

Blooms from Bloomsburg



In Memoriam

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Robert E. Taggart

Special Reprint

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In Loving Memory



Robert E. Taggart

1947-2010

Dear Friends,

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of our veteran fellow Dillon Team Member, Bob Taggart, on Sunday March 14, 2010.

Bob was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in July of 2009. A rigorous round of tests, treatments, doctor visits, hospital stays followed. As much as possible, Bob continued to work from home, drawing strength from his daily interactions. He and his customers shared a strong

affection and his generosity knew no end.

Though his body was failing, his eyes remained bright blue, his sense of humor remained in tact and his heart stayed kind.



Bob was devoted to his wife Ruth Ann and was immensely proud of his son Vince and daughter-in-law Lynn. His three beautiful granddaughters will remember a doting PopPop Bob.

Bob started his 45-year career at Dillon Floral in 1965. A reprint of his team member

spotlight, first published on his 43rd anniversary, appears below. He will be remembered by his fellow Team Members and beloved customers by many nicknames. Bobby T., Tigger, The Bobster, Tarzan, Mr. T, Bobert and Ole' Bob. Most of us will never pass a yard sale, eat buckwheat cakes or see a Cub Cadet lawn tractor without thinking of Bob.

Bob is survived by his wife, Ruth Ann; son, Vince and his wife, Lynn; three granddaughters, a step-sister and nieces and nephews.

Miss you already.

A full obituary and funeral arrangements can be viewed at [Allen Funeral Home](#), Bloomsburg, PA.

Mrs. Robert Taggart
3232 Old Berwick Road
Bloomsburg, PA 17815

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Special Reprint



Bob Taggart

Original Publication Date June 30, 2008

This past June marks the 43rd Dillon anniversary for Bob Taggart, Fresh Flower Account Manager in Bloomsburg.

"My customers have kept me interested in this business, they are like friends instead of customers. I've grown up and old with a lot of them!"

Bob started full-time at Dillon Floral on June 8, 1965 pulling weeds and disbudding carnations in the Bloomsburg greenhouses, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather before him. Previously he had worked part-time for three years during summers while in high school. He soon was promoted to pulling out rose bushes; then on to the fresh flower department where he processed flowers, loaded and unloaded trucks and worked in the coolers. In 1966, he apprenticed in the sales department and the rest is history! "I've been waking my customers up for over 40 years", the veteran salesman says of his early-morning calls to professional retail florists.

In his long career, Bob has seen many changes. "Back in the old days we had inventory on a chalkboard and we had to hand-write orders. Now we have everything in the computer." Logistics have changed for the better, Bob says, such as picking, packing and shipping fresh flowers as well as care and handling practices. "I still think our home-grown flowers are the best", even though he has seen what Dillon Floral grows in Bloomsburg scaled down and replaced by imports that arrive in a matter of a few days and have improved greatly in

quality over the years. "I can remember when we loaded 2-3 tractor trailers at once up at the packing shed", Bob said about Dillon Floral's field grown Chrysanthemums. Dillon Floral stopped growing pom poms in the early 1980's when imported flowers started making more of an impact in the US market.

"The more things change, the more they stay the same", Bob says, reflecting on the shifts he has seen in the floral industry. "Flowers that were popular in the 60's went out of vogue in the 80's and now are coming back into popularity again." Looking back over the years, Bob feels not much has changed with his customer service philosophy. "Even though our industry has become more tech savvy, it's still all about personal relationships."

Bob lives in Bloomsburg with his wife, Ruth Ann. They have a son, Vince, who also worked at Dillon Floral prior to his career as a police officer. Bob likes to spend time with his family, especially his granddaughters. He repairs lawn & garden tractors as a sideline. He has had a lifelong love of model trains. Science fiction movies are his favorite. And he has a special affection for yard sales!

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