



Mr. Robert J. Finan II

January 4, 1947 - September 1, 2025

A devoted father and grandfather, and loving husband, Robert J. Finan II passed away on September 1, 2025, from complications as a result of pulmonary fibrosis from exposure to Agent Orange when he served in Vietnam and became a 100% disabled combat veteran.

Bob Finan II, was born January 4, 1947, in Queens, NY, to the late Robert J. Finan, Sr. and the late Marjorie Ann Brown Finan. Raised in Flushing and Hampton Bays, NY, he graduated from La Salle Military Academy, Oakdale, NY, and Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. In 1968, he was commissioned a 2LT in the U.S. Army, trained at Ft. Gordon, GA, and Ft. Benning, GA, and served as a Platoon Leader, 532nd MP Company and as staff officer in the Provost Marshals Office, Ft. Dix, NJ. In 1969-1970, he commanded a combat unit in the 173d Airborne Brigade (Separate) in Vietnam. Later, he held staff and command positions in the 11th Special Forces Group (Airborne.) Among his military decorations are two Bronze Star Medals and two Army Commendation Medals.

Following military service, he had a distinguished career over four decades in Federal law enforcement beginning with his appointment as a special agent in the U.S. Secret Service, New York Field Office. He served in the New York and Washington Field Offices; Organized Crime Strike Force, Brooklyn, NY; Office of Congressional Affairs; Vice Presidential Protection Division; Special Investigations & Security Division; Candidate Nominee Protection Division; and retired as the Special Agent in Charge of the Special Services Division.

He served as a Congressional Fellow for Senator Dennis DeConcini. After retirement from the Secret Service, he was appointed Assistant Director, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, followed by a promotion to the Senior Executive Service as Assistant Director and eventually the Associate Director of the U.S. Marshals Service retiring in 2011. In 1996, he was awarded the Department of Navy Superior Civilian Service Award and in 2007 he received the Presidential SES Meritorious Rank Award. He was recognized by his alma mater, La Salle Military Academy, with the Civilian Service to the Nation Award in 1998 and Alumni of the Year Award in 2019. Mr. Finan was a member of the Fraternal Order of Police, International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the National Sheriffs Association. He volunteered with Rotary International as President of the Tysons Corner, VA, Rotary Club, and on the advisory boards of Missing Kids International, National Center for Missing & Exploited Children, and ChildHelp-USA. After retirement, he and Nancy relocated to Wilmington, NC, and in 2023 made his final home in Milton, GA.

He is survived by his loving wife Nancy Scott-Finan, son Robert James Finan III (Jennifer), grandsons Liam Robert and Aiden James and granddaughter Riley Paige. He also leaves behind life-long friends from La Salle Military Academy Class of 1964, Georgetown University Class of 1968, fellow "Sky Soldiers" from the 173d Airborne Brigade, and friends and colleagues at the U.S. Secret Service, NCIS, and the U.S. Marshals Service.

He was very proud of his Irish heritage, his 40 years of military and civilian service to his country, and the many friends who sustained him throughout his life. He will be inurned in Arlington National Cemetery among his fellow servicemen who fought for this country. A memorial service will be held on October 17, 2025 at noon at St. Therese Catholic Church, 209 South Lumina Avenue, Wrightsville Beach, NC.

Donations in his memory can be made to the U.S. Marshals Survivors Benefit Fund, P.O. Box 11730, Bozeman, Montana 59719, an organization that he helped to establish in 2011 to benefit the survivors of deputies killed in the line of duty.

Cemetery Details

Cremation - Northside Chapel Crematory

12050 Crabapple Road
Roswell, GA

Tribute Wall

“ A tribute to Robert J. Finan II, alias, “Bobby 2 sticks”.

Bob and I first met in 1974 as young agents in the N.Y. field office of the US Secret Service. We were assigned as partners to investigate an elaborate U.S. Savings Bonds forgery scheme which was being run by an Organized Crime network. When the involvement of the Mafia became apparent, we were assigned as partners to the Organized Crime Strike Force in Brooklyn to assist in the prosecution of the offenders. The case resulted in the conviction of over a dozen mobsters. As is the custom in the mob, nicknames are often assigned to notable criminals and their adversaries. We learned from a source that Bob had been given that distinction because his name appeared so many times on the multitude of affidavits for arrests and search warrants he had signed. The “2 sticks” referred to the roman numerals “II” (the second) that Bob used as his legal name.

