



Roy Francis Bish

September 29, 1938 - April 15, 2021

Roy Francis Bish, age 82, of St. Augustine, FL, USA, passed away on April 15, 2021 at home, with his wife by his side. Born in Plumstead, Woolwich, England, Roy was a child growing up during WWII. As a toddler, Roy, and two of his siblings, were evacuated from London to the relative safety of the north, in a town called Kettering. These early years during and after the war left a lasting impression on Roy. He had vivid recollections of returning to London to find that his family home had been destroyed in the blitz. As a youth he enjoyed football (soccer) and cricket, was in choir for several years, and upon completing his formal education, he served in the British Army. Roy's first employment was as an assistant in a Tailor Shop. He then ran his own business as a painting contractor, a trade that he continued for much of his working life. His family jokingly referred to him as the "man with the golden brush" due to his level of professionalism as a painter and ability to show up anywhere with a paint brush, willing and able to paint. A man of action, he spent the quarantine of 2020 painting the entire exterior of the new family home in Florida, determined as ever to get the job done.

Roy loved America and relished the opportunities that he found here in the 1960s. He came to the US aboard the Queen Mary in 1960 and settled in California. There he met his beloved wife Iris Cole, also from England, and they married in 1966.

Fueled by his adventuresome spirit, the pair began a life together that would take them around the world; raising their family in the US, England and

Australia. Roy's painting career and entrepreneurial passion for inventing new products took him to 24 countries, including Switzerland, Thailand, Tbilisi (Georgia), Fiji and India.

A natural storyteller, Roy enthralled family and friends with his engaging stories ranging from childhood adventures in Plumstead to painting Hollywood celebrity homes and all of the amazing people he had met. He made friends easily, with an enduring sense of humor, quick to have a laugh and generous spirit. Roy had a lifelong love of classic cars, music, visiting historic places, finding a good deal on an antique or vintage item, and an appreciation for the beauty of nature, from the British countryside, to the Mountains and the Seas. Roy was devoted to his family and their needs were always a top priority. He will be deeply missed by family and friends around the world.

Roy is survived by his wife of 55 years, Iris Bish of St. Augustine; his daughter, Adelle Bish, her husband, Paul Cooper, and grandson Nicholas Deasy Bish Cooper, of Greensboro, NC; his son, Wayne Bish, and his wife, Barbara, of St. Augustine; brother, Dave Bish of Texas; sisters, Midge Matthews of Manchester UK, and Eileen Haley of Tenby Wales UK. Roy is preceded in death by his brothers Albert Bish and Les Bish, and sisters Jean Finch and Maureen Persechino.

A funeral service will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 21, 202 at St. Johns Family Funeral Home with The Reverend David Allert officiating. Those unable to attend can view the service live streamed at <https://iframe.dacast.com/b/156599/c/549019> .

St. Johns Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Previous Events

Funeral Service

APR 21. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Johns Family Funeral Home
385 State Road 207
St. Augustine, FL

Tribute Wall



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Roy Francis Bish*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - April 22, 2021 at 01:12 PM



“ *St. Johns Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Roy Francis Bish*



St. Johns Family Funeral Home - April 20, 2021 at 10:42 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Jackie Britton - April 27, 2021 at 06:19 AM



Jackie Britton

Do you remember Iris when you surprised me at work when you were in the UK. We went for a pub lunch, (egg, ham and chips I think) and it was so nice to see you. You went to OZ and back to US and we then met up in Sevenoaks, probably 4/5 years ago, when you were once again in UK. Again we had a pub meal and a good laugh. Roy was a gentleman and I'm glad you both had a full and loving life together. bless you Iris and your family. xx

Jackie Britton - April 27, 2021 at 06:26 AM

WB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Wayne Bish - April 24, 2021 at 02:55 PM

WB

“ This is a perfect example of my dad and mum's sense of humor that will make you laugh out loud. It makes me happy every time I watch it. - Wayne Bish



Wayne Bish - April 24, 2021 at 08:44 AM

SH

“ Dear Iris,

On behalf of the Huxford family from Bellboring, Brisbane, we would like to send you and your family all our love.

Mum will write to you in time when she is able to.

