Heenan - July 23, 2014 at 07:43 PM

MR

“ Dear Jill and family, I am so sorry to hear such sad news. Praying for strength to help you stay strong during this heartbreaking time. Your friends are here for you.

michelle rohde - July 23, 2014 at 05:59 PM

JM

“ I am so sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.
Jan Miller

Janice Miller - July 23, 2014 at 05:02 PM

JO

“ I am so sorry for your loss, my prayers and are with you and your family. *JoAnn Dunn*

Josephine - July 23, 2014 at 02:31 PM

Tammy
Welch
Beebe

“ So sorry *Jill and family. Tammy Beebe*

Tammy Welch Beebe - July 23, 2014 at 11:54 AM



“ Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of
Robert J. "Bob" Heenan.



July 23, 2014 at 08:52 AM

LM

“ Heenan Family,
Three of my children had the good fortune of having Mr. Heenan as a teacher, coach or both. His energy, friendliness and knowledge made him a big favorite in our house as well as many others, I would imagine. Student athletes attending Grissom during his tenure there were very lucky, indeed. As fellow U of Oregon graduates, he and I occasionally exchanged e-mails about Duck news the past few years and that will be missed. My family is deeply saddened about your loss.
L. Maday

Larry Maday - July 23, 2014 at 08:52 AM

FA

“ *Jill and Family,*

Bob was a terrific man whom I was honored to know. His cross country and track kids loved him and he was a credit to the teaching profession.

My thoughts are with all of you at this most difficult time.

Fred Allman

Fred Allman - July 22, 2014 at 10:17 PM