



## Roberto "Bongo Bob" Granado

August 7, 1943 - March 12, 2019

Roberto "Bongo Bob" Granado died peacefully on Tuesday morning at his home in Cary, NC, surrounded by his beloved family. Bob was born in 1943 in the South Bronx, New York City, to Lydia and Robert. The story of his personal redemption is the stuff of Hollywood scripts. After breaking free from a cycle of hardship, addiction and incarceration -- and surviving a heart attack two months before his wedding day! -- he became an ever-smitten and devoted husband of forty years, a loving father to three boys, and an inspiration to many through his church ministry and the sheer enormity of his heart. He was the Director of Facilities at several hospitals in New York City before landing his dream job at Madison Square Garden. Music was the most profound of his many love languages. His deft hands kept the rhythm that moved listeners' hearts in New York City, North Carolina, and Quito, Ecuador, where he delivered his powerful testimony as an empathic missionary. Everyone he met felt his joyful spirit, his playful nature, his love of God and family, and a patient presence that evinced the simple gifts of every breathing moment. In his youth he "ran with" a gang called the "Young Sinners." At his death, we celebrate the gift that is his durable redemption.

Bob is survived by his beloved wife Rosanna, his three sons Michael (Anna), Robert (Marielle), and Thomas; his sister Emily; and his four grandchildren Julianna, Anthony, Danica, and Lua. Bob is also survived by his dear parents-in-law Joseph and Rosaria, and many close nephews, nieces and loved ones.

A small graveside service with immediate family is held Friday 11am at Wake Memorial in Cary, and all are invited to a celebration at Cary Church of God at 3pm on March 24th.

In lieu of flowers the family requests any memorial contributions be made to the Roberto Granado scholarship at the Bronx Lighthouse Charter School in the South Bronx neighborhood where Bob grew up (and where Bob's son Robert serves on the board). Here is the link: <https://bronx.lha.net/community/giving>.

# Cemetery Details

## Wake Memorial Park Cemetery

7002 Green Hope School Rd  
Cary, NC 27519  
(919) 465-0888  
<https://www.wakememorialpark.com/>

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

**MAR 24.** 3:00 PM (ET)

Cary Church of God  
107 Quade Dr  
Cary, NC 27513  
<http://www.carycog.org/>

# Tribute Wall

KH

“Karen and I are so grateful for the laughter, love and friendship we shared with Bob. He was a dear man that loved so genuinely. He worked the field of souls...and now he's reaping his reward! Bongo on, mi hermano! With sincerest love and sympathy....Eric and Karen Hall



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**Karen & Eric Hall** - March 15, 2019 at 09:07 PM

BG

“ Sorry Rosanna, I just found out about Bob tonight from my daughter Grace. I have a lot of fond memories of Bob and myself, we were great fishing buddies. Couple of my favorite fish stories with him were not about the fish we caught though.

We would go fishing every weekend, even though we were so tired from working all week and then we would get up at 4:00 AM to go fishing, You do stupid things when you're tired, I left the station wagon with the boat on it, in neutral and Bob in the car. I got out to get something I forgot, took my foot off the brake and the car went rolling down the driveway only to be stopped by smashing into my brand new Ford Escort. It dented up pretty good. Bob said should we tell Donna, I said not until we get back from fishing. Bobby thought that was so funny. We caught a bunch of fish that day, it made up for the morning, caught hell when I got home though.

The other time is when I hooked poor Bob in the ear with my favorite lure. We had to go to the hospital to get it out, I think you were working that night. Bob thought it was funny, he had a good sense of humor, I was so upset, I felt so bad, but we would always laugh about it every time we'd go fishing. I miss my old fishing buddy, hope we can still fish when we meet each other again in heaven.

Rest in peace old friend.

God Bless Rosanna and family.

Ben Geraci

Mooresville, NC

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Ben Geraci - March 15, 2019 at 04:51 AM

TG

“ 1 file added to the album *Bongo Bob*



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**Thomas Granado** - March 14, 2019 at 04:20 PM