



## Robert J. Pillis Sr.

January 28, 1943 - July 9, 2018

Robert J. Pillis Sr (75) of Eatontown, passed away on Monday July 9th, 2018 at his home surrounded by his loving family. Born and raised in Monmouth County, he spent 27 years working for Chenega corporation at Fort Monmouth. After retiring, he went on to work for the Eatontown Board of Education as a School Bus Aid/Driver until he was diagnosed with cancer in January 2017. Bobby made friends everywhere he went and was quick to tell stories to anyone who would listen. He appreciated all those who took the time to visit and call during his illness. His friends made this difficult time a little easier by distracting him from the harsh reality of his condition. He chose not to have services or visitation as he wanted those people who cared about him to remember him healthy and happy. His wife, children, grandchildren, family, and friends will miss him dearly, but are comforted in knowing that his struggle is over and that he is finally at peace. To leave an online condolence, please visit Bobby's memorial page at [www.bongarzonefuneralhome.com](http://www.bongarzonefuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

CC

“ Dear Judy Sherrie & RJ - There are no words . Bob was a great guy he was my van aide for many years I could always count on Bob he was always so helpful and always there for me. I couldn't have had a better aide . We had many laughs working together.I. I miss Bob very much. My thoughts and prayers to all of Bobs family an d friends . God Bless You Bob - Cathy Collins

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**Cathy Collins** - August 13, 2018 at 11:51 AM

MR

“ Dear Judy, Sherrie and RJ,  
I just learned that my cousin Bobby had passed away. Cousin Emily called and told me about her visit and Bobby;s passing. I have not seen you or Bobby in many years as I live so far and do not get back to NJ very often, but I still remember all of you. I had heard that he was sick but did not know how sick. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Take care and stay in touch. Love,  
Mary Jane (Janie) Rigby

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**Mary Jane Rigby** - July 24, 2018 at 05:29 PM

FN

“ I was saddened to learn of Bobby's passing. I went to Atlantic Elementary school and Freehold Regional High School with him. You're in my thoughts and prayers. Frank Van Note.

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**Frank Van Note** - July 16, 2018 at 11:23 AM

MB

“ Bob Pillis, one of the best men I ever worked with. I was lucky enough to have spent almost 10 years working with Bob at the Motor Pool at Fort Monmouth. I knew I could always count on Bob to get the job done, no matter what the job. And in between, I could always count on Bob to share a laugh. I can still hear his laugh, now. And the stories, Bob would share about his family...he LOVED his family. Judy, I met once, and knew instantly that she was the love of Bob's life. I never met RJ or Sherrie but I felt like I knew them in some small way. Bob would even tell stories about Shelley the dog. But one of my favorite, if not favorite, Bob Pillis story is the "Easter Egg Hunt" story. A classic. Loved him. A class act. A great guy. We had the best of times. He was the best of the best, hands down. He will be missed by all of us who knew and loved him, of which there are many. In the words of the wise man Dr Seuss : "Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment, until it becomes a memory " Thanks for the memories, Bob. RIP.



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**Motor Pool Base** - July 14, 2018 at 11:04 PM

JB

*I knew Bob for 15 years. He was always friendly, respectful and professional. My deepest sympathy to his family. God bless him.*

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**Joe Bivona** - July 15, 2018 at 06:15 PM

MI

“ Our condolences to you and your family on the passing of Bob.

*The Marino family*

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**Michael** - July 14, 2018 at 07:20 AM

PD

“ *judy bob better none to me as bobby was more than a friend he was and will always be my brother bill bob and myself were the three musketeers where one you seen all three glade I seen bob you and famley last year that I will never forget my thought and prays will be with you all ways pete*

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**pete domidion** - July 13, 2018 at 08:51 PM

ME

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Memory** - July 13, 2018 at 04:38 PM

DA

“ Judy, RJ and Sherri,

*When I learned of Bob's passing yesterday I was deeply saddened. Although I called and spoke to you I wanted to share some thoughts and memories about Bob and some of my personal experiences through the years. As you all Bob was a tremendous man. Bob and I worked together at Ft. Monmouth for over 20 years. Eventually I became Bob's direct Manager along with a team of over 40 employees. And what a team it was! I can tell you Bob had a work ethic I wish all on the team could have emulated. I knew if I ever had a mission that had to be done I could always go to Bob and know without a doubt it would be done. I never had to ask twice or ask how it went. I knew it went well and it went exactly how I asked. He took pride in whatever his task or mission was. We worked many hours of overtime over the years. I never asked Bob if he wanted to work I just added him to the list. You see for over 2 decades I can honestly say Robert Pillis NEVER refused any overtime I offered. It was actually a long running joke in the office. Everyone knew Bob would be working and had more energy than the younger employees. It all started to make sense to me as I matured and had a family of my own. I realized Bob was building a Nest Egg and making sure his family was taken care of. Bob always spoke of his son RJ and his daughter Sheri. I never met them personally but I can tell you he would boast about both of you often and Loved you both tremendously. He also talked of his lovely wife Judy often who worked on the base. I know Judy heard all of the stories of the day to day drama that most offices deal with. Ours just had a bit of flamboyancy! Bob and Judy were guests at my wedding. I know they had blast! Bob would talk about it often. During the early 90's Ft. Monmouth went through its first wave of Base Realignment and Closure. The Army called on my department to spearhead the relocation of equipment and personnel from the CECOM Office Building, Camp Evans and Vint Hill Farms Virginia. This was no small task by any means. Bob was instrumental and as my Senior Class A CDL Driver that personally relocated Hundreds of Tractor Trailer and Flatbed Loads of various Office Equipment, Lab Equipment, Military Vehicles and Systems to the new locations*

