



Bobby Van Sykes

August 14, 1955 - February 21, 2018

Bobby Van Sykes of Stevensville, MD, passed away on February 21, 2018, at University of Maryland Shore Medical Center in Easton, MD. He was 62.

Born on August 14, 1955, in Durham, NC, he was the son of Bobby G. Sykes of NC and the late Joann Thompson Sykes. Van grew up in the Apex, NC, area before moving to MD. He enjoyed spending time with his family as well as building and racing cars.

In addition to his father, Van is survived by his wife, Mari Sykes, and two sons, Timothy and Stuart of Stevensville, MD; daughters, Shelley and Jessica (Stanley) of NC; five grandchildren, Jacob, Sydney, Katyann, Mason, Blake; sister, Kim; and brother, Neal (Stephanie). He was predeceased by his brother Tracy (Lori).

A memorial gathering will be held on Thursday, March 1, 2018, from 6-8 pm, at the Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A. in Chester, MD.

An additional memorial gathering will be held on Saturday, March 3, 2018, from 2-4 pm at the Green Level Baptist Church in Cary, NC.

Memorial contributions may be made in Van's name to: Polycystic Kidney Disease (PKD) Foundation, 1001 E. 101st Terrace, Suite 220, Kansas City,

MO 64131.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

MAR 1. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Chester Location / Kent Island
106 Shamrock Road
Chester, MD 21619
(410) 643-2226
info@fhfuneralhome.com

Memorial Gathering

MAR 3. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Green Level Baptist Church
8509 Green Level Church Road
Cary, NC 27519
(919) 362-4310

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Bobby Van Sykes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - March 01, 2018 at 01:59 PM



“ *Bobby Van Sykes*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Bobby Van Sykes*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Bobby Van Sykes*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Beth Holland lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes*



Beth Holland - March 02, 2018 at 06:48 PM

ML

Prayers for family

Margaret lemons - March 03, 2018 at 09:22 AM

CL

“ *Mari, Stuart & Tim,
We are so sorry for your loss. We had the pleasure of meeting Van & Stuart through Hawks Lax and over the many tournaments and outing became friend with you all while watching our boys grow up. Van was a very sweet geantlemen and always a joy to chat with... he will be missed. Our thoughts and prayer are with you now and always . XO
Scott, Cheri, Hannah & Eric Leasner*

Cheri Hoffman Leasner - March 01, 2018 at 07:08 PM

KA

“ *We will miss you friend...*

Marty, Sr, Marty Jr and Karen Armin

Karen Armin - March 01, 2018 at 04:17 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



March 01, 2018 at 01:00 PM

OF

“ *Our warmest condolences, your NSA work family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



Our warmest condolences, your NSA work family - March 01, 2018 at 11:55 AM

YW

“ *Your Co Workers - Ralph and Warren purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



Your Co Workers - Ralph and Warren - March 01, 2018 at 10:31 AM

JF

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Jessica Faircloth - March 01, 2018 at 10:03 AM

JF

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jessica Faircloth - March 01, 2018 at 10:01 AM

JF

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jessica Faircloth - March 01, 2018 at 09:59 AM

JF

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jessica Faircloth - March 01, 2018 at 09:58 AM

MP

“ *Mark and the team at Construction Equipment Parts purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



Mark and the team at Construction Equipment Parts - March 01, 2018 at 09:33 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



March 01, 2018 at 09:26 AM

BG

“ *Van was my boss at Fort Totten for 5 years but knew him before that. He was a great person to work for. He will be greatly missed. Van, your voicemail is now empty. Miss you.*



Billy Grant - February 28, 2018 at 09:02 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



February 28, 2018 at 08:50 PM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



February 28, 2018 at 03:18 PM



“ *"Dad dwells among the angels now
He left us much too soon
He glides across a golden field
Above the harvest moon.
I see him in the summer rain,
He rides upon the wind
And when my path is beaten down
He picks me up again."*



Jessica Faircloth - February 28, 2018 at 11:15 AM



“ *William (Billy) Chaiser lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes*



William (Billy) Chaiser - February 28, 2018 at 11:11 AM

KS

“ Keith & Kathy Sheaks lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes



Keith & Kathy Sheaks - February 28, 2018 at 11:10 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.



February 28, 2018 at 08:39 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.



February 27, 2018 at 07:49 PM

VF

“ Van's Aggregate/LaFarge Maintenance/Fleet Family purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.



