



## Robert Burrell Priest

March 17, 1936 - May 30, 2020

Robert “Bob” Burrell Priest passed away on Saturday, May 30, 2020, at Anne Arundel Medical Center. He was 84 years old.

Born on March 17, 1936, in Richmond, VA, he was the son of the late Paul P. and Iva Cropper Priest.

Bob grew up in Richmond where he attended Manchester High School, then Virginia Tech briefly. He joined The Norton Company in 1963 moving to Philadelphia and then later to Dallas, TX. His career changed again in 1968 when he joined The Robert G. Evans Co. in Kansas City. Bob purchased Sanders Saws Inc. Honey Brook, PA, in 1983, which manufactured diamond segmented saw blades. He was devoted to the Industrial Diamond business, and he was instrumental in the demolition and building of highways, dams, and bridges all over the world. He served on Board of Directors of International Grooving & Grinding, Concrete Sawing & Drilling Assoc. and American Concrete Pavement Assoc., serving several state chapters as well as the national chapter. Bob mentored many including his son, Chris, who spent 26 years in the Industry.

Bob is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Norma Priest of Queenstown, MD/Exton PA; two sons, Christopher Priest & (Karen) of New Kent, VA, and Robert Priest, Jr. of Richmond, VA; two grandchildren, Wendy Priest-Singleton and Candice Priest Hensley; eight great-grandchildren; and his beloved

nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased in death by his brother William C. Priest.

A memorial service will be held on June 27, 2:00 pm, at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home in Chester, MD. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in memory of Bob to [www.Communitybraininjury.org](http://www.Communitybraininjury.org).

Memorial contributions can be sent to the organization Community Brain Injury, 681 High Oaks Road, Suite G, Richmond, VA 23225.

Bob loved his family. He loved fishing, birdsong, rain on a tin roof, and the sound of a fog horn.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN 27. 2:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.  
106 Shamrock Road  
Chester, MD 21619

# Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Burrell Priest*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Robert Burrell Priest*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Robert Burrell Priest*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *My heartfelt condolences on Bob's passing to all his family and friends. I worked for the American Concrete Pavement Association where Bob was active and passionate about the greater good for the industry. I left there in 2008 and up until moments ago, I forgot about you Bob! As I use a Sanders Saw highlighter to create my rally sign, I feel your presence and know I'm on the right side of history. Thank you for your continued support of my efforts!*  
*Maryann Beckman-Berman*



**Maryann Beckman-Berman** - January 19, 2022 at 11:47 AM

DP

“ Bob was a great friend to my entire family. My father knew and had great respect for Bob from his dealing with Bob at RG Evans and later as customers with Sanders Saws.

*I enjoyed any time I had the opportunity to be around Bob usually over dinner and drinks at World of Concrete Conventions.*

*He will certainly be missed by many of us that have learned good life lessons from our associations with Bob.*

*I wish his family well. A great man is gone!*

*Doug Parsons - Sioux City IA*

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**Doug Parsons** - July 08, 2020 at 03:32 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert Burrell Priest.



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June 26, 2020 at 08:36 AM

GC

“ I am not really sure when I first met Bob. I would guess it was the late 1980's at an ACPA function and most likely with a golf club in his hand. I quickly grew fond of this man that was so keenly focused on quality and service. Very few people in our industry demonstrated Bob's drive. Quite a role model for all of us. In the last few years, Bob's attention was 100% focused on funding for our Highway industry. Federal and State Highway programs were his targets and adequate funding was his non-stop goal. Bob will be missed but his inspiration for our industry will live on in all of us that knew him.

Bob knew that his work was not done but I believe he was comforted by knowing that his followers will pick up the flag and will continue the fight. That is what he taught us. Thank you Bob.

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**Geoff Clarke** - June 23, 2020 at 11:55 AM



“ Reflections of Glory Wreath was purchased for the family of Robert Burrell Priest.



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June 23, 2020 at 10:15 AM

RS

“ *Bob was a great friend as well as a terrific businessperson.*

*Bob generously devoted so much time to the construction industry and he made a difference.*

*What fun it was to be with Bob over drinks, dinner or a round of golf!*

*I was a part of a company that did a ton of work with Bob and Sanders Saws. Bob provided quality blades, great service and his word was all that was needed.*

*Simply put, what a great guy!*

*From Russ Swank*

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**Russ Swank** - June 12, 2020 at 03:29 PM

JB

“ *I first met Bob in 1985 on the Eastern Shore. It was a boating trip followed up by picking crabs. We were instant friends. Since then we have gone on more boat rides and eaten more crabs & corn, played some very poor rounds of golf, participated in association work (ACPA & TCI-PAC), and talked about work, family, politics and life. He was a great mentor to myself and friend to my family. We will miss you greatly. Jamie Van Buren*

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**James Van Buren** - June 11, 2020 at 01:53 PM

JG

“ Deepest sympathy to Norma and family on Bob's recent passing. Bob was a terrific supporter of mine over the years and a most valued adviser on political and transportation issues. He had a great business insight as well as a tremendous sense of humor. He loved "talking politics" and helping to elect pro-business candidates to the State Legislature and Congress. We will greatly miss his wisdom, caring and humor. Rest in peace my friend! Jim Gerlach

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**jim gerlach** - June 04, 2020 at 10:04 AM

CH

“ I remember making Bob several of his favorite beverages at the KIYC bar, Bob always had a smile on his face and a story to tell you to go along with his smile, sometimes you could get a joke or two out of him also. Bob was a great man of many words he was into NASCAR and golf and would always say I'm going to win this week and sure enough Bob would win some of the time but not always, I think he just got lucky a time or two. RIP my friend. (Charlie Hall KIYC)

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**Charlie Hall** - June 02, 2020 at 11:18 PM

JP

“ Served with Bob on Queen Anne's County Planning Commission. He was one good man sorry to hear of his passing. I was glad to call him my friend. John Perkins



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**John Perkins** - June 01, 2020 at 05:41 PM

JI

“ Honored to have known such a great man! My Dad always spoke very highly of Bob in their interactions of buying/selling diamond blades back in the 70's and 80's. Bob was truly a wonderful person. He will be deeply missed. My heartfelt condolences to the Priest family.



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**Jenne Imholte** - June 01, 2020 at 02:43 PM

MR

“ I was deeply saddened by the news of Bob's passing. I have many fond memories of when he served as Treasurer on the IGGA board of directors. And yes, almost all of those memories make me smile or downright laugh out loud. I very much enjoyed his colorful character.

*My sincere condolences to all of you. I will miss "The Pope."*

*Michele Rivenburg - IGGA*

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**Michele Rivenburg** - June 01, 2020 at 02:15 PM

TS

“ Tracy Schulz lit a candle in memory of Robert Burrell Priest



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**Tracy Schulz** - June 01, 2020 at 11:26 AM

DS

“ *Dennis Stottlemyer lit a candle in memory of Robert Burrell Priest*



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**Dennis Stottlemyer** - June 01, 2020 at 10:52 AM

WP

“ *William A Potts lit a candle in memory of Robert Burrell Priest*



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**william a potts** - June 01, 2020 at 10:15 AM