My memories of Roy are those twinkly eyes, ready smile, cheeky personality and the ability to welcome you. I was always touched by his story of kindness as he befriended the lady patient he met whilst in hospital and helped her through a difficult time in her life. That ability to be open in thought and heart in such a special trait.

As the video played, it is evident of his family love, travels and varied cars, a life that was well lived and one to celebrate.

So whilst I write this from Cheltenham , England I will toast Roy and a drink a cup of tea from a fine cup the way he liked.

Thinking of you all as you move forward with the strength of Roy within you all.

*Love and big hugs, Shelley
xxoo*

shelley - April 23, 2021 at 06:01 PM

JC

“ To Iris, Adele, Wayne and Family, thinking of you all during this sad time. Roy will be deeply missed.

Joyce

Joyce Cooper - April 22, 2021 at 04:37 AM

IR

“ *Of course, Roy painted the mailbox to match the house!*



Iris - April 21, 2021 at 12:01 AM

IR

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Iris - April 21, 2021 at 12:00 AM

SC

We were so pleased to be part of the service for Uncle Roy. Albeit virtually. Lovely tributes made by both Wayne & Adelle. Sending all our love from Wales uk. Sue & Mum (Eileen) xxxx

Sue Chiffi - April 21, 2021 at 12:34 PM

IR

“ *Always happy with Riley*



Iris - April 20, 2021 at 11:17 PM

IR

“ *Our house Roy painted last year 😊💕*



Iris - April 20, 2021 at 11:15 PM

PB

“ *Pam and Wayne xxxxxxx God Bless purchased the Mrs. Fields Thinking of You Combo Tin for the family of Roy Francis Bish.*



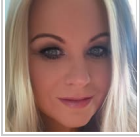
Pam and Wayne xxxxxxx God Bless - April 20, 2021 at 05:32 PM

BB

“ *So sad to hear of Uncle Roys passing.
He was a Top Bloke of the highest order who always saw the funny side of life & I can still hear his laughter.
Rest in Peace old friend.
Our sincere Condolences to Iris, Adelle & Wayne.*

Barry, Tammy & Serena.

Barry Bish - April 20, 2021 at 01:00 PM



“ Sending my deepest and condolences to Roy's loved ones on his passing. Roy was truly a force of nature, with the greatest sense of humor. Straight talking and a font of knowledge, he was a joy. You can take the boy out of London but cant take London out of the boy. We had the best road trip from Texas to Mexico and back again, stopping along the way at a coffee shop which served coffee in egg cups, and the smallest spoons in the world. I will never forget the look on Roy's face when it was served it was pure comedy. I'm going to miss you Roy, there will be a candle burning bright for you tomorrow in this little part of London. Love to Iris and your loved ones. Good night, God Bless, sweet dreams cheeky chappy.

xxxx

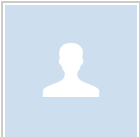
Lynn Sherriff - April 20, 2021 at 08:00 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



April 20, 2021 at 07:04 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



April 20, 2021 at 03:14 AM

AM

“ Sending love to Iris, Adelle, Wayne and families. Heartfelt thoughts go out to you in this time of sorrow. ❤️ The Clements Family

Amy - April 19, 2021 at 11:35 PM

GS

“ He will be so missed. What a beloved friend. Love, Geri and family

Geri Steenveld - April 19, 2021 at 05:52 PM

AD

“ Dad, Wayne & cars - a constant passion!



Adelle - April 19, 2021 at 05:50 PM

SC

Great photos Adele xx

Sue Chiffi - April 21, 2021 at 10:36 AM

GF

“ Geri and Family purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



Geri and Family - April 19, 2021 at 05:30 PM



“ *Caring Condolences Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Roy Francis Bish.*



April 19, 2021 at 04:50 PM



“ *I have great memories of the times we spent at Meadowlands Men's Shed(Carina Queensland Aust) A true Gentleman. My condolences to his family. John Weir.*

John Weir - April 19, 2021 at 04:33 PM



“ *In loving memory of Uncle Roy sending all my love to Aunt Iris, Adele, Wayne & family*



love from Jasmine xxx

Jasmine Gordon - April 19, 2021 at 02:59 PM



He will be missed. Our love to a dear neighbor and life long friend. Geri and family

Geri Steenveld - April 19, 2021 at 05:17 PM



We will so miss our dear neighbor and lifelong friend. Sending so much love. Geri and family.

