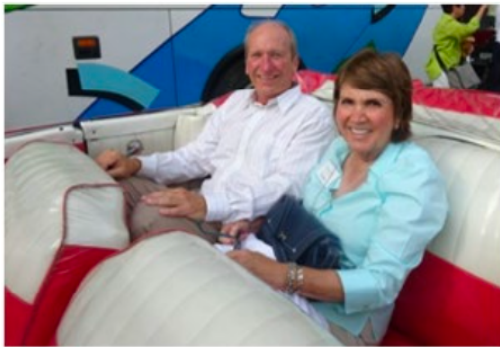


This monthly article highlights one of our branch members. We hope that you enjoy knowing a little more about your fellow members and the interesting life they have had. This is the final article as we bring this activity to its conclusion. It has been an enjoyable journey documenting the many memorable life stories of my fellow members. You are welcome to visit our branch website to view all past Member Profiles posted. Ron Nakamoto - ron.nakamoto@yahoo.com

BOB BOOTH



Bob and Pat in a 1950s car in Cuba

“My life's goals have always been focused on my family. Since, my kids were born, I've strived to make sure they grew up in a good environment and that I could be there for them to support whatever they decided to do. We purchased our home in Los Altos so I could be close to work and able to get away for those all-important

elementary school shows. My work as a litigation attorney has been intense but my work was never so far that I could not attend most of their activities and events. I've even volunteered to coach their soccer and basketball teams. My daughter, Jenny, excelled at water polo and her team won the CCS championship. She then

played at UC Davis. My son, Brent, was a very good all-around athlete but golf became his passion and he dropped basketball his senior year to concentrate on golf. At UC Davis he was twice captain of the golf team. His thrill came when they won the conference championship and played in the NCAA tournament. Both still live in the Bay Area making it easy for my wife Pat and I to enjoy our three grandchildren, a 4-year-old boy and two 2-year-old girls. Pat and I feel fortunate and lucky to have achieved our life's goals. Here is my story.”

Bob was born in Newport News, Virginia. He was the youngest of three children. His father, a West Point graduate and Army Colonel was assigned to Fort Monroe, VA at the time. When Bob was two the Korean War broke out on June 25, 1950, when North Korea crossed the 38th parallel and invaded South Korea. Bob's father was part of the first US troops sent to aid the Republic of Korea to stop the North Korean invasion. He was part of the force that landed at Inchon and pursued the North Korean army into North Korea until the Chinese army forced a stalemate around the 38th parallel.

Upon his return from Korea, Bob's father was promoted to Brigadier General, and Bob enjoyed a privileged military life in Stuttgart, Germany (in quarters recaptured from the Nazis), Ft Benning, GA, then New York City on Governor's Island "... right smack in the middle of New York harbor". Bob lived just across the street from the 5th green of the 9-hole course on the Island. After school he would putt and fool around on the green, eventually graduating to playing the course. He was hooked on golf and would remain so throughout his life. *(Editor's note: The house Bob lived in, on Governor's Island is now*

part of the National Park Service where one can visit his house with his old room, but now not likely to have his posters. The Governor's Island Golf Course was the only golf course in Manhattan and offered one of the most unique golf vistas with its views of the Brooklyn and Manhattan skylines with the Statue of Liberty as a backdrop.)

At the time, the epicenter of baseball was New York with three teams, the Yankees, Dodgers and Giants. Bob enjoyed going to Ebbetts Field, the Polo Grounds, and Yankee Stadium. He especially remembers attending Game 5 of the 1956 World Series, probably the single most memorable World Series game ever when Don Larsen pitched a perfect game for the Yankees, the only one in Series history. But the team that captured his affections was the Giants and Willie Mays. Lucky for Bob he ended up in the Bay Area.

While in New York Bob was also fortunate to meet an old friend of his father's, Tony McAuliffe. WWII buffs will know General McAuliffe as the man who famously said "Nuts" to a German surrender demand at Bastogne during the Battle of the Bulge. General McAuliffe took a shine to young Bob and took him to baseball games and other events in New York while he was there.

A few moves later Bob lived in Fort Meade, Maryland where he would live the next six years until his father, now a Major General (two stars) retired after 35 years of service. Bob attended Severn High School in Severna Park, Maryland. There Bob played football, basketball, and lacrosse. The school was particularly good at lacrosse, winning the MSA championship his senior year.

Bob went to Duke University where he played Lacrosse for two years. He recalls being amazed at how good top college players at schools like Navy and Maryland really were. Guarding them as a defenseman was a daunting experience but lots of fun. Surprisingly, the goalie at Duke still talks to Bob. He graduated with a degree in Political Science in 1969.

Bob spent the summer after graduation working as a US Senate intern in the offices of Senator John Sherman Cooper of Kentucky. It was a fantastic experience as Bob got to see first-hand how the Senate works and doesn't work. One day the women in the office were all atwitter because the young, handsome senator, Ted Kennedy from Massachusetts was coming to pay a courtesy call to a Republican Senator. One wonders if that happens today.

At the end of the summer Bob joined the Army and after stints at Fort Dix, NJ and Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. attended Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Bob graduated from OCS with a commission in the Signal Corps (communications) with orders for some additional training courses and then on to Vietnam. It was 1970 and the war was still very much alive. However, fate intervened, and Bob was offered the option to go to Germany which he accepted. He spent the next three plus years in Germany, mostly in Darmstadt, as a battalion staff officer of a STRATCOM (Strategic Communications) unit.

