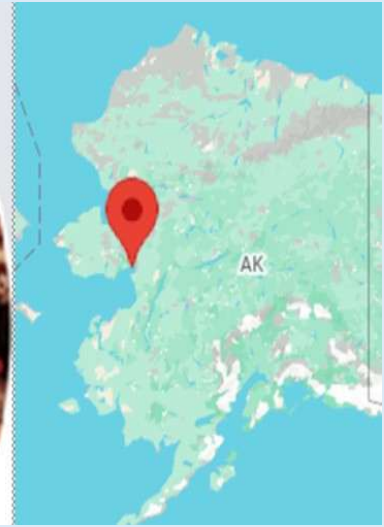


Harry Robert Hannon - Class of 1968

October 1950 - May 2026



Franklin's Class of 1968 had many members who pursued their dreams and had outstanding and different careers. Classmate "Bob" Hannon was one of them. He spent the majority of his life in very small village in remote western Alaska, very close to the Bering Strait. Bob made a career for himself as a professional Alaskan Hunting Guide. The 1960's Hannon family of Reisterstown, with good reason, had a propensity for raising you men who had a desire to be in the air. This played a big part in Bob's life, as well as his brother, Steve's, from the class of 1970. *Flight* was a daily part Bob's entire family's life, thus the writing of his obituary describing his life by family members, containing lots of "*Flight Language*", some of which is included below.

"Bob first taxied into this world on October 1950 in Baltimore, Maryland to Harry Elbert Hannon and Glean Elizabeth Sentz." That statement of parentage is the "*Good Reason*" for the desired *Air Time*. Dad was a career Air Force Pilot. Therefore, before Bob arrived at Franklin, he had been around the globe a few times. "Bob's flights have taken him to Air Force bases in Athens, Greece, Biloxi, Mississippi, **Anchorage, Alaska**, and Sacramento, California."

"Bob attended Franklin High School graduating in 1968. In his senior year Bob was voted Most Athletic. He served as the Captain of the football team and was Tri-State Wrestling Champion. He attended Towson State College majoring in Physical Education." The **Anchorage, Alaska** assignment had been in the early 60's and Bob would return there on summer break during college years and eventually stayed.

"In the early 1970s, Bob worked as an assistant guide for Kirk Gay, (*a well known Alaskan Pilot/Guide*), while pursuing his registered guide license. During that time, he also earned his private pilot license and bought a Super Cub. With help from Jacob Markley, (*another Alaskan pioneer*) — after whom he later named one of his sons — Bob built a lodge in the Alaska Range, 90 miles southeast of McGrath, and operated Big River Hunting and trapping there. In the spring of 1983, he began bear hunting and herring fishing in western Alaska, where he met Lola Nassuk in Koyuk. On July 29, 1984, Bob married Lola Cheryl Nassuk, a native Alaskan, and made Koyuk, Alaska, the home he loved for the rest of his life."

Bob raised a large family; five (5) sons and one (1) daughter in a remote village, where medical help is not readily available. He lived the native Alaskan life along with its culture and diet, which caused him medical issues later in life. He experienced many losses in his life, including those of three (3) of his sons.

"Bob ran his family-owned business, ***Western Alaska Guides, Outfitter & Expeditors*** in Koyuk for more than 40 years, all while raising his family and building a life rooted in the community he cherished. To Pilot Bob: Your flight plan is closed. You are cleared to switch to tower frequency. *Rest easy on the glide slope*. Pilot Harry Robert "Bob" Hannon 75, completed his final logbook entry and executed a permanent change of station, at 6:35 a.m., Saturday, May 30, 2026, at his home in Koyuk, Alaska. Bob is survived by a loving crew who will miss their pre-flight briefings and steady guidance at the controls. He left behind his co-pilot wife of 42 years, and two (2) sons who remain in Koyuk, Alaska, although they didn't continue Bob's business pursuits."

Courtesy of Shirley Knott McGuire, class of 1968