Bob and I became life long friends as a result of that partnership. We found that we had a lot in common. We grew up in Queens, we both attended military high schools and went to Jesuit Universities. He went to Georgetown and I went to Fordham. When we worked the streets together, we knew with absolute certainty that we had each others’ backs. And, that held true in our personal lives as well.

During this same time frame I married my wife Denyse and Bob arranged my bachelor party and was a groomsman at our wedding.

Over the years, even though we were assigned to different cities, we kept in touch and always got together whenever we could. When he married the lovely Nancy, I was assigned to the Chicago Field Office, but I was fortunate to be able to fly back to Washington for the wedding.

After retirement from the Secret Service, Bob had an amazing second career as an executive in the Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the U.S. Marshals Service. Due to his ingenuity and his

organizational skills he excelled in anything he set his mind to.

Bob had a gregarious personality. He truly loved people and his ability to network was one of the many talents that served him well throughout his career and personal life. He made friends easily and was active in multiple organizations. When Bob finally retired, he and Nancy joined us in Wilmington, NC and moved into the same neighborhood. It was great that we had them close once again. We had been living there about 10 years when they arrived. Characteristically, within one year Bob knew four times as many people in Wilmington as I did!

He had a gift for putting people together for mutual benefit. Whenever we needed someone for anything, I went to Bob. Due to his vast network of contacts, inevitably, he would reply, "I gotta guy."

Bob loved life. It was sad to see him in such distress in recent years due to the debilitating illness he was suffering as a result of his service to the country during his tour in Vietnam. Despite that, not once did I hear him complain or express regret for serving his country. He was a warrior, a true patriot and a dear friend. He is sorely missed. I think of him every day. Rest in peace, Bob.

Pat McDonnell

Patrick McDonnell - September 20, 2025 at 02:34 PM

BE

“ *Bob Finan was a true professional and a kind soul. I met him in 1994 during my appointment as a U.S. Marshal and was immediately impressed by his willingness to help and his personal investment in my success. He was dedicated to his service and cared deeply for the people around him. My deepest sympathies to Nancy and the family.*

Bradford English

Bradford English - September 17, 2025 at 05:04 PM

BM

“First, our sincere condolences to Nancy and family on Bob's passing. Besides our Irish heritage, Bob and I shared many connections and experiences during the 60 years that I knew him. Although it was years later, I learned that Bob and I both lived on Dongan Avenue in Queens, NY when we were children. I first met Bob in 1965 at Georgetown University when we were both in the same Army ROTC drill team, Spraker Rifles. We were commissioned in 1968 as 2nd LT's; Bob in the MP's and I in the Signal Corps. The Army let me go to Law School before going on active duty in 1971 as a JAG assigned to what was essentially an MP organization, the US Army Criminal Investigation Command. After my Army service I joined DOJ's Organized Crime and Racketeering Section in WDC. Bob and I reconnected at Georgetown Class reunions in 1978.1983. and at the White House for our 25th reunion in 1993. I can't recall from whom I heard it (could have been Bob), but when USSS SA Bob Finan contacted our mutual classmate, and then presidential candidate, Bill Clinton, to advise him that Bob would be in charge of his detail, Clinton said: "Hilary we're in Big trouble." Sometime in the late 1990' s I reconnected with Bob through Nancy who was then working in Legislative Affairs at DOJ. In 1991 as an AUSA in DC I presented the evidence to the Grand Jury which Indicted two Libyan Intelligence operatives for the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie Scotland. Long story, but in 1999 the Libyans were surrendered for trial under Scottish law, before a Scottish Court sitting in the Netherland (SCIN). The key witness was a Libyan defector, and former CIA asset, who was in the USMS' Witness Protection Program. He would be required to go to Camp Van Zeist (a former USAF base near Utrecht) and would not go without his wife and children. DOJ was supporting the prosecution and the USMS would be responsible for the security of the witness. As it happened, it fell to Bob to organize that security. I was then with DOJ's Terrorism and Violent Crime Section, and with Bob and his team we traveled to Zeist for the initial meeting with the "Registrar" of the SCIN. Bob, asked the "Registrar" what radio frequencies they would be assigned, and was told that would not be possible. But