Van's Aggregate/LaFarge Maintenance/Fleet Family -
February 27, 2018 at 12:07 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



February 27, 2018 at 12:01 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



February 27, 2018 at 09:16 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



February 27, 2018 at 09:04 AM

SW

“ I met Van at Old Dominion Speedway. He parked beside me and on the back of his truck was an KI (Kent Island). We started talking and found out we only lived a few miles from each other. We raced together for many years after that. Van was the kind of the guy who would help you any time. We spent many hours under a race car together as I tried to absorb as much knowledge from him as I could. He loved racing and loved helping people. His other love was his family and I pray for them at this time to have peace. Mari, Timothy and Stewart I know your heart is hurting but take comfort that he is a better place.

RIP #82

Scott Wilkerson - February 27, 2018 at 08:13 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.



February 27, 2018 at 07:35 AM

BB

“ *Bill Bartgis lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes*



Bill Bartgis - February 27, 2018 at 06:44 AM

BK

“ Van was a super cool guy. I met Van thought Scott Wilkerson and the late great Don Hughes.
We were in Florida at the us legends winter nationals when Van and I traded race cars my coupe for his sedan. He said he always wanted a coupe... the year would have been 2013 or 2014 maybe. Van was a fun guy and I enjoyed racing with him. He will be missed by all...
Go get you some Van!!
Rip

barry kramer - February 26, 2018 at 10:42 PM

JF

“ Jessica Faircloth lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes



Jessica Faircloth - February 26, 2018 at 09:41 PM

PT

“ Patti Thompson lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes



Patti Thompson - February 26, 2018 at 08:45 PM



“ *Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



February 26, 2018 at 08:34 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.*



February 26, 2018 at 08:16 PM



“ *My hearts breaks for the Sykes' family and friends. I pray God gives you peace and comfort in the days ahead.*

Bruce and Penny Jacobs - February 26, 2018 at 08:14 PM



“ *I remember the first time I met Van. He was my nephew (by marriage) and I didn't quite know how to think of that big strapping, handsome hunk of a man as a nephew. He was all of the great things said here on this site. He was kind and funny, tough as nails. He was a gentleman. I loved him and all the family. So very sorry for this, yet another loss in his family. Peace and solace to you all.
Love, Patti*

Patti Thompson - February 26, 2018 at 08:12 PM

SC

“ I met Van a few times when he took his son Stuart to Americamps. What an awesome man and van and his wife raised an awesome young man. My heart goes out to his family. I am honored to have met such a wonderful person.



Suzanne Copenhaver - February 26, 2018 at 08:01 PM

TR

“ Trevor lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes



Trevor - February 26, 2018 at 07:33 PM

KI

“ Kim lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes



kim - February 26, 2018 at 07:25 PM

PD

“ Polly Davis lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes



Polly Davis - February 26, 2018 at 07:23 PM

JF

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jessica Faircloth - February 26, 2018 at 11:21 AM

JF

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Jessica Faircloth - February 26, 2018 at 11:18 AM

MS

“ *To meet Van Sykes was to find a friend. He was warm and kind and a man of great Integrity. A truly good person. When Van asked, "How are you?" He always had time to your answer.*

Over the years he had developed a fan base of children. When we were at Ocean Isle Beach he spent endless hours giving them all rides on his jet skis making sure they all got the same number of rides regardless of how hot and tired he was.

Van had a warmth, kindness and sincerity we will all miss.

He fought this hard fight with great bravery.

Rest in peace. Your Scally and Thompson family



m Scally - February 25, 2018 at 07:03 PM

BB

Van was a good person. I had the pleasure of knowing him, and working with him at the Chevrolet dealership in Apex, as well as his brother Tracy, two brothers are with each other again. God Bless them. Friends forever. Bubba

Bubba Blackwell - February 26, 2018 at 07:44 PM

LH

“ Van was one of a kind. He was a true "Southern Gentleman". I too was fortunate to have him as a boss. He was the best. You could always go to him especially if you needed that shoulder to lean on. He also was my Monday talker on NASCAR. I will miss those times. Van will truly be remembered for his 'Be there in 20 minutes. How many times did we all hear that ? I will miss you my boss, co-worker and friend. Rest in peace.



Linda Hunt - February 24, 2018 at 12:30 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bobby Van Sykes.



February 24, 2018 at 12:19 PM

TS

“ We will all miss Van who was a caring & loving man to his family, friends and business associated. He ran a good race and will be missed.

