



Dr. Robert A. Armstrong

March 24, 1953 - December 7, 2024

Dr. Robert A. Armstrong, 71, of Clarion, passed away surrounded by his loving family Saturday evening, December 7, 2024 at the Butler Memorial Hospital following a brief illness.

He was born on March 24, 1953 in Cheverly, Maryland to the late Robert and Betty Thomas Armstrong.

After sustaining a tear to his rotator cuff in high school, Bob took a special interest in sports medicine and orthopedics. In pursuit of his passion, he graduated from Wilkes University in Wilkes-Barre and Rowan University, formerly known as the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine in Stratford, New Jersey, and then completed his orthopedic residency at Cooper University Health Care in Camden, New Jersey. Bob eventually found himself working as an Orthopedic Surgeon in Clarion where he met the love of his life, Brenda J. LaVan Armstrong, and was married on September 29, 1989.

Bob successfully performed countless surgeries throughout his career, and his tireless efforts would culminate in improved quality of life for many patients in the area.

He preferred winter over summer, old over new, and time over money. Bob enjoyed a good book, short lift lines at the ski mountain, classic cars, routine coffee and lunch dates with friends, doctoring the Wild Cats on Friday nights, and most of all, time spent with his loved ones.

In addition to his loving wife, Bob is survived by his children, Micah

McElhattan and his wife, Sarah, of Knox, Tara Steele of Clarion, Lewis Armstrong and his wife, Chelsea, of Shippenville, and TJ Armstrong and his wife, Hayley, also of Shippenville; along with 9 grandchildren who he adored deeply.

He is also survived by his brother, Scott Armstrong and his wife, Helene, of Great Meadows, New Jersey; along with numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, Bob was preceded in death by his father-in-law and mother-in-law, Dick and Marie LaVan and his brother-in-law, Ken Snyder.

Family and friends will be received from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday, December 13, 2024 at the Robert V. Burns Funeral Home in Clarion.

Additional viewing will be held from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday, December 14, 2024 at the Cornerstone Church of Clarion, 3655 East End Road, Shippenville, PA 16254, where funeral services will follow at 11 a.m. with Rev. Josh Easlon presiding.

Interment will take place in the Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made in Bob's honor to the Clarion Area High School, 219 Liberty Street, Clarion, PA 16214, in care of the Central Clarion Wildcats Football Boosters or Clarion Bobcat Ski Club written on the envelope, or to a charity of one's choice.

Cemetery Details

Immaculate Conception Catholic Cemetery

Clarion, PA

Previous Events

Viewing

DEC 13. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Robert V. Burns Funeral Home
638 Wood Street
Clarion, PA 16214
(814) 226-6300
<https://www.rvburnsfuneralhome.com>

Viewing

DEC 13. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Robert V. Burns Funeral Home
638 Wood Street
Clarion, PA 16214
(814) 226-6300
<https://www.rvburnsfuneralhome.com>

Viewing

DEC 14. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Cornerstone Church of Clarion
3655 East End Rd
Shippenville, PA 16254
(814) 226-4949

Service

DEC 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

Cornerstone Church of Clarion
3655 East End Rd
Shippenville, PA 16254
(814) 226-4949

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert V Burns Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong*



Robert V Burns Funeral Home - December 12, 2024 at 08:54 PM

TP

“ *My deepest sympathy to Brenda and family. Bob was a great guy and I enjoyed working with him at the hospital. May happy memories comfort you at this difficult time.*

Terry Pierucci - January 18, 2025 at 12:41 PM



“ *Dr. Armstrong was always kind to me as a nurse, as a patient and as a friend. He was a great doctor and Dave and I are so sorry that we didn't know! God bless his family.*

Sarah Girardi - December 18, 2024 at 07:29 AM

MD

“ *I remember working with Bob at Community General Hospital in Harrisburg when I was an intern. He was always kind, supportive and positive. I am so sad to see that he has died so young. Praying for him and his family.*

Marcie Wethli D.O. - December 14, 2024 at 09:58 PM

LS

“ To the Armstrong Family: I send my sympathy and condolence to you all. I had the honor to work on the floor making rounds with him, following his orders & performing patient care for some of his patients. I liked working with him. He took good care of me in the office too helping me a few times over my career before he retired. God Bless his soul. Rest in Peace . He helped my husband also. I enjoyed visiting with him when by chance we met while shopping or dining out. Linda Steiner-Mander, RN, BSN, MHSA at Clarion Hospital to my retirement in 2016 from Clarion Hospital Nursing Department.

Linda L Steiner-Mander - December 13, 2024 at 01:17 PM

ER

“ Ethan Rowe purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.