Bob was truly gob smacked, as the Scots say, to also be told that the USMS would not be permitted to be armed, because "we must at all costs avoid a blue-on-blue shooting." The Registrar's plan was that in the event of a terrorist attack, the USMS could draw their weapons from the armory where they were locked up. Fortunately, the Scottish Police intervened to prevent a USMS -on- Registrar shooting. Needless to say, the USMS did a superb job under difficult circumstances. In 2012 I was representing the USAO EDNC in defending the conviction of Jeffrey MacDonald for the 1970 murders of his wife and infant daughters at Fort Bragg, NC. I was co-counsel at MacDonald's 1979 trial, and Bob had followed the case through its' tortuous path in the courts. During the hearing on MacDonald's habeas petition in Wilmington Bob and Nancy took me to dinner at his club. This was the last time I saw him in person. I was shocked to learn of Bob's death from his exposure to Agent Orange over 50 years ago. His is third such death of someone I was close to: my best friend from Law School and my DOJ co-counsel from the Pan Am trial. What more can I say than I so sorry to see his passing. He was a good man, and he served his country honorably in peace and war. Rest in peace, Bob.

Brian Murtagh, GU SFS 68

Brian Murtagh - September 09, 2025 at 02:37 PM

JA

“*Bob Finan will be remembered by a generation in the U.S. Marshals Service for his tremendous leadership, first as the Assistant Director of the national fugitive division, and then as the Associate Director in charge of all USMS operational divisions. Mr. Finan was a man of great intelligence, wisdom, and vision, a man of action who got things accomplished. He exemplified hard work, integrity, dedication to the mission and our country, and care for others. He had a true appreciation for those who put themselves in harm's way. For all his abilities and accomplishments, maybe what I remember most of Mr. Finan is the way he treated people. When I became the supervisor of a HQ unit in 2003, I was shocked to receive a hand written card from Mr. Finan. I've never forgotten his message encouraging me to do the best I could for others. I was one of many people to receive a card or note from Mr. Finan, so impactful because of how much we admired him. We all looked up to him very much, and we still do. I've never known a more respected person. Mr. Finan was a true leader, a man of honor - he was rare, and he will not be forgotten. Thank you for all you did Sir, may you rest in peace. God bless.*

Very respectfully, James Alandydy

James Alandydy - September 07, 2025 at 07:04 PM

JS

“*Mr. Finan (Rob III Dad) was always kind hearted and generous with his time when we visited home for weekend dinner during our college days at George Mason. His guidance and experience resonated thru the years and I always respected his service to both country and community. My sincere condolences to entire Finan family.*

Joseph Stewart - September 05, 2025 at 06:17 PM

JD

“ Our sincere condolences to Nancy, son Rob, and grandchildren Liam, Riley and Aiden. Both of us were lifelong friends of Bob. Tom first met Bob in 1965 at Georgetown University, and Judy in 1968 at Fort Dix. But the two of us did not actually meet each other until Rob's wedding in 2007. And then we married in 2013, for which we are both thankful.

Bob was a loyal and caring friend throughout all those years, and we will always miss him immensely. We take comfort in knowing that as a man of faith Bob will Rest in Peace, and perpetual light will shine upon him.

Judy Kuchar and Tom Davis

Judy and Tom Davis - September 05, 2025 at 11:48 AM

DW

“ Since living in Franklin, TN, and Bob in Atlanta, we often kept in touch. Bob was very intelligent, and I had the opportunity to work with him in the Secret Service on various assignments. I was pleased that he was so successful in leading the U.S. Marshals Service for many years. My condolences, and as a colleague and friend, I will miss him. RIP Bob.

Dale Wilson

dale f wilson - September 04, 2025 at 08:31 PM

GC

“ Sincere condolences for Nancy and Bob’s family. This is truly sad news, because Bob’s passing hits close to home. We became U.S. Marshals Service Assistant Directors at the same time, and we formed a close relationship, during extreme changes to our agency. While Bob came to us from other agencies, his commitment to the Marshals and our fugitive program was sincere. His education at West Point, his time in the U.S. Army, and of course the Secret Service, brought a new perspective to our operations. I read that others said he was a nice man, and indeed he was, but he demonstrated that he was more than that, especially when it came to survivors of USMS employees. Healing blessings for Nancy and family. Rest in Peace Brother

Gene Coon - September 04, 2025 at 05:41 PM

“ I met Bob Finan in 1973/74 when we were both U.S. Secret Service Special Agents assigned to the New York Field Office. I worked with Bob on numerous assignments with different federal law enforcement agencies over the next 40 years.

