



## To Our Dear Bob Roberts by Lilibeth Navarro

As one of many who attended two memorials last week, I'm quite devastated by Bob Robert's passing. I spent a lot of time with Bob, time that I have always enjoyed and gained very much wisdom from. He was such a spiritually superior, evolved soul! At the last CFILC meeting, my family in Sacramento and I got to spend every evening with him--he was funny, extremely intelligent and genuinely interested in every one of us and our stories.

We celebrated with him, the final approval of his very expensive medication, a feat only an advocate of his caliber would successfully have gotten through this stingy health care system. He showed me on his computer some of his systems at the office and suggested a couple of things that might be useful to us. He loved his staff and spoke about them very lovingly. They were like family to him. He hated losing any of his staff-- we saw that pain articulated loudly at the meetings. He was into getting good people in and training them well to serve the center.

He loved his wife and daughter and was quite protective of her from what he was sharing. He was Buddhist in his approach to life--very serene and quite reflective of life's biggest puzzles. He loved the outdoors, loved the earth and was also into preserving its beauty and resources. He was an out-of-the-box thinker, with many innovations for ILCs already implemented at his center, whether or not, he was given credit or recognition for it. His analysis of bills coming down the pike, particularly on IHSS and their big-picture impact on people with disabilities are sought out and deeply respected. He was a leader's leader, a mentor's mentor, an expert's expert, my dear big brother that I will forever miss.

How do we proceed now that you're gone, Bob? You left us plenty of footprints, maps, markers, guidelines--your life was one extremely shining example! God bless you Bob and boy does He love you to call you back so soon!

Bob, I will forever thank God for having known you! Please pray that for those of us still left down here, that our work would be as useful to humanity as yours will always be!

Lilibeth Navarro

CALIF Founder and Executive Director