

EULOGY

**GIVEN BY BARBARA LARKIN ON FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1992
IN MEMORY OF ROBERT WILLIAM LARKIN
[January 8, 1937 - April 21, 1992]**

Good morning.

I just wanted to say a few words in memory of Robert William Larkin, who was my beloved husband for almost twenty-six years. I, also, would like to offer some comforting thoughts to the friends and family who are here today.

Before I begin, I would like everyone to close their eyes and reflect upon whatever your own concept of God means to you, while I offer a prayer.

Our Father/Mother God, please radiate your light and your love to all who are gathered here today in person and in spirit. Encompass this room with your healing rays and help us to find the strength we will need. I pray that you will radiate to Bob's soul, the enlightenment that will help him make an easy transition through the door you have opened for him for the next stage of his soul's progression. Give those of us here the strength to encourage him to go forward to the light. Thank you for your blessings and your love... Amen.

Bob shared different aspects of his personality with each of us; so each of us will remember him in the way his life affected ours.

Bob had a gentle, easygoing manner. Being an optimist, he handled stress well and did not let things upset him. He always had a respect for nature and loved animals... especially our cats. They will surely miss him.

Bob enjoyed life in a reflective manner. Nothing pleased him more than to be lost in thought, relaxing with a good book (he was an *avid* reader), or listening to jazz. He loved jazz! Record stores would be envious of his collection of jazz records over the years.

Bob had a clever way with words and could turn a phrase to reflect his subtle, yet direct, sense of humor. He enjoyed mind challenges, such as crossword puzzles, and shouting out correct answers to Jeopardy questions (or rather, questions to Jeopardy answers) before the contestants had a chance to respond. He had a very sharp mind.

Bob loved mathematics and science. He loved contemplating the theories of the great scientists, especially in the area of quantum mechanics. We had many deep conversations on black holes and anti-matter.

Bob was many things to many people. He was a son, a father, a grandfather, a brother, an uncle, a nephew, and he was a good husband. We would have celebrated our twenty-sixth wedding anniversary next month. Most of all, Bob was a good friend. In fact, he was my best friend. He respected my ideas and encouraged me to explore my own interests even when they did not coincide with his. He always challenged my mind.

The most important thing Bob taught me was to enjoy the small, every-day things, and just to be. He had a calming effect on people.

As we come together today, we are all experiencing a myriad of feelings. We feel a little uneasiness because we have been forced to face the fact that we are uncertain about our own future. It is human nature to fear that which we do not know; and we do not know if we will have time to accomplish all the things we plan to do.

I think Bob's message to us, today, would be "*carpé diem*"... seize the day. Live in the present - enjoy the moment - don't spend so much time planning for your future "*someday I will's*" that you forget to stop and smell the roses along the way. The journey is more important than the destination. Enjoy each step of your life's journey.

We will miss the *physical* Bob, whom we called our friend; but, it will ease our sadness if we can look beyond the *physical* body and realize that our *physical* lives are only one manifestation of a *soul's* total expression.

As a car is a vehicle to get us from one place to another (and there are many other types of vehicles that can do this), the body is the soul's vehicle to enable us to move about the earth plane. A car cannot take us anywhere without a "*driver*" to operate it. Yet, the driver is not the car; and, the car is not the driver. The *driver* sometimes drives other cars. A car will wear out; but, the *driver* does not stay with it in the junkyard. Bob's *soul* was the "*driver*" of his body. Bob's "*vehicle*" wore out and could no longer serve its purpose; but, the real Bob - the *driver, the soul, spirit, entity, essence, inner-self, higher-self, superconscious, the "I Am" presence* - whatever your name is for that consciousness - did not "*go*" anywhere. He is simply "*driving*" a non-physical "*vehicle*" now; which, we merely cannot perceive because we are focused in a "*reality*" based upon the limitations imposed by *physical* time and space.

Our *consciousness* can exist outside this *physical "reality"* which it allows us to perceive. The *soul* is indestructible - the *soul* is eternal - it has no beginning and no end... it, simply, is. The *soul* is pure energy; and as such, it is constantly in motion and constantly changing form, leaving a magnetic field of energy as a memory of itself through each atom and molecule it passes. It leaves a part of itself, also, with us in what is called our memories. A part of Bob will always be "*alive*" in our memories of him. *It is my prayer, Dear Lord, that in time, fond memories will replace our tears.*

I would like to close with a poem I have written, which expresses my philosophy. I hope you will find some comfort in it [see attached poem, entitled, "*A Place Called Eternity*" by Barbara Larkin].

Love and Blessings to you all.