In January of 1985, when Bob was assigned to the Washington, DC field office of the Secret Service, he was one of several senior agent assigned to do the security advance for several of the activities of the 2nd inauguration of President Ronald Reagan. This included the actual parade. This event planning started almost a year prior and consisted of numerous law enforcement and military entities. Collectively, thousands of hours had gone into this planning up to two days before the event.

Because of unusually harsh temperatures hovering around zero degrees, the parade and all other outdoor events were cancelled just a day or so before the inauguration. Bob and a couple of other agents were tasked with trashing a years worth of advance work and to immediately advance new indoor locations. Within hours, the President's outdoor events were replaced with a speech in the Capital Rotunda and the parade was replaced by an event in the Washington DC Capitol Centre complex. Hundreds of requirements were identified and solutions made within hours. The events went off flawlessly.

In the late 1980's, Bob was working as a legislative assistant to Senator Dennis DeConcini. While there he was instrumental in advising the senator to sponsor, push and ultimately help pass a federal law that changed for the better the way overtime hours were calculated for the estimated 41,000 federal criminal investigators spread across some 71 different federal law enforcement components. This resulted in enhanced salaries for all in this job category.

In 1993, Bob was appointed to become the first Assistant Director for the Naval Criminal Investigative Service's (NCIS) new

Government Liaison and Public Affairs department. Up to this time, the Navy and Marine Corps were responsible for representing NCIS interests before Congress and the national press. This new directorate gave NCIS the ability to respond directly to matters affecting the organization without filtering through the uniformed Navy. It proved to be a daunting, exhausting experience until the new protocols and relationships could be set into stone. Bob excelled at this assignment through smart, dogged determination.

This is but a small example of Bob's ability to positively impact federal law enforcement. I know others will have similar accounts of Bob's forward thinking and his ability to work complex issues. Bob was a smart, tenacious professional who was a creative thinker. He will be missed.

R.D. Nedrow

RD Nedrow - September 04, 2025 at 01:17 PM

JG

“*When I came into the Secret Service (1976) Bob was already established as the “go to guy” for information. There was never a doubt that he was a leader beyond compare. I relocated to North Carolina and Bob contacted me and welcomed me. He asked me to take over coordinating the Federal firearms Qualification that he had set up with the Law enforcement instructors here. I was honored that he asked. I have great memories of a man who served his country the way Bob did. Rest in peace. Your life mattered.*

Jan Gilhooly - September 04, 2025 at 10:51 AM

MS

“ *Mary M Shanley lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert J. Finan II*



Mary M Shanley - September 03, 2025 at 12:53 PM

KD

Bob was a true patriot and friend who will be dearly missed. The USSS, US Marshal's Service and our country are better because of him. I never meet a man more organized and driven to do the right thing for the betterment of others. God Bless you Bob and Nancy. He is with the Lord. AMEN

Kenneth Donohue - September 04, 2025 at 08:32 AM

GE

I will never forget the kind words of comfort Bob Finan sent to me in a beautiful letter when my brother died in 2008. I am sincerely sorry for the loss of this great man. He was a true professional and compassionate human being. My best wishes to Nancy and family.

gerri doody retired sdusm, edny - September 05, 2025 at 09:31 AM

GE

gerri doody

gerri doody retired sdusm, edny - September 05, 2025 at 09:34 AM

TR

Bob was a long time client and friend. He was a compassionate and caring person. I am happy to have had him in my life. I will miss him.

Terry Roth - September 11, 2025 at 12:32 PM

WB

Bob Finan was my platoon leader during 1969-70 in Vietnam - Military Police Platoon, 173rd Airborne Brigade. I remember him as a competent, caring and energetic leader, a fine officer and a true gentleman. I offer my sincere condolences to his wife and family. May he rest in peace. William Brenna, USA (RET)

William Brenna - September 22, 2025 at 10:44 PM