



## Robert J. Sheehan

October 2, 1951 - December 27, 2025

Rob Sheehan, aged 74, passed away suddenly on December 27, 2025.

He is survived by

his wife of 32 years, Heather, and five children: Kim DeMars (Chuck), Simon Sheehan (Jeannie), Jordan Schultz (Corey), Mary Sheehan (Josh King) and Rowan

Sheehan, along with six siblings: Michael Sheehan (Denise); MaryEllen Coyne

(Dennis), Teresa Dion, Steve Sheehan, Marguerite Sheehan (Dorrie) and Monica

Susskind (Bob) and many treasured friends he called family.

He was preceded in death by

his parents, Jack and Eleanor Sheehan, a son, Benjamin Sheehan, and a brother, John Sheehan.

Rob grew up in Chicopee, Massachusetts. He completed his undergraduate degree at

University of Massachusetts, Amherst and received his doctorate from Georgia State

University. For the past 18 years, he lived in Myrtle Beach, SC where his love for the

beach flourished.

Rob had a deep passion for higher education, serving in a variety of teaching and administrative positions, most recently at Coastal Carolina University. He enjoyed wood working on his lathe, frequently sharing his creations with loved ones and friends. Rob was a compassionate soul who constantly bettered the lives around him; his existence shined light on everyone he met.

# Tribute Wall

MR

“ *The loss of Rob touches me deeply as he was truly a human being in his care and intentions to make things better. I believe that the hiring of Rob was one of the best things that ever happened to Coastal Carolina University. I remember that right after we hired him as Provost he came to the July meeting of the Faculty Senate and was astonished by the fact that the Faculty would show up to a summer meeting and conduct business. From that point on his innate sense of reciprocity inspired a mutual respect and care for our community. As a person, he possessed great compassion for those around him despite the suffering which he himself physically experienced. He was complex and sometimes enigmatic, but possessed a great understanding and sense of what was fair and just. His contributions to the University were substantial, and to this day, continue to contribute to our success as a community of teachers and scholars. I wish the best for his family and loved ones and hope that his very best traits will spread throughout those who continue on after him.*

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**Michael Ruse** - January 05 at 09:11 PM

PI

“ *Sorry to hear about his passing. Rob was a very good supporter when we implemented the blackberry in 08. I have good memories working with him.*

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**Pierre-Olivier** - January 04 at 05:01 PM

DD

“ *So very sorry to hear of Rob's passing. I got to work with him through a range of situations. I appreciated his focus on students, spirit of inquiry, and reflection. Our thoughts and prayers are with Heather and your family during this time.*

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**Darla Domke-Damonte** - January 04 at 09:57 AM

MR

“ Rob and I arrived at Coastal at the same time in '07. He was a good person; I enjoyed working with him ... he was focused on students, and the academic success of the institution expanded greatly under his watch. Mary Jo's and my hearts go out to Heather and the family.

Michael Roberts - January 02 at 10:43 AM

TM

“ So sorry to hear this. Thoughts and prayers for his family. I worked with Rob at Coastal Carolina for ten years and found him to a man with a passion for higher education and most importantly, a desire to approve the lives of students. -Tim Meacham

Timothy meacham - January 02 at 04:15 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Rob's passing. Rob and I worked together when he was at the Ohio Board of Regents on performance reporting for state universities and at the University of Toledo after he joined the Office of Academic Affairs there. He was an absolute delight to work with! RIP Rob.

David Lindsley - January 01 at 09:16 PM

TE

“ Rob was the little brother for me. We grew up together and it is going to be impossible to ever replace him He always would help you when he could He has gone Home. Mom and Dad must have been at the Gate when he got there love ❤️ you Rob

Terry - January 01 at 08:03 PM

ME

“ Robert was always Robbie to me as my little brother. I’m being flooded with memories and am so devastated for all who loved him.

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**Mary Ellen** - January 01 at 07:47 PM

BC

“ Rob was my boss and friend while I was Associate Provost at Coastal Carolina University. He taught me so much about administration, collecting data, and putting students first. He was a wonderful mentor while I was there and after I left. I am sorry for your loss. May his memory be for a blessing.

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**Barbara Chesler** - January 01 at 06:03 PM

DD

“ Heather, I am so sorry to hear of Rob’s passing. Rob was an amazing individual. As Provost at CCU he lead the academic component with enthusiasm, excellence, and always looked out for our students. Rob, thank you for all you did; and may you rest in peace.

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**David DeCenzo** - January 01 at 09:42 AM

ER

“What can I say about a man who came into my life over 30 years ago and became my surrogate father during the most formative years of my life. I was lucky to have our beloved Ben as my “little brother” that I always wanted. Although life sent us separate ways Rob was always still there when I needed him, he still loved me as a daughter and I still loved him as a father. I will miss hearing his voice and our random phone calls just checking in with each other. Although he was not biologically my father he will always be my dad, he was there when my dad wasn’t and loved and supported me the way a father does a daughter. I will forever be grateful for the love he gave and I will miss our talks. My heartbroken with all of yours. I’ll miss my dad and will always love him

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**elizabeth rothgery** - December 31, 2025 at 09:06 PM

CB

*I only worked with Rob for about six months on special projects when I first started at CCU in the Controller's Office but he made a deep impression on me. He pushed for quality and always recognized hard work publicly. I didn't realize he was from the northeast like myself. We had more in common than I ever knew.*

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**Carolyn Bender** - January 05 at 02:29 PM