Tim & Alice Schwoyer

Tim Schwoyer - February 24, 2018 at 11:59 AM

RW

“ *Rental Works lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes*



Rental Works - February 24, 2018 at 08:38 AM

RW

We will miss you!

Rental Works - February 24, 2018 at 08:39 AM

MP

“ *Van will forever live in my heart as an individual with such love for his family, much generosity towards others, and an amazing smile and laugh! He was a brother-in-law to me and was the fantastic Uncle Van to my kids. It is so heartwarming to see the beautiful comments below from his friends and co-workers.*

Maryann Page - February 23, 2018 at 05:08 PM

MP

“ *Maryann Page lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes*



Maryann Page - February 23, 2018 at 04:56 PM

MP

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Maryann Page - February 23, 2018 at 04:09 PM

LE

“ *Mari, Timothy and Stuart,*
I am very sorry for the loss of your husband and father. I am thinking of all of you.

Laurie Etzlerr
Eastern Shore Dental Care

Laurie Etzler - February 23, 2018 at 04:00 PM

CT

“ *Please accept our most heartfelt sympathies for your loss.*

To anyone who knew Van , knew for themselves that he was a kind heated sincere man. I was very fortunate to have know him as a Boss , co-worker and a friend . He brought joy & laughter into our workforce and shared many life stories with all of us . I myself will truly miss you Van , May your journey to Heaven be a peaceful one

.

Charlotte Tippett - February 23, 2018 at 01:20 PM

CT

“ Charlotte Tippettt lit a candle in memory of Bobby Van Sykes



Charlotte Tippettt - February 23, 2018 at 01:18 PM

MA

“ Van was my boss for 5 years at Aggregate Industries. He was one of a kind for sure. He and I shared many talks about life and all of it's ups and downs. My husband is in kidney failure and on dialysis. Van was such a great help and abundance of info when we first started this journey. I will forever be thankful to him for all that he did for me and my family. He was the BEST Boss I ever had. I have and will miss him very much!!! Please know that Van was special to alot of us at Aggregate's. I called him "Boss" and he used to laugh at that. My life has forever been blessed to have known him. May he R.I.P.



Maria T. Abel - February 23, 2018 at 11:45 AM

BC

“ I met Van many years ago on the side of a lacrosse field watching our boys play lacrosse. Lots of wins and losses, hot, cold, rain, sun - we watched them grow up and turn into fine young men. I'm sure Van was proud.

Bruce Chambliss - February 22, 2018 at 03:36 PM

TB

“ *May your wonderful memories sustain you
and offer you peace.*



Tammy Batkins - February 22, 2018 at 12:18 PM

BO

“ *Beth Oliver lit a candle in memory of Bobby
Van Sykes*



Beth Oliver - February 21, 2018 at 09:10 PM

NS

*Van's memory will live in my heart. He was a sincere man. He was Real as described in the story "The Velveteen Rabbit":-"When you are real, you don't mind being hurt because once you are Real you can't be ugly except to people who don't understand." And that was Van, there was no pretence. He was who he was. And I loved him for that ; he was my friend and a great supporter.He lived his life to the full, even though he knew his life would probably be limited. He loved Mari, Timothy and Stuart and he loved to dance and race and eat at Cracker Barrel, even though he knew others disapproved. And he loved the beach, our vacations at Ocean Isle, shrimp night, but not cold shrimp, thank you; he liked his shrimp hot. And he loved running his jet skis and giving rides to his nieces,nephews their parents and grandparents as well as his family. Some of the most precious moments of my life were sitting with him and Mari on the porch and with him pool-side at Ocean Isle and answering his question "How are you doing?." and he really wanted to know. He expressed his acceptance and support for Rosemary and me when we celebrated our Civil Partnership.We were fortunate to celebrate last Thanksgiving with him, Mari and Stuart at the Scallys and he loved the day and the food and looked forward to Timothy coming home for Christmas. He was very hopeful that the chemo would beat the cancer. He wanted to live, get back to work. I spoke with him after Thanksgiving and when I asked,"What are you doing?" his response was "I am sitting here looking at our Christmas tree; it is so pretty." And when I asked, "How are you?" he answered as he always did when asked that question, "I'm good." Yes, Van you were good, a good man and your goodness lives on in our lives and in the world, in my heart. Thank you. Nancy
Nancy Schwoyer*

Nancy Schwoyer - February 28, 2018 at 11:16 AM