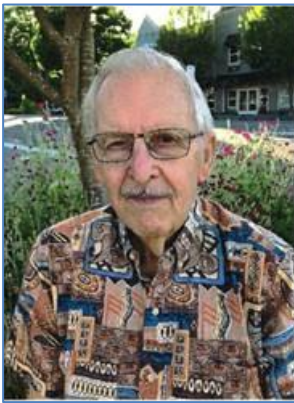


Robert Eugene Pailthorp



Bob Pailthorp passed away on October 3, 2024. He was born in Bertha, Minnesota, on October 8, 1931.

Bob and his late wife Dot met in the church choir. They married September 12, 1952, in Milwaukie, Oregon. Dot was 19 and Bob was 20. Bob had started college at the Vanport campus of Portland State University. Soon after marrying, Bob and Dot moved to Corvallis, Oregon, so he could complete his education at Oregon State College. He obtained his Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Civil Engineering, graduating in June 1957.

Bob was employed by ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation) during his early years and as an operator at the Corvallis Sewage Treatment Plant before joining CH2M in June 1957 as a Sanitary Engineer. Bob graduated on June 3, and started work on June 4. He initially served as the Resident Engineer on several major projects and designed, built, and operated trickling filter pilot plants in Eugene and Salem, Oregon. In the early 1960s, he began working on a potato waste treatment plant in Idaho.



Continuing work for industrial clients led to the creation of the Industrial Process Group in 1969. Bob moved to Denver in 1978 to assume the Regional Manager role of the DEN office. He became the Central District Manager in 1984. Bob served two terms on the CH2M HILL Board of Directors--one, while he was still working in the Corvallis office and again during his term in DEN. During his tenure, Bob was a strong supporter of the original IOTECH business venture.

Bob took early retirement in April 1987 to pursue personal adventures. Bob and Dot loved to travel. The Cook Islands were a favorite destination. In appreciation for the people of the Cooks, Bob collected, processed, and shipped used books to the Cook Islands' Library and Museum. Bob enjoyed fishing, golfing, woodworking, whale-watching, reading, and playing practical jokes on his friends and neighbors. He was a talented handyman and worked on the homes of family and friends into his late 80s. He also served as a volunteer worker for the City of Depoe Bay.



On November 24, 2024, family, friends and CH2Mers gathered at the Museum of the Oregon Territory in Oregon City to celebrate Bob's life. The view from the third-floor window of the museum looks down on the majestic Willamette Falls, a gathering point for early settlers and entrepreneurs moving to Oregon.

Bob was quite familiar with this historic location. It is thought his brother once worked for the Publishers Paper Company at this location. Bob himself remembered one of his early assignments with CH2M HILL was to identify and evaluate water seepage problems stemming from the mill structure. The location, history, and Bob's connection made this the perfect choice for a wonderful gathering to celebrate Bob's very memorable life.



Bob's CH2M HILL family was represented by the attendance of Al Amoth, Jay Mackie, and Bob Chapman, and their spouses. Al shared his memories of taking a sanitary engineering design class at OSU that Bob taught, and

later asking him for a job. Jay shared memories of interviewing with Bob for a job, and finally convincing him it would be a good idea to hire a chemical engineer. Bob shared some of his memories of working for Bob in his industrial processes group in the early 1970s, including their shared “planes, trains, and automobiles” near a 24-hour travel saga to attend a meeting at a Weyerhaeuser mill near Gray’s Harbor.



Bob is survived by his daughter, Jan (Gordon), brothers, Keith (Alice) and Gary (Janet), along with numerous nieces and nephews.

To honor Bob, the family asked us to please consider a donation to: Water For People, <https://give.waterforpeople.org/page/50578/donate/1>, CH2M HILL Alumni Association Legacy Gift Fund, <https://ch2mhillalumni.org/future-focus-task-force/>, or your favorite charity.