

## Remembering Bob Logan

The Board and staff of the Kentucky Resources Council, and Fitz join with the family of Bob Logan in mourning his death at age 70 on Sunday, July 26, 2020, and in celebrating the life and enduring legacy that Bob leaves with us all.

Born in Scott County, Kentucky, Bob began a career dedicated to the protection of nature and natural resources, and of the health of natural and built communities, in 1973 as an Environmental Specialist in the Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection. In the mid-70's, Bob was part of a team that developed the methods for sampling and assessing the health of biological communities in order to support stream use designations. Returning to the agency after receiving his Master's Degree, Bob became supervisor of the Water Quality Section, overseeing a growing staff managing Water Quality Certifications, toxicity testing, and the state Wild Rivers program. Bob became Commissioner for the Department for Environmental Protection and served in that role through tumultuous years for the environment in Kentucky and the agency charged with its protection.

We at the Council have a profound respect and appreciation for the dedication and hard work of rank and file at the Cabinet over the decades. Bob Logan was perhaps the most dedicated, principled, and devoted of the many employees with whom Fitz has had the privilege to work during that time. He was a man of compassion, honesty, and of science.

That Bob's legacy of selfless service to the greater good will endure, is clear in the reflections of a generation of other dedicated agency employees, on the occasion of his passing. Randy McDowell, who as a Cabinet attorney worked with Bob on the thorny issues presented by the extensive legacy pollution at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, among other issues, reflected that Bob "did not suffer fools gladly and, he was not reticent to let you know if you had strayed into stupidity." Art Williams, who served in several roles in the Cabinet and then as Director of the Metro Louisville Air Pollution Control District, recalled that "Bob was super smart, very analytical, passionate, articulate. He was a joy to work with and he was a leader admired by many. He was a true public servant and he will be greatly missed. His legacy will live on."

Pete Goodmann, a long-time former agency employee and Division of Water Director, noted that Bob's legacy is indeed enduring, living on "through his friends, and the generations of public servants trained and mentored *by* the people he trained and mentored."

Memories of Bob's lighter side will also endure. Randy noted "During my work on PGDP, I got to travel some with Bob, and he was a hoot. When driving up to meet with the governor's office, Bob would never put on his seat belt and the alarm would just keep beeping. One time, I looked over and said I find that annoying, he grinned and said, I know you do." Ralph Gouge remembered that Bob would say about a difficult issue was, "that's going to be a real bowl of bugs." Joy Morgan recalled the respect Bob had for others, even when they disagreed, and remembers Bob when she hears the phrases "common sense ain't so common" and "just another day in paradise."

Finally, Tom Koos observed astutely that Bob was "always professional and stressing doing what was right by regulation with some flexibility for the people it impacted."

That is how Fitz remembers Bob – always wanting to do what was right, to help extend the protections of Kentucky's law and regulations to those who live "downhill, downwind, and downstream" and who bear the brunt of thoughtless and reckless environmental and economic decisions.

Towards the end of his life, Paul made an observation in his Second Letter to Timothy that rings as true today as then. In charging Timothy to carry forward the message of love and redemption, Paul noted that "the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine but, after their own lusts, shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." Bob worked throughout his career to assure that Kentucky's environmental policies were based on "sound doctrine" and science, and his struggle against the forces of political expediency in environmental policy was not an easy one.

Paraphrasing Paul's letter, Bob "fought a good fight," has "finished *my* course," and always "kept the faith." Godspeed and farewell, good and faithful servant.

