

Tribute to Bob Daly by Andy Reed.

May 2023

Bob Daly has been the shipping department manager since my first day at Lamont. That is the time I know about, but having spent multiple snowstorms and other long days with him, I know that he has been here much longer than that. So when I sat down to write this little tribute to him, I first set out to find out just how long he has been here at Lamont. First, I looked for some stone tablets or marks on various building walls, but I found none. Finally, I found some old attendance cards that Lenny kept. According to these graying documents, Bob started with Facilities on May 29, 1984. It may have been even earlier, but only he can confirm that. Four attendance cards later (each one has four years of data), the computerized time system took over. Based on the Columbia HR system, Bob has worked for 22.6 years (from 2000), with the last 9-plus years in his current position. If we add the computer time to the paper time, we get about 38+ years that Bob has dedicated to Lamont.

While I cannot speak for all of those years, I can state that Bob has been a fantastic co-worker, emergency information source, history source, weatherman, and all-around sounding board for ideas and issues. I could talk about his ability to find new vehicles on state bid, and control shipping for the Lamont Community.

I want to mention a few things that are not part of the 'official duties' that I will never forget and thank Bob for:

1. Our 10 O'clock break meetings. They were a great way to discuss just about anything.
2. My early/late texts and calls to find out what the weather was like and whether or not we should bring people in. (By the way, he was always right).
3. The times he helped me understand some of the subtle issues and needs of the Lamont community.
4. Where the really good furniture is hidden.
5. Temperature forecasting via a choice of pants/shorts
6. For the best laugh, when he decided to go swimming in the Guesthouse 6 basement during a rainstorm.

Finally, I thank Bob for putting up with a new guy, who had some ideas, a lot of questions, and a need to have a sounding board before he made a decision.

Enjoy your retirement, Bob, and all the new and exciting adventures that will come. You are always welcome anytime!