



## Robert Dodd Whelan

January 20, 1949 - February 28, 2025

Robert D. (Bob) Whelan of Minneapolis passed away on February 28, 2025 after a 20-year battle with kidney cancer. Born on January 20, 1949 in Birmingham, Alabama, Bob is survived by his loving wife, LeeAnn; children Sam (Lauren), Addie, and Nick; adorable grandson Harrison; mother Jane (aka Nanny); twin brother Chuck (Diane); nephew Bryant (Jen, Caroline); and "sister" Dawn Griffin. He was preceded in death by his father, Robert L. Whelan; father-in-law, George Cicmil; mother-in-law, Anita Cicmil; sister-in-law, Loretta Whelan; and nephew, Scott Whelan.

Bob considered his greatest accomplishment in life to be the character and success of his family. He cherished his immense network of friends, most notably his golf pals known as the Krazy 8s, and the countless hours they shared during many "great walks spoiled." He was deeply proud to work alongside the many Pearson teammates around the world, considering them a true blessing in his life.

Special thanks to the outstanding team at Minnesota Oncology, especially Brian U., for 20 years of exceptional care.

A celebration of Bob's life will be held on Thursday April 3, 2025 at 11:00am at Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie, MN (6630 Shady Oak Rd). For those who are unable to attend in person, a livestream of the service will be available (htt

ps://www.wooddale.org/events).

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to the Angel Foundation (<https://mnangel.org/donate/>) in honor of Bob, to support families facing cancer.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR 3. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Wooddale Church  
6630 Shady Oak Road  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

# Tribute Wall

LD

“ *Liz DANIELSON lit a candle in memory of Robert Dodd Whelan*



Liz DANIELSON - August 11, 2025 at 12:03 AM

IM

“ *Bob was an inspiring leader, incredible story teller and a gentle soul. He will surely be missed. Condolences to family and friends.*

Irina McKoskey - March 13, 2025 at 11:26 PM

IM

“ *Irina McKoskey lit a candle in memory of Robert Dodd Whelan*



Irina McKoskey - March 13, 2025 at 11:15 PM

BM

“ *Bee Mistry-Kanani lit a candle in memory of Robert Dodd Whelan*



Bee Mistry-Kanani - March 12, 2025 at 04:29 AM



“ A pleasure an honor to work a few rungs down the org chart from Bob. A great leader who always brought out the best in others. We’d all have run through a brick wall for this man, and I always got the feeling he’d have done the same for us. Condolences to friends and family. We sure lost a good one.

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**Jason Schwartz** - March 11, 2025 at 09:58 AM

DB

“ A true gentleman and golf bud. I loved his story about going out for Alabama football for a week. Will sadly miss you Bob....

*Don Brummer, Minnesota Valley CC.*

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**Donald brummer** - March 09, 2025 at 07:36 PM

CW

“ I remember Bob as a talented executive and a wonderful colleague during my time at Pearson. He managed to combine a ruthless drive for the performance of his business with an incredible humanity and care for all those who worked with him. I feel blessed to have been one of those colleagues and will miss him.

*Best wishes,*

*Coram*

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**Coram Williams** - March 07, 2025 at 02:26 PM

DW

“ *What began as a business partnership evolved soon into what became a lasting friendship. No one who knew Bob would be surprised that we actually negotiated an important contract on the front nine where Nick had kindly loaned me his clubs.*

*And though he was an exceptional executive in every way, work was a distant second to his family. His love for them was pre-eminent.*

*How very fortunate I was to have known Bob. As will so many, I will think of him and miss him often in the days ahead.*

*Dave Wilson, Naples FL*

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**David A Wilson** - March 07, 2025 at 12:29 PM

CZ

“ *Charles Zhao lit a candle in memory of Robert Dodd Whelan*



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**Charles Zhao** - March 07, 2025 at 09:52 AM

MP

“ *Bob was one of the most memorable leaders I have had the pleasure of working with. He was the master of people and relationships and he gave you the belief and confidence that you could accomplish anything you wanted.*

*Just a few weeks ago he was still messaging me offering encouragement – he was an inspiration, I will never forget him and will forever be grateful to him.*

*Our thoughts and condolences are with the family.*

*Matthew Poyiadgi & Family, London UK.*

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**Matthew Poyiadgi** - March 07, 2025 at 07:55 AM

MP

“ *Matthew Poyiadgi lit a candle in memory of Robert Dodd Whelan*



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**Matthew Poyiadgi** - March 07, 2025 at 07:48 AM

SJ

“ *Bob was a most incredible colleague, friend and mentor. He made a meaningful difference to my life and career and I thank his family for sharing him with me and my colleagues at Pearson. Much love, Sally Johnson*

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**Sally Johnson** - March 07, 2025 at 05:10 AM

AN

*So sorry for your loss*

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**Annie** - January 14 at 03:11 PM

AN

*I remember him as being so caring to his children. Annie Jatso*

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**Annie** - January 14 at 03:12 PM