

I've only known Robert for about 4 years but those years are ones I will always remember and cherish. Robert's love for my sister was evident in the little gestures that he showered upon her. I remember the times when I saw them together during their early days and saw how Robert's love for Kathy brought out a certain happiness in her life that I never witnessed before- in so many ways they were truly meant for each other.

As I got to know Robert, I noticed that his generosity & consideration toward others, be it family members or close friends, always took priority over his own self-interests and his modesty endeared him to many including myself.

He was intelligent yet humble. It was the little things he did for others that often spoke volumes about his character and his values. I noticed early on that family was an important element in his life, and his eagerness to get to know me and my parents is something I will always be grateful for. In the end Robert not only captured my sister's heart but he also won my mother's approval and formed a strong bond with me, his brother-in-law.

His professional accomplishments are impressive, but it's not achievements or accolades I'll remember him by, but rather personal moments we've shared together..... Like I'll never forget the time spent at LegoLand Amusement Park near San Diego about two years ago. Like two little kids in a toy store, Robert & I tried to absorb all of the elaborate Lego replicas of miniature cities like San Francisco, Paris, & Washington DC and we marveled at the gigantic dinosaurs made completely out of green and brown Legos. And our excitement wasn't dampened by the fact that we were too old and too big to fit in some of the amusement rides there- we still had a blast just being reminded of our respective childhoods of building and playing with Legos and other favorite toys.

Or the time we spent one Thanksgiving holiday in Sedona, taking in the breathtaking views and in some ways restoring our spirits, and then afterwards enduring a scary ride back to Phoenix in the hands of a tenacious chauffeur who seemed absolutely determined in reaching a new land-speed record in his minivan with only one operating headlight.

I appreciated the times when Robert & Kathy, despite their busy schedules, visited me back in St. Louis to enjoy some downtime and endure some of my pathetic culinary attempts, much to my sister's chagrin.

I also won't forget the time spent in Williamsburg during one 4th of July weekend where Robert showed Kathy & me his alma mater, The College of William and Mary. He showed us the very spot where his parents dropped him off and said their goodbyes on his first day at that college- from the way he described it, it seemed somewhat traumatic for him knowing that he won't be going back to Brooklyn that night, but I think he soon overcame that homesick feeling and eventually made the most of his experience at that beautiful campus.

And finally, showing Robert where Kathy & I played as children at my parent's old house back in Illinois. There was a pond and a creek not far from that house and I remember Robert's interest in hearing my stories of time spent as a kid swimming in that disgusting algae-covered pond with fishnet in one hand and bucket in the other and a sense of determination in capturing anything that moved.

There's nothing extraordinary about those events, but those simple moments shared with Robert were more than just pleasant gatherings, but times where we felt like kindred spirits.

Robert was in many ways gifted but never acted like it; he was candid but always tactful in his approach; he could discern well beyond his years

but was rarely judgmental towards differing viewpoints; but most of all, Robert was accepting of all people- warts and all.

I'm going to miss you Robert, and I hope to see you again someday at another time, at another place. Until then, your spirit and the memories we shared will always be in my heart as I trek through my own life's journey to its conclusion. And once I reach that end, I promise you Robert, we'll pick up where we left off.

John Paul Yu

Brother-in-law to Robert

Brother of Katherine Wone