



## Sgt Robert Petersen

May 21, 1945 - September 5, 2025

Robert Max Petersen, born May 21, 1945, in New York, New York, lived a life defined by service, adventure, and devotion to those he loved. He passed away leaving behind a legacy of laughter, loyalty, and unforgettable stories.

In the early 1960s, Robert moved to Broward County, Florida, where he worked at a boatyard and, by fate, met the love of his life, Carole Wright. After graduating, he proudly entered the U.S. Air Force on September 13, 1965, serving as a Veterinary Technician Specialist until January 21, 1969. His time in the military reflected his natural connection to animals and commitment to service—qualities that would guide him throughout his life.

In January 1971, Robert married Carole, beginning a lifelong partnership filled with adventure and love. That same year, he joined the Pompano Beach Police Department, where his background with animals led him naturally into the role of K9 officer alongside his trusted partner, Duke. Known for his dedication and leadership, Robert quickly rose to the rank of Sergeant. With the merging of departments, he continued his career with the Broward Sheriff's Office before retiring honorably in 2000, after nearly three decades of service to his community.

Outside of the uniform, Robert and Carole shared a passion for scuba diving, both becoming certified divers, and they enjoyed boating in their younger

years. Together, they loved the outdoors, often going “dry camping” where they happily roughed it without modern luxuries. At home, they were known for their warmth and hospitality, hosting block parties with neighbors and family on holidays, where Robert’s humor and quick wit always shone brightest.

After retirement, Robert found peace fishing off the Pompano Beach pier, where he enjoyed the ocean air and the simple pleasures of life. He was well known for his sharp sense of humor, his quick comebacks, and the way he could light up a gathering with his laughter. His stories—whether about his service, family or adventures—became treasured memories that were passed down through generations.

Robert is survived by his loving wife, Carole Faye Petersen; nieces Carrie Lynn Douglas (Jason) and Jeannie Hartzell (David) with their children Madison and Collin; nephew William Wright (Victoria Bureau-Wright) with their children Tyler, Khloe, MJ, and Max. He will be deeply missed, but his spirit will live on in the hearts of his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

# Cemetery Details

## South Florida National Cemetery

6501 State Rd 7  
Lake Worth, FL 33449

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **25**. 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

L.C. Poitier Funeral Home  
317 NW 6th Street  
Pompano Beach, FL 33060  
(954) 943-7050  
info@lcpoitier.com  
<https://www.lcpoitierfuneralhome.com/>

## Military Honors

SEP **25**. 10:00 AM (ET)

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317 NW 6th Street  
Pompano Beach, FL 33060  
(954) 943-7050  
info@lcpoitier.com  
<https://www.lcpoitierfuneralhome.com/>

## Burial

SEP **25**. 1:00 PM (ET)

South Florida National Cemetery  
6501 State Rd 7  
Lake Worth, FL 33449

# Tribute Wall

MH

“ Bob was a wonderful uncle to my children when they were growing up and as adults. He was very funny and very caring and he was a great brother-in-law to me. He will be greatly missed and my heart and love go out to Carole and just hang on to all those wonderful loving memories and all the good times as there were a lot! God be with you all. Love,  
Mary Jean



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**Mary Jean Halsey** - September 25, 2025 at 09:47 AM

JP

“ Bob was both wise and kind. He served as a father figure and mentor to myself and all of the young individuals on his police shift. His guidance and wisdom shaped us and prepared us for successful careers in law enforcement. Sadly he is gone, and we have lost a valuable asset to the community and police profession. His memory and deeds will live on however through those that he nurtured and developed. Bob always referred to the officers on his shift as the children that he never had. He was my first shift sergeant and I will miss and mourn him, but will never forget him.

*John Phillips*

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**John Phillips** - September 18, 2025 at 05:42 PM

CH

“ Cyneria G Howard lit a candle in memory of Sgt Robert Petersen



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**Cyneria G Howard** - September 18, 2025 at 10:23 AM

CM

“ *Cathy Moore lit a candle in memory of Sgt Robert Petersen*



Cathy Moore - September 17, 2025 at 08:40 PM

NI

“ *I had the privilege of working on Sgt. Petersen's squad as a young officer, he was a great supervisor, who motivated and protected his troops. RIP Sgt. Petersen - Until Valhalla. Nick A. Rodriguez-Cayro*

Nick - September 16, 2025 at 03:10 PM

JM

“ *What a great man, and wonderful Sergeant to work for. It was my honor and pleasure to work for you and to share many amazing experiences under your leadership. You will always be remembered and missed. Rest in peace my dear friend.*



John McCabe - September 15, 2025 at 10:05 PM

TL

*I had the honor of working with Bob at PBPD. a very wise and caring man. RIP colleague and friend*

Tony Lanza - September 16, 2025 at 01:09 PM

BB

“ *Barbara Butler lit a candle in memory of Sgt Robert Petersen*



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**Barbara Butler** - September 07, 2025 at 10:58 PM