



Dennis Russell Robarts

October 27, 1951 - April 5, 2014

Dennis Russell Robarts, 62, son of Wilfrid T. Robarts, namesake of the Robarts Sports Arena in Sarasota, and Bonnie Bessie Ellis Robarts of Sarasota, passed away on Saturday, April 5, 2014 in Sebring. Dennis was born in Sarasota on October 27, 1951, moving to Wauchula, Florida in 1997. He was the owner of Robarts Family Funeral Home until 2012, retiring for health reasons. He was a former police chief for the Bradenton Beach police department, former deputy with Sarasota County Sheriff Office, and was a former member of the Hardee County Sheriff's Office Citizens Advisory Board. Dennis held memberships with the International Association of Chiefs of Police, Florida Police Chiefs Association, and Sons of the Confederacy. He was a graduate of Admiral Farragut Academy, and was a member at First Baptist Church of Wauchula.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Deborah J. Robarts in 2006, parents, Wilfrid T. Robarts and Bonnie Bessie Ellis Robarts, and a sister, Bonnie Robarts Gay. Survivors include his son and daughter-in-law, Dennis R. Robarts, II and Summer S. Robarts of Wauchula; two grandchildren, Alexandra and Russell Robarts of Wauchula; four brothers, Donald Robarts and wife Denise of Bradenton, Thomas Robarts and wife Barb of Sarasota, Henry Robarts of North Carolina, and Jerry Robarts of Defuniak Springs; three sisters, Patricia Robarts of Sarasota, Arlene Thompson and husband Jack of Naples, and Anne Marie Hollan and husband John of Jacksonville.

A visitation will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at Roberts Garden Chapel in Wauchula from 6-8 p.m. Funeral services are at 12:15 p.m. Friday, April 11th at First Baptist Church of Wauchula with Rev. Jim Davis and Rev. Mike Howell officiating. Interment will be at Wauchula Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Wauchula Cemetery

Wauchula, FL 33873

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Robarts Garden Chapel
529 West Main Street
Wauchula, FL 33873
(863) 773-9773
robartsfuneralhome@gmail.com
<http://www.robartsfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

APR 11. 12:15 PM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Wauchula
1570 West Main Street
Wauchula, FL 33873
(863) 773-4182
<http://www.fbcwauchula.org/>

Tribute Wall

BR

“ He was my step father..I met him when I was 5. He taught me about love, business, marriage, strength. To always help those in need and extend a hand to the hurting. He was an amazing man, I love him as my own father and I miss him every day. Rest in paradise sweet man, and take care of my mother till I get there. I love you both more then you will ever know.

Brooklyn Porter Robarts - October 21, 2016 at 07:06 PM

BB

“ I just found out this morning my cousin Dennis had passed last month. My prayers go out to his family. I have many great & funny memories of my dad(Ross Barth) & I hanging out with Dennis when I was growing up. He had the best sense of humor and the three us never stopped joking & laughing when we were together. Thank you Dennis!

Love,

Brett Barth



Brett Barth - May 14, 2014 at 08:58 AM

JA

“ Today the 11th day of April Cadet Dennis R. Roberts Class of 1969 was laid to rest in the Wauchula Cemetery at approximately 1pm EST. Witnessed by Cadets Greg Anderson Class of 1968 and Cadet John M. Akin Class of 1969 and his family along with his other friends. May the Lord Bless and Keep Him forever more... You will be missed my friend.



John Akin - April 11, 2014 at 09:00 PM

JF

“ I completed my funeral service apprenticeship and internship at Shannon 's Whitfield Chapel in 1962. I remember many trips to Roberts delivering remains for cremation. Willie is one of my funeral service heroes. Joseph J. Farley, Dunnellon, Florida.

Joe Farley - April 11, 2014 at 04:10 PM

AD

“ We are very sorry for your the loss of Dennis, he is with God now...

April DeSloover
VKM International



april DeSloover - April 11, 2014 at 10:38 AM

PW

“ *Our deepest sympathy to your family.
Sincerely,
Paul White
FSI Trust*

Paul White - April 10, 2014 at 06:10 PM

PM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Robarts family. There isn't a childhood memory that doesn't include the Robarts children. When we last saw Dennis, which was at the memorial service for his sister, Bonnie Carol, he and Edward laughed about the times they would be lined up with the rest of the Robarts children and get a bath before dinner in the kitchen sink. Yes, they shared the kitchen sink. Memories that will bring a smile and ease the pain of Dennis not being with us.*

Dennis you will be missed but we are better people for having known you.

Love,

Louise St. Phillip, Edward (Eddie) St. Phillip, Jr., Pamela St. Phillip McCague and Melissa St. Phillip Palermo

Pamela St. Phillip McCague - April 10, 2014 at 12:23 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Dennis Russell Robarts.*



April 10, 2014 at 11:50 AM

TF

“ *The Celebration Church Family purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Dennis Russell Robarts.* ”



The Celebration Church Family - April 10, 2014 at 08:52 AM



“ *Imagination Blooms was purchased for the family of Dennis Russell Robarts.* ”



April 09, 2014 at 12:23 PM

AR

“ *You are so loved and will be missed so much. What a joy to have been blessed with you as a brother and friend.* ”



Arlene - April 09, 2014 at 10:47 AM

LI

“ *Dennis you will always be in my heart!* ”

L'Angel Ingram - April 09, 2014 at 06:02 AM

AH

“ He was our "Dennis the Menace" and we loved his antics. He was so cute ... and could always get away with things the rest of us wouldn't dare try. That's one of the benefits of being the "baby" I guess. We all spoiled him...just a tad. If you look closely at this distinguished picture of Dennis, you can still see a hint of mischief in those beautiful blue eyes. You will always be loved and missed Dennis. Anne Roberts Hollan

Anne Roberts Hollan - April 09, 2014 at 05:12 AM



“ Mary Avalos lit a candle in memory of Dennis Russell Roberts



Mary Avalos - April 09, 2014 at 02:40 AM

WC

“ I think back to the fun I had visiting "all of the cousins" in Sarasota as we were growing up, especially for me as an only child. Our cousin Dennis really was 'the menace' in the sweetest sense of the word. Yes, we managed to get into trouble with every visit. If you haven't heard some of the stories... like firing off home-made rockets from the back yard (that landed in the front yard!) or launching candle-powered floaters (and getting jets scrambled after them!) then you need to learn more about Dennis... 'the early years!' His life of service to his community, and to his family, was one any man would be proud of. Memories of his non-stop smile and personal warmth and charisma will be cherished by all who knew him. My heart soars knowing that Dennis has now heard, "well done, faithful servant" and probably with a chuckle or two.

William Carmichael - April 08, 2014 at 04:07 PM

CE

Well said Cousin! I could not describe his life better...we all loved Dennis The Menace! He was the life of every party, every family get together, every swim, every chase...could go on and on..."well done faithful servant" is so appropriate! We love and will miss you Dennis.

Corinne Ellis - April 09, 2014 at 08:26 AM

WC

“ *William Carmichael purchased the Heavenly Grace Spray for the family of Dennis Russell Robarts.*



William Carmichael - April 08, 2014 at 03:28 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Dennis Russell Robarts.*



April 08, 2014 at 03:21 PM