*designated on to the Main Post of Ft. Monmouth. Although it may not seem like much what Bob did along with the rest of the team saved the Army millions of dollars. In my 30 plus year career Bob Pillis is the most dependable person I have had the pleasure of working with. Unfortunately Ft. Monmouth had a second wave of BRAC and this time they closed down the base and padlocked the gates for good. This decision displaced and caused many to lose their jobs or retire if they did not move south. I went another direction and lost touch with many who I spent nearly 26 years with every day. In March I called Bob whom I had not seen or spoken to in over 6 years. It was like we never missed a beat. We talked about old corvettes which we both shared interest and our families. Bob told me he had gotten sick but was doing well and feeling better. We had a good 45 minute chat and I told Bob I would visit next time I was in town. Regretfully I know now Bob had fallen ill again. I regret not calling him or seeing him because I didn't know he had become sick again. I will say that we lost a man of integrity and a man that exhibited family values and the best work ethic I am sure I will see in my lifetime. Bob would be the first at work to pick up the lunch tab or throw one of his coworkers a few bucks if they needed it. I know most times never asking for it back. You will be missed Bobby Pillis this I am sure of. I can hear you saying your classic line "What a Mess, What a Mess".*

*May you Rest in Peace my friend and know you did it Right Bob.  
God Speed! Until We Meet Again.....*

*Dan & Cindy Scianimanico*

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**dan** - July 13, 2018 at 03:36 PM

CP

“ I don't know where to start,Bob was my grandparents's insurance man many year's ago. I became friends with RJ and started hanging out at the Pillis's! The Pillis's became my second home,they opened there home to me. That is when I got to know Judy,Bob and Sherri. I spent weeks at a time there during the summer and had such great times! Bob spent so much time with us,went to Great Adventure more then once! I always enjoyed a good wrestling match with Bob and RJ after dinner. Many great memories! I just want to say that I am so glad and lucky that I had Bob Pillis in my life! Let me send my love to Judy,Sherrie,RJ and all of the Pillis Family! So very sorry for your loss!  
All my love,Christian

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**Christian Patterson** - July 13, 2018 at 11:32 AM

JL

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. I am so glad I had the opportunity to work with him at Fort Monmouth transporting vehicles with him from the motor pool. He always made me laugh telling such funny stories He will always be in my thoughts and prayers. My love and condolences to Judy and family. RIP Bob  
  
Joyce Laugelli

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**Joyce Laugelli** - July 13, 2018 at 11:08 AM

SP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Sherie Pillis** - July 13, 2018 at 09:33 AM

JS

“ I learned today my cousin Bobby, who unfortunately I hadn't seen in several years, had passed away. While it is very sad news I will do as he asked and remember him when he was happy and healthy. I am very lucky. There are so many great times we shared to look back on. My heartfelt condolences to Judy, Sherie, and RJ. Rest in peace Bobby.

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**John Springsteen** - July 13, 2018 at 09:27 AM

ST

“ Bobby and I served in the Army together in the 60's, and he was one of the best guys I was fortunate to know! Spent much time with him during those years and our last tour in 1969 when he and I were assigned the task of training the new recruits at Fort Drum in upstate NY! Will never forget the great times we had over the years, and even though life took us in different directions and I moved to the West coast, Bobby was thought of often!

*My thoughts and prayers are with Bob and his family always!*

*Steve Castello*

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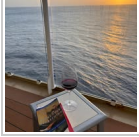
**Steve** - July 13, 2018 at 09:18 AM

PR

“ Judy, my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time, Pat

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**Pat Rise** - July 13, 2018 at 09:13 AM



“ I'm so sorry for your loss. I will always remember when leaving your house after babysitting Bob insisting on walking me to my house, two houses away, to make sure I got home okay. A sweet man.