Following OCS, Bob and his college sweetheart, Pat were married. Pat was in the Duke School of Nursing, and they met at a fraternity party where Pat had a date with one of

Bob's fraternity brothers. The story Pat tells is she saw Bob and asked for an introduction and the rest is history. Her story probably has some truth since Bob says he was shy around girls at the time. They've been married 51 years.

He and Pat took full advantage of being in Europe, traveling to almost every country west of the Iron Curtain, only missing out on Portugal and Finland. The Army encouraged its members to gain an appreciation for why they were there, so it granted each one several days of "admin leave" to visit West Berlin. Bob and his wife did so, taking a train from Frankfurt through East Germany to Berlin. He vividly remembers the stark contrast between the two Germanys with East Germany being completely dark at night and the view from Checkpoint Charley showing a lifeless city beyond the wall. By contrast, West Berlin was full of life with people in the cafes until all hours. Bob felt they were "living like there was no tomorrow."

After the Army, Bob entered law school, graduating from the University of Virginia in 1977. Having been moved around his whole life Bob was not daunted by the idea of moving to a new city. So, upon graduation Bob took a job in Los Angeles for a mid-size downtown law firm.



Bob and Brent in Ireland at Tralee.

Bob worked exclusively in litigation of all sorts, but all on cases for the defense. Bob worked on various cases to include representing Ford and Jeep, defending against personal injury cases involving exploding gas tanks and other product liability allegations. These cases were replete with grisly details to be handled and he just decided that that kind of work was not for him. With his wife expecting their first child, Bob and Pat decided this was a good time to leave Los Angeles. They moved north and Bob took a job at Hewlett Packard in Palo Alto while Pat took a job at Stanford Hospital caring for heart transplant patients. At HP Bob handled litigation matters as well as disputes before they boiled over into a lawsuit. He worked on licensing and other contract matters mostly in the computer arena. Bob routinely provided advise on regulatory requirements,

marketing issues, sales, and myriad other matters that companies encounter and enjoyed it. Visiting Microsoft to negotiate licensing for their operating system MS-DOS, Bob saw the prototype of their new graphical operating system called Windows. Bob continued his career in litigation with Apple, Iomega, Palm (pre- IPO) and back to HP after it acquired Palm. Bob thoroughly enjoyed the various work challenges he encountered and some of the perks.

In a fun interlude, Bob was chosen to fill Apple's spot in the Pro-Am for the T our Championship at the Olympic Club where he teamed with Jay Haas and two other amateurs to finish third. Bob also worked on advertising agreements with the SF Giants and the PGA. An SF Giants perk was Club level seats for employees. As a PGA Tour and Pro-Am sponsor, Bob played again in a few events to include at Disney World where he played alongside Scott Hock and competed in the first two rounds.

When Palm entered the cell phone business, Bob worked on a new challenge. The cell phone world was fraught with patent infringement claims. Eventually, Bob would have to relinquish all other duties and focus on defending the company from the many infringement lawsuits that all the cell phone makers faced. It was an invigorating experience towards the latter part of his career. One area of interest was dealing with the myriad firms who claimed royalties based upon their respective contributions to standards such as 2G, 3G, etc. A very "hot" issue at the time was how to measure the royalty due - on the value of the item contributed to the standard or on the entire device containing the patented item. The latter would effectively keep many companies out of the business as the cumulative effect would be to eat up the entire margin. Bob was right in the middle of this debate and its real-world implications. He stayed at Palm/HP until he retired. Over the years he says he handled well over 100 matters including scores of lawsuits from class actions to intellectual property infringement. In retirement, Bob enjoys his family, golf, and travelling to new places.

He's been to China, where he hooked up with friends to privately tour the country, Great Wall, and other unique sights that you would not find on a tour. In Taiwan and

Malaysia, friends added some time for a golf outing which was truly a great experience. England, Ireland, Cuba, Vietnam were other countries they visited. He was amazed that the Vietnamese held no animosity to Americans. "A memorable highlight of our trips was in South Africa where we toured Victoria Falls, Cape Town, viewed native animals and other sights. We've been to the five main Utah National Parks. "Highly recommended" and "Awesome" is how Pat and I would describe it. While COVID put some of our plans on hold we hope to start again soon."



Bob making sushi in Tokyo

"My parting message to my fellow members is to set your priorities and then follow it through, no matter what the conventional wisdom or others tell you. If you stick to your priorities, then you should have peace of mind. I've lived my life prioritizing my family over all else and have never looked back or wondered what could be. I am happy with my choices. It is like investing, I don't care about trying to beat the S&P index, but I do care about some reasonable portfolio growth and income."

Editor's note: For our members interested in genealogy you should ask Bob about his family history. You read that his father was a West Point graduate. In addition, his mother's father went to West Point and graduated a year before Gen MacArthur. When MacArthur met his mother, he took both her hands and said how he so admired her father. Bob's family history dates to the 1600's with his mother's grandfather, a Colonel in the Civil War, to Charles Carroll, a signee of the Declaration of Independence, and to Robert Brent, the first mayor of Washington DC, appointed by Thomas Jefferson. Now that is a family history.