



ROBERT H CANEDAY, M.D.

1 May 1933 To 29 April 2020



BOB CANEDAY, General and Vascular Surgeon FACS, partner to John Montgomery at Redwood Memorial Hospital, Fortuna, died abruptly in Palm Desert, California, while he was eating ice cream with his wife, Nancy Caneday (nee Kistler), on 29 April 2020, two days short of his 87th birthday.

Bob was born in LA on May Day 1933. He grew up a SoCal boy and attended Occidental College (BA 1955). Before going to med school he was in the USAir Force as a Scorpion F-89 Jet Fighter pilot (CPT



1959), and Marine Biologist (1959/60). He went to USC Med School (AOA 1965), did a Rotating Internship and Surgical Residency at USC Med Center finishing his residency in 1970. He was later a Supervisor of Residents & Instructor at USC Medical Center (1970-2) and Assistant Professor of Surgery at USC Medical Center from 1972-89.

He and his family moved to Humboldt County, and he joined the Medical Staff at Redwood and St. Joseph's hospitals. Bob was a Board of Trustees Member, Strategic Planning Chair, Community-Based Health Plan Director, and an HDN IPA Board Member. After he retired from active

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surgical practice, and until he was 85 years old, Bob continued with State Comp, where he became a Peer Reviewer. He often worked online from his motor home, while he was on the road with Nancy as they crisscrossed North America -- from Alaska to Belize, and from Newfoundland to Key West.

Bob fathered 7 children, Robert, Andy and Lauren (Eggehorn) by Nancy, and Chris (Parrish), Lisa (Vitello), Mike and Patrick by his first wife. All survive him.

Bob loved deep-sea fishing, and often remembered his trip to Cabo San Lucas with fellow LA-boys, Larry Hill and Alan Goodman. He grew up a Lakers, Dodgers and Rams sports fan, but we Fortunans converted him to a Forty-niner fan, for at least a decade or so. For more than 10 years, Bob & Nancy, John & Diana Mogel and my wife, Lynn, and I met faithfully every Sunday for 49er football and a home-cooked dinner, most often hosted by Diana. Our "49-fan-type" was "deep pessimism," but the 49ers won most games despite us. Bob and I jogged together (once leaving the Redwood Memorial parking lot joined by former World Record holder in the mile, Jim Ryan). We often trained for the Avenue of the Giants marathon, but training injuries sometimes prevented us reaching the starting line; however, Bob finished the entire twenty-six miles in 1988.

Caneday and Mogel both had big motorhomes. Once Bob took me on a motorhome road trip across Highway 36 to Reno, then down to Las Vegas. True to our inner natures, Bob drove, high in his Captain's chair, describing the Nevada desert scenery, while I lay on my back on the floor, fixing the A/C. We hit Las Vegas late and all the Casino motorhome lots were full. So we headed toward North Las Vegas looking for

a spot. We found a lady who sold us her last empty RV spot. We backed-in, then called for a taxi to take us back to a casino, but the driver said he never-ever took fares from "that part of town." At two a.m., we were in deep sleep, when we were awakened by big chains clattering around our front bumper. The very-big owner of a very-big dual-wheeled pick-up was preparing to pull us out of "His Spot." He didn't even knock. Soon we were riding around looking for another RV lot.

Bob and his partner, John Montgomery, and their families made deep and abiding friendships. They played a huge part in an era of super-friendly, super-competent medical staff at Redwood Memorial Hospital that provided the best years of my life.

-- Thank You, Bob.
Your Friend, Gary Baker

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Bob was an excellent surgeon, wonderful partner, and magnificent human being. He provided quality surgery to Humboldt County and especially the Eel River Valley. He was loved and appreciated by all his friends, co-workers, colleges, and patents. It is my good fortune to have been his partner.
- John A. Montgomery MD

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