Geri Steenveld - April 19, 2021 at 05:19 PM



Hi Geri, i'm sending my love to you and your family xx

Jasmine Gordon - April 20, 2021 at 09:24 AM

MH

“ *Sending love and heartfelt condolences as we share in your loss. Roy was such a great personality - an amazing person and a remarkable life. Much love, Mark, Lesley, Eleanor and Finley. x*



Mark Haydon - April 19, 2021 at 02:18 PM

SC

“ *Sending all our love & thoughts to Iris, Wayne, Adele & family. Roy will be truly missed by his loving sister Eileen, his nieces & nephew, Maureen, Derek, sue & families xx 🌸*

Sue Chiffi - April 19, 2021 at 01:57 PM



“ *In loving memory of a wonderful brother your memories will live on love from your sister Midge, Mike, Lorraine, Jasmine, Julie, Charles and family xxx*



Michael Matthews - April 19, 2021 at 01:45 PM

AD

Thank you xxxx

Adelle - April 21, 2021 at 03:07 PM

LX

“ love from your sister Midge and family xx purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



love from your sister Midge and family xx - April 19, 2021 at 01:34 PM

EM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



emilie - April 19, 2021 at 01:11 PM

AD

Great happy photo, Emilie!

Adelle - April 21, 2021 at 03:08 PM

EM

“ Sending all our love and Prayers to Auntie Iris, Adelle, Wayne & family.
I have lots of memories of Uncle Roy, he was always happy & always had a funny story to tell. I mainly remember the laughter that I would hear when him & Iris was over seeing my mum & dad.
Rip uncle Roy. Love Emilie, Giles & Tallulah xxx



emilie - April 19, 2021 at 12:35 PM

AD

Thank you Emilie, Giles & Tallulah. Emilie, I can also remember our parents laughing and telling stories in your parents house - so many good times spent there 😊

Adelle - April 21, 2021 at 03:12 PM

LA

“ Roy you will be sadley mist you are a lovely person and looked after my sister all these years god bless hun

lynda mary abraham - April 19, 2021 at 12:05 PM

AD

Thanks Auntie Lyn - he loved your phone calls!

Adelle - April 21, 2021 at 03:13 PM

VA

*“ Roy, ever the laconic Londoner with your dry wit and laughing eyes...you will be so missed.
You all feel like family we have known you so long. My thoughts and prayers are with you Iris, Adelle and Wayne. With Love and Hugs
Vanessa, Gary, Liam and Rory x*

Vanessa - April 19, 2021 at 11:50 AM

AD

Thank you Vanessa & family. Many happy times together. Xxx

Adelle - April 21, 2021 at 03:15 PM

AD

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Adelle - April 19, 2021 at 09:26 AM

AD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Adelle - April 19, 2021 at 09:22 AM

WA

“ Wendy Abraham lit a candle in memory of Roy Francis Bish



Wendy Abraham - April 19, 2021 at 08:02 AM

LA

“ Lyn and Wendy Abraham purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



Lyn and Wendy Abraham - April 19, 2021 at 07:59 AM

BB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Barbara Bish - April 19, 2021 at 07:50 AM

BB

“ Barbara B. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



Barbara B. - April 19, 2021 at 07:18 AM

MB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Mrs Barbara Marie Bish - April 19, 2021 at 06:45 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



April 19, 2021 at 06:41 AM

MB

“ *The Broken Chain*

*We little knew that day,
God was going to call your name.
In life we loved you dearly,
In death, we do the same.*

*It broke our hearts to lose you.
You did not go alone.
For part of us went with you,
The day God called you home.*

*You left us beautiful memories,
Your love is still our guide.
And although we cannot see you,
You are always at our side.*

*Our family chain is broken,
And nothing seems the same,
But as God calls us one by one,
The chain will link again.*

Author: Ron Tranmer

Mrs Barbara Marie Bish - April 19, 2021 at 06:23 AM

AD

Beautiful

Adelle - April 21, 2021 at 03:19 PM

FX

“ From Diane, Tony, Glenn, Ian and Louise. X purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



From Diane, Tony, Glenn, Ian and Louise. X - April 19, 2021 at 05:05 AM

DT

“ In loving memory of a dear Brother in Law to Diane and Tony and Uncle to Glenn, Ian and Louise.

