



Robert "Bob" Harvey Coronado

May 22, 1936 - September 29, 2023

Robert Harvey Coronado passed away on September 29th after a short illness.

He was born on May 22, 1936 in Vallejo, California to John J. "Doc" Coronado and Dolores Coronado. Bob loved growing up in Vallejo with his brothers Gary and Ralph, and surrounded by many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He attended Lincoln Elementary, Franklin Junior High, and was Class of 1955 at Vallejo High School. Bob was an exceptional athlete and grew up competing with and against some of the greatest athletes Vallejo has ever produced. He began his athletic career in the Peanut League, playing in the first game at Wilson Park. As a kid he loved to run and competed in many City sponsored races. With the help of his dad he entered and won the Times Herald Soap Box Derby in 1948.

While at Vallejo High School, Bob excelled at football, basketball, baseball and track. He was a running back on the 9-0 football team which won the High School National Championship. He was all-league in basketball, held the Vallejo High School record in the 440 yard dash for many years and in baseball he had a 10-0 record including back to back no-hitters as a senior, winning league MVP.

Following high school, Bob received many college scholarship offers for football, baseball and track. He also received several contract offers by MLB teams. He chose to attend the College of the Pacific where he played football and baseball.

In 1959, Bob was drafted by the Chicago Bears and as one of the fastest backs on the West Coast, was named to the College All Star team which played the Johnny Unitas led NFL Champion Baltimore Colts. As a result of his pass receptions and a fumble recovery, he was considered to be one of the MVP's of the game.

After making the team, Chicago Bears' George Halas was expecting to take advantage of Bob's speed and hands, however, Bob was drafted again, this time by Uncle Sam. Bob was stationed for two years at Fort Bliss in El Paso Texas. It was there that Bob met his love, Margaret Munoz.

Following his service, having not played football in two years, Bob headed back to Chicago prior to the 1961 season. Having lost 10lbs and fearing he might be cut, he stopped along the way to buy two 5lb fishing weights which he put in his pockets while weighing in. Bob made the team, however, before Marge could join him in Chicago, he was traded to the Pittsburgh Steelers. In Pittsburgh, Bob excelled in the preseason and not only made the team, was named to the starting lineup against the Dallas Cowboys. Fate struck again, and he broke his ankle in the final practice before the first regular season game, putting the season on hold. On a happier note, Bob and Marge were married by Father John Chao on November 26, 1959. Bob healed, finished the season, and he and Marge returned to Vallejo. The following season, he was contacted by his old Pacific teammate, Tom Flores, who was quarterback of the Oakland Raiders. Flores asked him to come play in Oakland. He got Bob a tryout and he was offered a contract, but he declined. He was ready to move on.

Marge and Bob welcomed daughter, Yvette, in 1963, and son, Mark, in 1968. They raised their family in Vallejo. He worked for San Francisco French Bread Company for 30 years. He was a member of Saint Basil's Parish for many years before moving over to St. Dominic's Parish in Benicia.

Bob and Marge enjoyed their life together, raising their family, socializing with friends and traveling. In retirement, Bob took up golf, traveled to Europe and throughout the U.S ., but found his true joy in watching his grandchildren play

sports, Arman in high school football and baseball and Yasmine in college gymnastics. In his later years he took pleasure meeting with old friends, walks in Benicia and Mare Island, relaxing at his favorite spot at Bodega Bay and Friday family dinners.

Bob Coronado was a man of faith, loved his family and his country. He was generous, good humored and had a positive outlook on life. Although he was an accomplished athlete and played with, against and crossed paths with a who's who of the sports stars of his era, you'd never know it by talking to him. He was a kind, humble man who showed more interest in whomever he was talking to then talking about himself.

Bob is survived by his daughter Yvette Coronado-Dacey (Matt), his son, Mark, grandchildren, Arman Yektaparast and Yasmine Yektaparast and brothers, Ralph (Brenda) Coronado and Gary (Vi) Coronado.

Graveside services with military honors will be held 11:30 AM on Wednesday, November 1 at Sacramento Valley National cemetery, Dixon, CA.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 1. 11:30 AM (PT)

Sacramento Valley VA National Cemetery
5810 Midway Road
Dixon, CA 95620

Tribute Wall

MM

“ *Bob was good friends of my uncles Jim Doyle and Larry Doyle. I use to see him when working at Louis store in Fleming town. He and his wife were very nice. God bless. Mike Mccoulf*

mike mccoulf - October 15, 2024 at 07:03 PM

DH

“ *A friend over so many years. My condolences to the Family. Dan Horan*

Dan Horan - November 02, 2023 at 10:53 PM

JP

“ *I have known Bob since the Second Grade at Lincoln School and he has been my Neighbor for 48 years. After we raised our families and retired we finally had time to spend with each other. We would go to our grandkids events together: Yasmine's Gymnastics Competitions at UC Davis and our Maddy's Nutcracker Ballets at Solano College. There were a lot of Pizza stops in St Helena and Lentil Soup at the Athenian Grill in Suisun, and many Christmas Time Gatherings at my house. Bob and Margaret were special people and a special couple. We not only enjoyed each other. but had wonderful fun and always knew you were with truly genuine friends and the best God had to offer. Though I have lost, and will greatly miss my most dear friend, Bob, I will have to put that aside and minimize that...knowing that Bob and Margaret are now reunited...forever.. and that eases all our loss greatly.*

Jim Pappakostas

Jim Pappakostas - November 01, 2023 at 01:02 PM

MP

“ Marjorie P. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert "Bob" Harvey Coronado.



Marjorie P. - October 30, 2023 at 02:45 PM

MP

“ Marjorie P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert "Bob" Harvey Coronado.

Marjorie P. - October 30, 2023 at 02:45 PM

MT

“ I met Mr Coronado at Food Fair in Benicia -I worked for my Dad, and Mr Coronado was one of the delivery men that I would see when doing my early morning jobs before school at the grocery store. He was so kind and personable. He always found a way to say hello to me, and I easedropped on many a conversation between the early morning guy workforce that held regular gabfest in the morning while 'working'. My father, Pat Towey, had great respect and admiration for Mr Coronado -and I witnessed first hand why that was-he was so polite and funny! I then saw Mr Coronado again when I was in highschool with his daughter Yvette. Prayers and blessings to the whole Coronado family❤️

Molly Towey - October 12, 2023 at 09:32 AM

PR

“ *Im so sorry to hear of Bob's passing ! He was a good friend of my Husband Fred Richards . Bob was a very kind gentle guy. I'm so sorry for his Family
be at peace Bob. Pat Richards*

Pat Richards - October 11, 2023 at 09:26 PM