Ginny

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**Ginny Marino-Prince** - July 13, 2018 at 08:01 AM

SW

“ I'm so sorry to hear the news of Bob's death. He was a great guy, so funny and fun to be around. I'm glad I had the opportunity to work with him at the bus yard. Love to Judy and the family. He will be greatly missed. Love Sharon & Rick Wombough

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**Sharon Wombough** - July 13, 2018 at 07:35 AM

JL

I'm so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. I am so glad I had the opportunity to work with him at Fort Monmouth transporting vehicles with him from the motor pool. He always made me laugh telling such funny stories It was a great ride. He will always be in my thoughts and prayers. My love and condolences to Judy and family. RIP Bob

Joyce Laugelli

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**Joyce Laugelli** - July 13, 2018 at 11:12 AM

KD

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. My condolences to Judy and the rest of his family and friends. I only met him a few times but he was a very nice person and great to be around. Rest In Peace.

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**Karen DeRupo** - July 12, 2018 at 11:23 PM

RW

“ A good man was lost this week. Bob and I started each year celebrating our consecutive January birthdays. The year always improved from there  
With the four of us going to concerts. dinners, trips, adventures and misadventures too!  
Bob loved his family and he believed in work. He work belief was inspiring as he was walk the walk  
type of man. I will miss the fun we had, our plan to correct the world and i will miss his strength and his willingness to fight this illness.



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**Roger Wilbert** - July 12, 2018 at 08:36 PM

DW

“ Oh my gosh, where do I begin? Crazy, fun, loyal, loving friend for 47+ Years. Our insurance man became a lifelong friend. Brought his “bride” for cake & coffee many years ago and so it began.  
“Been there done that” thru the years with many an adventure.  
Albums full of pictures of the fun we had, very few of our memories did not include Bob and my “sister” Judy, my goodness, he even went camping for a night with us (lol).  
It’s hard to put into words how much he will be missed, he was one of a kind!  
Birthdays for Rog will never be the same without his “buddy”. To know him was to love him, and we did. Goodbye for now my friend.

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**debbie wilbert** - July 12, 2018 at 08:01 PM

CC

“ Bob was one those people who you instantly wanted to be around. He was one of the first people I met when I moved into the neighborhood almost 6 years ago on one of his many loops around the block to walk Shelly. He always had a smile on his face...even just a few days before he passed, he was still cracking jokes. I admired that he always talked about his family with great pride and genuine love. I feel so lucky to have known Bob and to have been friends with him. I will miss him, seeing him around the neighborhood and great conversations with him. I am so fortunate to have made friends with Judy, Sherie and RJ because of Bob and I look forward to always sharing good memories of him with them. We have lost one of the truly good guys and it leaves a hole in the hearts of many. Until we meet again, my friend...

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**Chris Caruso** - July 12, 2018 at 02:07 PM

 Vicky  
Cornish

“ Bobby (or Dad as I’ve always considered him) was by far one of my favorite people ever. Sherie and I met my freshman year in High School and became instantly inseparable. Dad and Mom took me in and made me feel like part of the family from day one. When my daughter was born in 95’ i was so blessed to now have them as her grandparent. From babysitting to swimming to making “crunchy eggs” that Dad ate without hesitation because she made them for him, he was always there for us. I loved his stories, his smiles, and most of all his unconditional love. I am so lucky to have had him in my life for all these years, and even though I moved to upstate NY 18 years ago, each time we visited was like I had never left. Dad, love you with all my heart and I know I that you will always look over all of us.



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**Vicky Cornish** - July 12, 2018 at 11:22 AM

DW

*So beautiful!*

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**debbie wilbert** - July 12, 2018 at 08:14 PM

RF

“ I said to my self who is this guy walking around with his dog and several empty plastic bags all the time. When I saw him a short time later the bags were filled with stuff and the dog looked exhausted. I said who is this guy and what's in the bags? Maybe he's cleaning the neighborhood? He was!!!! When he stoped by one day,he introduced himself as Bob and asked me if I was selling my car and how much I would take for it. I said, well it's not for sale but you can buy it for this price.....he looked at me like I was crazy and told me I was mentally ill and offered me less then half of what I told him I sell it to him for. I liked him immediately!!!! Not long after that day we were always talking and he always went out of his way to say hello and man this dude could talk!!!! I mean about anything!!! And this guy new all the doings going on in the neighborhood and there was not a subject he was unfamiliar with. Nothing got passed this him. I mean nothing. I enjoyed my time with Him over the last six years. I honored his friendship and have been very blessed to call Judie and Bob, his children Sherrie and RJ and my buddy Shelly as my friends and I think of them as my family!!!! I bet God can't get a word in over Bob..... but feels just as lucky to know him as his friends did!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



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Robert ferragine - July 11, 2018 at 10:01 PM

SP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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Sherie Pillis - July 11, 2018 at 12:34 PM

SP

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Sherie Pillis** - July 11, 2018 at 12:25 PM

BH

“ Bongarzone Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Robert J. Pillis Sr.



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**Bongarzone Funeral Home** - July 11, 2018 at 09:52 AM