We have lovely memories of spending a holiday with you both in California some years ago, especially when we all stayed at Big Bear and visited Disneyland. You made us so welcome and it's something we all remember.

Roy was a great person with a good sense of humour.

He will be greatly missed. Our love and condolences to all of the family XX

Diane and Tony - April 19, 2021 at 04:41 AM

AD

Thank you so much. Dad loved being a tour guide! Love, Adelle xxxx

Adelle - April 21, 2021 at 03:17 PM

DF

“ Danny Sharyn and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Roy Francis Bish.



Danny Sharyn and family - April 19, 2021 at 04:25 AM

WA

“ I have some very fond memories of my Uncle Roy from when I was little, my family used to visit them when they lived in a house in London and Roy had a large stuffed grizzly bear in their bedroom, he used to say to me that it comes to life at night if you wonder around the house, at the time I believed him and slept all through the night when there! He had a wonderfully dry sense of humour and was a big personality. My only regret is not being able to see him in more recent years and to be able to say my farewell to him and be with my family on his final day.

My sincere and heartfelt thoughts and love go out to my Auntie Iris and my cousins Adele and Wayne and their children during this very sad and difficult time.

Rest in peace Uncle.

All of my love, Wendy Abraham xx

Wendy Abraham - April 19, 2021 at 03:58 AM



“ That's my memories of You my wonderful Roy.



Justyna Jodkowska - April 19, 2021 at 03:47 AM



“ Thank You for a good vibe and your sense of humour. You were my best friend in Australia and now You are my Angel everyday. I am sure You are watching Us and wishing we are happy and we have a good memories of You. Always you are with me. ❤️❤️❤️



Justyna Jodkowska - April 19, 2021 at 03:44 AM



“ Roy I love you so much, You are my Angel always in my heart. I am so glad You were in my life. Always positive and happy. I appreciate every moment together with You and Your Angel Iris. Love You both with my Huge ❤️ heart.



Justyna Jodkowska - April 19, 2021 at 03:41 AM

MP

“ I am glad to have known Roy for the time he was in Brisbane (Aust) and a much liked member of our "Men's Shed" where he made many toys in wood. We shared stories, and many times he and I sat together and discussed a common interest in old cars. Like many Vietnam Vets, Roy was an unfussed guy and this placid manner drew guys to him - Like all that knew him, I am saddened by his passing - his kind are far and few between and getting fewer !
VALE ROY, and thanks for the memories R.I.P. Comrade!
My deepest sympathies to his wife Iris and family at this sad time

Michael Powers

Co-Founder -Meadowlands Men's Shed---Brisbane Australia

Michael Powers - April 19, 2021 at 02:05 AM

PC

“ Our thoughts and love to you all. I will always remember Roy's kindness to me, a stranger on holiday, he loaned me his car for a week so I and a friend could visit places we otherwise would not have seen. We shall never forget him. Love always Tricia & Margaret. X

Patricia Chapman - April 19, 2021 at 01:16 AM



“ Justyna Jodkowska lit a candle in memory of Roy Francis Bish



Justyna Jodkowska - April 18, 2021 at 09:53 PM



“ *Mrs. Fields Sweet Sampler Basket was purchased for the family of Roy Francis Bish.*



April 18, 2021 at 08:49 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Roy Francis Bish.*



April 18, 2021 at 05:15 PM



“ *Mrs Barbara Marie Bish sent a virtual gift in memory of Roy Francis Bish*



Mrs Barbara Marie Bish - April 18, 2021 at 05:12 PM



“ *Mrs Barbara Marie Bish lit a candle in memory of Roy Francis Bish*



Mrs Barbara Marie Bish - April 18, 2021 at 05:10 PM