



Mr. Robert C. Thompson

July 9, 1951 - June 3, 2026

Robert Thompson, 74, passed away unexpectedly on June 3rd, 2026, following an accident. Born on July 9, 1951, in Adams, MA, he was the son of Lester and Agnes “Ma” Thompson. From an early age, Rob was an independent and creative spirit who marched to his own beat and resisted convention. He attended elementary school in Adams and spent the summers in Savoy, MA on Hosford Road. In his early teens he was sent to the storied Lyman School for Boys but thankfully was later transferred to the Brookvale School in Windsor MA, which was a positive formative experience for him. By his late teens, Rob had ridden his motorcycle across the country and settled for a time in San Francisco where he ran a business with his friend Bill Russo. In his mid-twenties he came back to the East Coast and worked for Chet Jones at the Old Stone Mill in Adams where his love for hand-screened wallpaper printing began. He then built and managed a new screen printing plant for Old Stone Mill in North Adams, now the location of the Greylock Works complex. He later was recruited by the distinguished wallpaper company Twigs to build a wallpaper printing plant for them in Boston. There they reproduced the multi-panel historic “Monuments of Paris” murals which are now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. He fondly recalled his days there, living on Beacon Hill with a view of the Massachusetts State House. During this time, he would spend many weekends in Savoy, MA, building a house from the ground up on land down the road from his parents' home. After meeting his partner Michele Littrell in Boston, Rob and she settled in the

Savoy house, where they had two daughters, Leah and Maria. Life brought its share of challenges, including Michele's diagnosis of MS in the mid-1980s. In time, Rob and Michele separated, and Rob went on to raise their two daughters.

In 1990 Rob started his third wallpaper printing plant, Berkshire Hand-screened Wallpapers in Pittsfield, MA. His firm printed for prestigious clients in the NYC decor industry. Among his notable commissions was a wallpaper order for Clinton's White House. Rob's innovative nature led him to invent a machine for making stria prints that were well received by the markets in NY. After his business closed, he sold the invention and consulted for Chambord Mfg. in New Jersey. He also traveled to Mumbai, India, to train manufacturing teams in production methods there.

In the nineties, Rob met Martha Flood, an accomplished surface designer with whom he collaborated professionally. He and Martha became partners and spent the next three decades together. They shared a common ground of creativity and curiosity, inspiring one another while enjoying their home in Adams and their backyard with a view of Mt. Greylock. In recent years, Rob unearthed an old lathe and took up woodturning, approaching it with the same rigor and focus that had defined his wallpaper career. His basement became a production hub for bowls, clocks, salt and pepper shakers, and other wares. In addition to his creative pursuits, Rob was an avid walker who could be spotted most days making his way through town. He was a keen observer of life and the built environment around him, viewing the world with the ethos "live and let live". A gifted conversationalist, his stories of a life lived on his own terms will endure in the hearts of those who knew him.

Rob is survived by his partner, Martha Flood; his daughters, Leah Thompson and Maria Thompson; his grandson, Jack Bessette; his sisters, Margaret (Thompson) Bozek and Liz Thompson; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Tribute Wall

LO

“RIP Rob! You were a great dude. You were sort of like a step uncle to me. You had a special knack for finding humor and profoundness in moments and spaces that no one else would ever think to notice. I'm going to miss hearing your stories and theories. You had a unique way to look at the world that was inspiring to me. How you described the old commercial about the chocolate cake that was so moist the guy didn't need any milk. Hold the milk! Or how you explained a move you invented called "the walk out" (if the service is sub-par at a restaurant or business, you just walk out!) I also admired your carpentry. When we had to take apart some bookshelves you had built it was like trying to break into Fort Knox they were so sturdily built. You seemed like someone who stayed true to his principles, no matter what. I'm going to miss you but I know you lived life on your own terms and I'm glad to have known you and Leah and Maria.