Ethan Rowe - December 13, 2024 at 07:49 AM

LF

“ Love, John and Gina Chiaro and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.



Love, John and Gina Chiaro and Family - December 13, 2024 at 07:48 AM

BG

“ We are so very sad to hear of the passing of such a sweet man. Our deepest condolences and sympathies to the family
Tom and Brenda Gagne



Brenda Gagne - December 12, 2024 at 11:31 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Life Tributes



Robert V Burns Funeral Home - December 12, 2024 at 03:49 PM

AF

“ So sorry I cannot attend the services personally, but I wanted to extend my sincere sympathy to Brenda, Tara, Micah, Lewis and TJ! I will remember Bob with admiration for his professionalism and care while his patient, for helping my son along the way to his career as an Orthopedic PA, and for his generosity of time in his busy schedule to help with chaperoning one of my Ski Club trips to Vermont. Of course he loved the skiing part, and being in the area brought back good memories for him of previous times at Stowe! He was proud of his family and was a generous man! Thanks for your memories, Bob!
Ann Farley

Ann Farley - December 12, 2024 at 01:23 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*

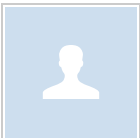


Robert V Burns Funeral Home - December 12, 2024 at 09:59 AM



“ Dr Bob rebuilt my left ankle and lower leg a couple days before Christmas 2007 in Du Bois, PA. Rest his soul!

George Whiteman - December 11, 2024 at 09:59 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.



December 11, 2024 at 08:54 PM



“ Jordan Lavan purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.



Jordan Lavan - December 11, 2024 at 03:24 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.*



December 11, 2024 at 01:03 PM

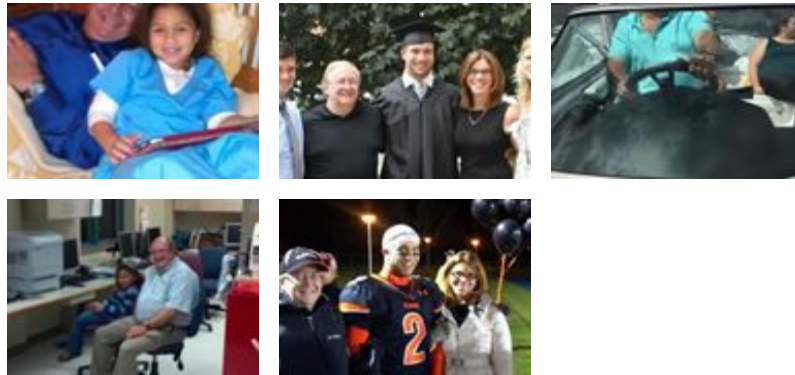


“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.

December 11, 2024 at 01:03 PM



“ 12 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Robert V Burns Funeral Home - December 11, 2024 at 11:13 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.*



December 11, 2024 at 08:56 AM

DK

“ I will always be thankful for the help he gave me one night .I was working night shift and he helped get my car started. Our deepest sympathy to his family Randy& Denise Kriebel



Denise kriebel - December 11, 2024 at 06:58 AM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.



December 10, 2024 at 06:19 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.

December 10, 2024 at 06:19 PM



“ 134 files added to the album LifeTributes



Robert V Burns Funeral Home - December 10, 2024 at 04:35 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.

December 10, 2024 at 02:20 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.



December 10, 2024 at 02:20 PM



“ Love, Scott, Helene, Natalie, Nolan purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.

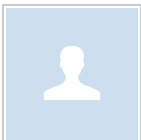


Love, Scott, Helene, Natalie, Nolan - December 10, 2024 at 12:00 PM



“ Love, Scott, Helene, Natalie, Nolan planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.

Love, Scott, Helene, Natalie, Nolan - December 10, 2024 at 12:00 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.

December 10, 2024 at 09:28 AM



“ *Fall Fantasia was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.*



December 10, 2024 at 09:28 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.

December 10, 2024 at 09:26 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.*



December 10, 2024 at 09:26 AM



“ *I worked with him thru the ED. Compassionate about his work and full of life. He will be missed.*

Cheryl Burkett - December 10, 2024 at 08:46 AM

RC

“ So very sorry to hear of Bobs passing. Bob took care of me many times over the years and we became friends as time went by. He will be truly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all during this very sad time. May God bless you and keep you and give you strength. Rod and Terri

Rod and Terri Cyphert - December 10, 2024 at 07:59 AM

TS

“ The Smerkers purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.



