

ROBBIN EUGENE BURKHART (BUDGE)

September 26, 1954 – March 4, 2017



Robbin Burkhart joined the Marine Corps in 1973. He was always a Marine – dedicated to mission, duty and his people.

Robbin worked for the United States Agency for International Development as Controller and CFO. He was a highly respected USAID Foreign Service Officer. He retired at the end of 2016, just in time for the birth of his first grandchild. Robbin passed away in March of 2017, at age 64, from a pulmonary embolism. He is buried in Coastal Bend State Veterans Cemetery (Corpus Christi, TX).

Here are some tributes from colleagues:

“He was such an amazing person. So smart, so capable ... so unassuming and humble, maybe a bit curmudgeonly at times, but a true leader who was passionate about finding truth and doing things right. I'll never forget when we were evacuated from Haiti and Robbin said if he moved our Controller operations to Washington DC, it would take forever for our grantees to get their vouchers reimbursed. Our NGOs were hurting for cash at the end of every month, and their jobs were about to get even more difficult. So, Robbin did a Robbin. He worked out a deal with the DR for office space, we loaded an Embassy truck with all our financial files, and Robbin got behind the wheel and drove to Santo Domingo and set up Controller operations at the DR Mission. Our programs didn't miss a beat and he alone was the guy who made that happen. We caught up with each other by email last October and I was hassling him about getting out of USAID,.. telling him he needed to live the good life of a pensioner. He was so excited about retiring in December, getting a fishing boat, and seeing his daughter and new baby. What a loss.”



“I so enjoyed working with him in Washington. He was an extremely creative problem-solver, he was fiercely loyal to the people in his back-stop, and always hard-working and professional. While he set a high standard for himself and all of us that worked with him, he never lost the correct balance in life. When making decisions regarding personnel, his motto was always, “family comes

first”.”

“Robbin's prowess in financial management was palpable from the questions he posed in diagnosing a financial problem. I admired his professionalism and knowledge of the US Federal Financial Regulations which I benefited from immensely during his tenure in USAID East Africa as the Financial Controller.”



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