



# David Page Robbins

FEB 14, 1940 - SEP 25, 2018



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## David Page Robbins

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**D**avid P. Robbins, 78, of Fredericksburg, passed away on Tuesday, September 25, 2018.

David was born in Schenectady, New York. He spent his school years there and his summers in York Beach, Maine. In 1961, he graduated from the University of Rochester with his fiancée, Martha Lightbown. They were married later that year. David served in the US Army Reserve 1962-68. In 1965, he graduated from UC Riverside and returned to the east coast. He and Martha raised their two daughters in New Hampshire and later retired to Virginia.

David was a lifelong learner. He was a passionate public educator (US history and geography) at New York and New Hampshire schools for many years. A cheerful, friendly man who was full of wit, he loved talking with and learning about others. He treated everyone with equal respect and interest, touching the hearts of all who met him. He was deeply committed to helping the overlooked and the underprivileged. David was exceptionally musical: he sang, played the piano, listened to music all day long, and collected vintage sheet music. His other special interests included baseball, maps, current events, statistics, and religion. He was a lifelong Christian—a Presbyterian as a child, an Episcopalian as a young adult, and then a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where he served as a pianist, teacher, and leader for almost 40 years.

Above all, David adored his family. He delighted in his beloved wife, children, grandchildren, and great grandchild and spent many hours communicating with treasured extended family. He kept a journal, wrote his personal history for his posterity, researched family history, and covered his walls with family trees and pictures of his ancestors and descendants.

Left to cherish his memory are his devoted wife of 57 years, Martha; children, Beth Austin (Gary) and Meg Andrew (Bruce); grandchildren, Michael (Rachel), Sarah, Becca, and Daniel Austin and Wil, Amy, Henry, and Martin Desposorio; great-grandson, Clive Austin; brother, Doug Robbins; nephew, Joseph Robbins; niece, Deborah Speckhard (Jesse); cousins, Joanne Smith and Paula Page



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(Lee); and many other cousins, nieces, and nephews. David has now joined his parents, Barbara and Ralph Robbins; aunt and uncle, Muriel and Clayton Robbins; niece, Sarah Robbins; nephew, Thomas Robbins; and cousin Joanne's husband, Bruce Smith.

A service to remember and celebrate David's life was held privately, per his wishes.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Doctors Without Borders (<https://donate.doctorswithoutborders.org/onetime.cfm>), the American Indian College Fund (<https://collegefund.org/make-a-gift/?source=website>), and the United Negro College Fund (<https://www.uncf.org/ways-to-donate>).



## Tribute Wall

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RM

**Robert Mead** posted:

Dear Martha and Family, I was a fraternity brother of Dave's at Rochester. He was a close friend although our paths drifted apart over the years. I just ran across Dave's obituary and extend my most sincere, if late, condolences. All Honor to his Name! With much sympathy and fondest memories, Bob Mead, Fayetteville, TN

March 18 at 1:52 PM

DB

**Diane Bainton** posted:

Dear Mrs. Robbins (Martha), I was so sorry and shocked to hear of Mr. Robbins's passing, as, of course, were my parents. You were wonderful friends to our family in the Wolfeboro days, and we have always thought of you very fondly. I have such good memories of baby-sitting for Beth and Meg when you and Mr. Robbins had a night out. It was my privilege to watch them, and they couldn't have been easier or more fun to be with at that time. I am thinking of you and your family with love. With much sympathy, Diane Bainton

October 15 at 5:08 PM

ED

**Edith Desmarais** posted:

Hello Martha and girls, We were so sorry to hear about David/your Dad. You all were such an important part of our lives during our early years when you were in Wolfeboro. Those were special times as we supported each other during those "baby" and early marriage times. We traded off little ones to get much needed breaks and opportunities to get things done and shared so many long conversations. Those were precious times and your friendship meant so much. We still have some fun pictures of the kids together and know Michelle enjoys keeping up with Beth. Please know that we are holding you in our prayers. If you are ever back in our area, feel free to get in touch. [desmarpe@metrocast.net](mailto:desmarpe@metrocast.net). Love to all of you and your families, Edie & Paul DesMarais

October 11 at 10:27 AM

AO

**Anna Okelly** posted:

Martha & family, Mel & I are very sorry for your loss. David was a very special man. We are sorry we lost track of you over the years. We enjoyed your family when you lived in Keene NH. If you would like to email us or call us we would like to hear from you. Our email address is [aoelly1947@gmail.com](mailto:aoelly1947@gmail.com), our phone number is 603-357-3929. Our address is Melvin & Anna Okelly, 334 Roxbury St., Keene NH 03431.

October 8 at 5:57 AM



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**Thomas Widgeon** sent a virtual gift in honor of David.

Sorry For Your Loss Jesus Loves Me We Are Special

October 7 at 5:42 PM





# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring David by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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