The Smerkers - December 09, 2024 at 10:24 PM

PT

“ Brenda and the entire family: June and I were shocked when we saw that Dr. Armstrong has passed away. Although we never had the privilege of meeting him, we have known you, Brenda, for many years and we love you and are praying for you and your entire family. God bless you all. Since you know Jesus Christ as your Saviour, rest assured that in your darkest night when it seems like all hope is lost during times of death, the Lord will sustain you when you ask Him to comfort you. [Pastor Phil and June Thomas, Meadville, PA]

Pastor Phillip Paul Thomas - December 09, 2024 at 10:19 PM

JG

“ rip Dr Armstrong. you have touched so many lives with your talents and gave so many people a quality of life that they could not have done without your care. forever in my prayers.

jill gilbert - December 09, 2024 at 09:32 PM

AL

“ I worked with Dr Armstrong from when I was a freshman new nurse to when he retired. He challenged you to be your best. I will be forever in his debt for all he taught me. “ The pillow goes between the knee and the ankle” . Words I will forever hear.

Amy Lawson - December 09, 2024 at 09:32 PM

RE

“ I enjoyed skiing and spending time with Bob over several years and many ski mountains in the U.S. His humor and his stories were profound. Humble and willing to help and give his time for any person in need. We have lost a giant of a man that will never be replaced. Rich Edwards

Rich Edwards - December 09, 2024 at 07:24 PM

PD

“ I was blessed to not only work with Dr Armstrong, but to also have him as my surgeon. Blessings and prayers for his family.

Pam Dinger - December 09, 2024 at 07:10 PM

BO

“ I worked with Dr. Armstrong all his years in Clarion. A wonderful Dr. Caring and compassionate. Will be missed. Even years later meet him on the street and always a welcome hello and how are you. God Bless.



Bonnie - December 09, 2024 at 06:42 PM

SU

“ I took care of countless post operative patients of Dr. Armstrong. I learned a lot from him and enjoyed caring for his patients and assisting him with his patients Post operatively. My sincerest sympathies to his family.

susa - December 09, 2024 at 06:24 PM

SD

“ Please pray for Brenda and this precious family who have meant so much to Charlie and I ❤️. Bob was a big part in finding a way to help me with all the years I suffered with back pain. He reviewed my X-rays and MRI as my friend and referred me to Dr Shantz who he was a colleague with at the time that changed my life! I am eternally grateful!! God bless this family and comfort them at this difficult time 🙏❤️

Sherri Dechant - December 09, 2024 at 06:15 PM

TG

“ Bob was such a wonderful, gentle spirit. His kindness spoke volumes about who he was as a man, a father, a husband. He'll be truly missed by the countless lives he's touched; personally and professionally.

Tiffany Garcia - December 09, 2024 at 05:48 PM

HF

“ Hartle Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Dr. Robert A. Armstrong.



Hartle Family - December 09, 2024 at 05:33 PM

RI

“ Bob, you were a wonderful man and brother in law. Our family was truly blessed to have you part of it. You will be missed and you leave behind a remarkable legacy, Rest in peace. Rick

Rick - December 09, 2024 at 05:16 PM

BH

“ I became part of this family eight years ago and since then Bob and I had become more than brothers in law but very close friends. We've met for Wednesday lunch every week for years now. I will truly miss my friend.

Bill Hartle - December 09, 2024 at 04:33 PM

AM

For many years I had worked by his side, after postoperative surgery's, loved his humor, I sure will miss bumping into him and his big smile. Sympathy to his family, what a great man he was

Amy Merryman - December 09, 2024 at 05:29 PM

EG

My heart goes out to my dear friend Brenda and to her precious children! Dr. Bob was a gentle, sweet, kind man, friend and always looking to see he could help! He was so good to Joe and I! I will always be forever grateful for his love and kindness to us! Please pray for Brenda and their children! He will be so missed!

Evie Gourley - December 09, 2024 at 07:02 PM

KM

My deepest sympathies are with you, Brenda, and your family at this time of loss. Doc and I may have had our disagreements at work, but the respect was there for each of us. Thanks for the memories!!

Kathy Myers - December 09, 2024 at 08:21 PM

DW

*Brenda,
So sorry for the loss of your beloved husband. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult journey.
Dixie and Jeff Wentling*

Dixie Wentling - December 10, 2024 at 07:06 AM

LR

Rob and I considered ourselves so lucky, to have our daughter have Bob as her father in law and second Dad! He was a warm, wonderful man with a quick laugh and bright smile. He will be missed by so many. God bless Brenda, Micah & Sarah, Tara, TJ and Haley, and of course, Lewis and Chelsea. Please know he is still watching over you - just from afar.

Lorna & Rob - December 10, 2024 at 11:30 AM