



## David R. Bibbs

March 9, 1959 - March 30, 2022

David "Dave" Ralph Bibbs, age 63, a lifelong resident of Lake Bluff and Lake Forest, IL, transitioned peacefully onto his next journey at home on March 30, 2022. December 31, 2021 he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. It was three months from diagnosis to death.

Dave was born on March 9, 1959 in Lake Forest, IL to Margaret and Robert Bibbs. He graduated from Lake Forest High School (class of '77) where he was on the golf team. He would have loved to have been a pro golfer, but it wasn't in the stars. He went to University of Iowa, joined Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity, and graduated in 1981 with a BA and in 1982 from the MBA program.

Dave was a Senior Vice President at CannonDesign in Chicago, IL and was a structural engineer/structural design leader. Dave always loved buildings and math. He loved and was fascinated by the design and structures of buildings.

Dave was a member of SEAIO (Structural Engineers Association of Illinois). He started as an editor with the newsletter, and then joined as a board member in 2000 and served one term as treasurer (2006); president 2007 and 2008; and was on the board until 2011. After leaving SEAIO, he joined the State of Illinois Structural Engineering Licensing Board. He served for 10+ years which included three years as board chairman.

He was also a member of the Economic Club of Chicago and a longtime member of Onwentsia Club in Lake Forest, IL, where he was an avid golfer who loved the sport. He participated and placed in many golf tournaments. He could often be found on the 19th hole with fellow golfers, family and friends.

Dave absolutely loved his wife's family's lodge nestled in the Northwestern woods of Wisconsin, on the Brule River. He loved the Brule more than almost any other place on the planet. It was so serene and tranquil where Dave found absolute peace. He cherished his time with family up there, including relaxing on the river - canoeing and kayaking and

various water activities by the dock. Dave also thoroughly enjoyed hikes and walks in the woods, swimming and “golfing” in the river on hot days; hanging out on the screened-in porch or in front of the large stone fireplace, depending on the weather. He loved spotting bald eagles and watching wildlife. A long cocktail hour was always welcomed with ping pong and lots of laughter and fun. He served as Treasurer for 12 years for the family’s corporation, which oversees the administration and operations of the family fishing camp. He was voted in to be the next President (which he was very much looking forward to being) this year. Dave was hopeful to go again this year in September, we were all very hopeful, but it was not in the cards.

Dave was married nearly 37 years to the love of his life, and best friend, Katie Frost Bibbs; was a loving father to Mary Frost Bibbs and William (Will) Robert Bibbs. He is survived by his brother Bob (Carol) Bibbs of Virginia Beach, VA, his brother in-law William (Will) Frost (JoEllen) of Anchorage, Alaska and was an uncle of 6. He was preceded in death by his parents and his older sister Barbara Bibbs Holmes and his in-laws, Mary B. Frost and William D Frost. He is also survived by extended family spread across the country from coast to coast, as well as a wide variety of life long dear friends. Katie would like to thank Leanna Cappucci (FL), Victoria McIntosh RN and Dr. Patrick Williams (KY) for their passionate guidance, and their constant support regarding Dave’s health.

Dave has truly blessed us with treasured memories impossible to forget. He was such an incredible friend, spouse, and father who will be missed so deeply. His laughter would light up a room.

There will be a Celebration of Dave’s Life held at 2pm on Friday, June 24, 2022 at Onwentsia Club, 300 N. Green Bay Road in Lake Forest, IL. Coat and tie required, no denim. Private interment.

For information, contact – Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest, 847-234-9649 or [www.RTfunerals.com](http://www.RTfunerals.com).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations in Dave’s name be made to either The Chicago Botanic Garden (1000 Lake Cook Rd, Glencoe, IL 60022) or SEA01 – Structural Engineers of Illinois (20 N Upper Wacker Drive STE 750, Chicago, IL 60606).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN **24.** 2:00 PM (CT)

Onwentsia Club  
300 N. Green Bay Road  
Lake Forest, IL 60045

# Tribute Wall

AO

“ I met David back in 2005 at OWPP. Had the honor to work with David on several projects. Not only a great Engineer, but a great person. Learned so much from David and thankful to have had the opportunity to know him.

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**Angel Ortiz** - June 23 at 09:06 AM

TP

“ Sympathies to the family.

*Tim Phares*

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**Tim Phares** - June 19 at 11:00 PM

TP

“ I knew David while in elementary school in Lake Bluff- I only lived in LB from halfway thru 4th Grade until halfway thru 8th- short time- but David was a great kid as I recall. Always seemed content. Just a nice fellow student. The last time I saw him, I believe was during the 100th annual LB 4th of July celebration? Pancreatic cancer is one of the worst killers- I am SO sorry! My condolences to the entire Bibbs family- he was just a kind, sweet , mellow, smiling guy.

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**Tamara Pratt** - June 07 at 11:48 PM

KB

“ I met David during a homecoming weekend at school. Although we just met I immediately felt that I had known him for a long time. He was sweet, personable and treated his wife's friends so special. I knew that he and Katie were a very special couple. My heart breaks for you sweet Katie but I'm sure you can find some comfort in knowing you had the truest and purest love that will last for eternity. God Bless.

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**Karen Bowden** - April 29 at 03:27 PM

JS

“ David and I were gardeners all through high school and college. We worked at an Armour estate. It was a great summer job. “Bibbo” referred to me as “Jeffo”. We listened to the radio, and saw live shows at Alpine Valley. He even “borrowed” one of the Armour’s cars and drove it to Wisconsin for a show. He had a flat on the way back and a trucker had to bust the lug nuts loose. He was so lucky he did not get caught. We even took Mr. Armour’s Mercedes 350sl to a tiny parking lot surrounded by trees, we did donuts in the snow. We had a great time. I can still hear David’s laugh. I was proud to know David. Jeff Schotland.

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**Jeff Schotland** - April 07 at 01:36 PM

LA

“ Our condolences to Katie, Mary and Will. We hope you find support through friends and family and strength in fond memories. While we don’t live across the street anymore, our thoughts remain near.

*Francis, Lieve, Thomas, Astrid and Lukas Adriaens*

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**lieve adriaens** - April 06 at 08:29 PM

SM

“ Steve And Louise Meyers lit a candle in memory of David R. Bibbs



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**Steve and Louise Meyers** - April 05 at 11:32 AM

DS

“Katie, So very sorry for your loss. Keeping you and your family close in thoughts and prayers.

*I had the pleasure of working with Dave at both OWP/P and CannonDesign - he was a wonderful colleague and friend. Always willing to share his knowledge and help figure out the toughest structural challenges. I learned a great deal from Dave about building design as well as servant leadership. His quiet way of guiding junior staff and bringing out the best in them was his natural style. I will always remember his consistent smile that would raise my spirits on even the toughest days at the office. His dry wit and sarcasm could often make me laugh as we endured painful meetings together.*

*Heaven certainly has gained another phenomenal angel! He lives on in the many lives he touched - I am grateful to count myself among the many he influenced. Wishing you blessings as you mourn the loss of such a wonderful man.  
~Deb Sheehan*

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**Deb Sheehan** - April 05 at 11:19 AM