



WALK OF FAITH

We often said that we wished God had brought Bob to WMU years prior to when He did, but we were privileged to work with him for about three years. Bob was always friendly, genuine, and kind. He listened and took your ideas and concerns seriously, whether you were a young professional or an old timer. Bob was fun, from his “buttercup” shirt to his Jim Motlow coffee cup, to conversations around the mail opening table as “just one of the girls.” He treated each of us equally and with respect, regardless of whether he was our peer or “old enough to be our PeePaw.”

He believed in MBWA: Management By Walking Around. In the mornings, he made his rounds, coffee cup in hand, spreading his smile and encouragement as we began our work day. He listened to us at any time, rejoiced with us in our victories, cried with us in our sorrows, and prayed with us and for us, through it all. One coworker admits that, although she “thought a lot of Bob from the beginning,” her admiration was taken to a new level one day when he was walking through and asked how she was doing. She said she had just found out that her 22-year-old niece had been diagnosed with breast cancer. He responded by praying with her right then and there. Another coworker recounts a time when one of the ladies who cleans our building was visibly upset, saying she was going through a hard time and wanted to pray with someone, and Bob prayed with her. Then the coworker asked Bob to talk to her and pray with her as well, knowing that he would offer wise counsel. He always has a servant-heart, a gentle spirit, and exudes calm.



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It was always evident that He loves his wife and did what was necessary to protect and project what a Christian husband should be. Speaking of family, how could anyone be more missions-minded than to surrender your beloved daughter to missionary service in Uganda, and love her “born in her heart children” just like those she bore in her body? Yet, this was Bob. His character is to display the character of Christ in all circumstances. His philosophy was always, “It is what it is,” so he figured out how to make the best of whatever came his way, and that was because it was always “well with his soul!”

In closing, Bob was one of the best blessings God has given WMU in a long time. We will always treasure the memories we shared, and the lessons he taught us about loving others as a Christ-follower.

-With much love,
Roger Patterson, Jerry Jackson,
Jason Lite, Cassie Padgett,
Jan Heaslett, Charlotte White,
Sandy Garner, Maegan Dockery,
Kellie Franklin, Dianne Floyd,
Debbie Castleberry, Tanna Griggs,
Kathy Sealy, Robin McCall,
and Barbara Evers