Louie - June 09 at 10:40 AM

LK

“Oh how sad I am to read this, in 1999 Rob became my landlord, neighbor and friend. I watched Leah and Maria finish growing up and leave the nest for their own adventures, Rob was so proud of his girls. We spent many nights talking, listening the the vitrolla and learning the special wisdom of Rob Thompson. Never go out to eat, unless you'll be changed somehow by the experience. He also boasted about his sandwich making expertise. Martha I am so very sorry, there are no words. Leah and Maria my heart breaks with you. Rob, I bet Barb was surprised to see you and you're sharing laughs again. I was lucky to call Rob my friend and I am thankful a shared loss brought us together recently and I was able to give him a hug and listen to his wisdom once again.

Lisa Kenney - June 06 at 09:02 PM

MT

Thank you Lisa, we have such good memories of those porch evenings on Crandall street. I know our dad was grateful for your presence and company. So glad to hear you got to see him recently, even under the circumstances.

Maria

Maria Thompson - June 06 at 09:25 PM

LK



Lisa Kenney - June 07 at 10:06 AM

MJ

“ *Dear Leah, what an exceptional life your Dad led. I see his creativity in you, too. This tribute to him and his whole life is so fitting. A true gift to a free spirit and creative man.*

Marilyn Jess - June 06 at 05:22 PM



“ *Maria and Leah,
So many memories at your house in Savoy and in Adams. I will always remember his toasted PB&J's! Sending you both lots of love and hugs.
-Jess Lucia*

Jessica Lucia - June 06 at 03:48 PM

JS

“ *Leah and Maria, our condolences to you and your family. It sounds like your Dad was a very interesting person. Wishing you peace and comfort during this difficult time.
June and Chris*

June Samson - June 06 at 03:16 PM

MT

Thanks so much, June.

Maria Thompson - June 06 at 05:56 PM

DN

“ *Leah and Maria,
I am so sorry. Your dad loved you both so much. I have memories of him bringing you to preschool and on through your years at Savoy Elementary. He was always so supportive of you both. I also knew your dad outside of the school world through mutual friends. Your tribute is beautiful. You have described him perfectly.*
Deb Nowicki

Debbie Nowicki - June 06 at 02:41 PM

MT

Thank you, Mrs. Nowicki! We're so grateful to have had you as a mentor. I treasure my memories of Savoy Elementary.

Maria Thompson - June 06 at 05:55 PM

HD

*Dear Leah and Maria,
My thoughts and prayers are with you right now through this difficult moment in time! I have very good memories of my conversations with your father and we would often talk about you two! His love for you both was unconditional! And when he would speak about you both I could see that love and pride in his eyes! He was a great man! And I am sad to know of his passing! I love you both! And I am here for you always!*
Hannah

Hannah Dion - June 06 at 08:15 PM

MT

Thank you Hannah

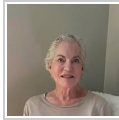
Maria Thompson - June 07 at 03:01 PM

JK

“ I have a beautiful wooden bowl from Rob, I treasure it. He was a kind and good man.

Joan Kiley

Joan Kiley - June 06 at 02:09 PM



This is devastating news. Rob has been on my mind and I had meant to call him. Rob was one of the most industrious, creative and interesting people I have ever met. He created wonderful living spaces for my husband and me, and we treasured him. He was also the adopted father of Elmer “the thug” one of our terrific cats who moved to Savoy when he just could not fit into city life. RIP , Rob.

Susan Murphy - June 06 at 02:45 PM

MF

Thank you Susan. I'm glad that you got to see this notice. Nice to hear from you

martha flood - June 06 at 05:48 PM

MT

Susan, you and Ulrich were a force in Rob's life, and ours too. I didn't know about Elmer's moniker. He was my favorite cat and now even more so. Love, Maria

Maria Thompson - June 06 at 05:52 PM

TM

Maria, I'm sorry to read that you lost your dad. I'll always remember the conversation I had with him when you and Marcie first moved to NYC. He had such a wise, comforting and confident message that I immediately felt at ease and that I knew and trusted him. His enormous pride for you and Leah was apparent. Your tribute to him reflects such pride and love.

Terry Miller - June 07 at 09:22 AM

MT

Hi Terry, so nice to see your note. I'm glad you got to connect with him back then. He loved Marcie, and her sense of humor resonated with him. Hope you are doing well.

Maria Thompson - June 07 at 03:01 PM