

People of United Reformed: Dave Bruinooge

Name: David C. Bruinooge

Nickname: Dave

Spouse: Kathi

Years married: 35

Loving Companions: 3 dogs, 2 were puppies when we got them.

Roxy the "Roxinator" a 7 year old rescue Wired Haired Dachshund/Boston Terrier mix.

"Belly Rub" Bear a 7 year old rescue Pekingese/Pomeranian mix (we got him at age 3).

Brandy the "PoopPee" a 1 year old Pomeranian.

Parents: Benjamin A & Roberta J Bruinooge (nee Spoelhof)

Siblings: 2 brothers, Art and John

Schooling:

Eastern Christian High School, N. Haledon, NJ class of 1971

Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI, Class of 1975, BA Sociology

Bergen Community College, Accounting & Data Processing courses

American Institute of Banking, General Banking Diploma



Career and highest level achieved:

Dave began his career as a vault cashier with Brinks Inc. in May of 1975 and went on to National Community Banks where he started as the Regulatory and Financial Management Reporting Manager and ended his career with the organization as the First VP, Corporate Accounting. He took his talents to the Bank of New York/The Bank of New York Mellon in 1993 and finished out his career in 2009 in the Financial Division as Vice President and Financial Analyst.

Favorite Things

Movie: *Star Wars*

TV Show: NCIS, anything Sci-Fi

Kind of Music: Classic Rock, Folk Rock, R & B, Classical, Traditional Hymnal, Christian Folk

Song: Sounds of Silence (Simon & Garfunkel), Canadian Railroad Trilogy (Gordon Lightfoot)

Book: Foundation Trilogy (Isaac Asimov)

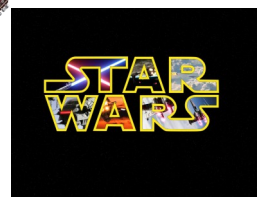
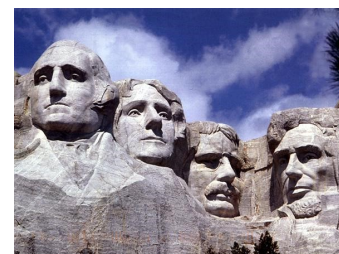
Hobbies: Golf, playing guitar, singing, video games. In my younger, more fit days: basketball, softball, table tennis and almost any type of sport with a ball or racquet.

Food: Angel Hair Pasta aglio e olio with shrimp and vegetables

Beverage: Black coffee, iced tea, single malt scotch and Samuel Adams' seasonal ales

When I have a day off the thing I most like to do: Play golf

My idea of a perfect vacation: 1) an island resort in the tropics, a room with an ocean view, a lanai (balcony), a beach, a pool and a championship golf course. 2) going someplace scenic, preferably with mountains like Grand Teton & Yellowstone National Parks, Grand Canyon, Mt. Rushmore, Hawaii.



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The funniest thing that ever happened to me: I got to run the 100 yard dash in a track meet between Calvin College and Kalamazoo. I ran the half mile (not very well) in most meets, but Coach Tuuk replaced me with one of our captains, George Van Kampen, who doubled in the quarter and half mile, to be certain we placed in both events. Coach Tuuk offered to let me run the 100 yard dash, since I was always telling him how fast I was. I got in the blocks and waited for the "Ready, Set, Gunshot." The gun went off and by the time I got out of the blocks, I was already 10 yards behind everyone. As I sprinted past the grandstand, I heard someone yell, "who let him in the race." After the race was over, Coach Tuuk asked me, while chuckling and trying to hide it, what my time was. I laughingly said "11.6 seconds." A sprinter, I was definitely NOT! We did win the track meet, however.



Favorite Childhood Memory: This is difficult to answer, because I have so many wonderful childhood memories. Since I have to narrow it down, I would have to say Friday night basketball at the Wilson School Gym in Lodi. My Dad got permission for the Lodi CRC (later Richfield CRC) to use the gym every Friday night from 7-10 P.M. When my brothers and I entered 9th grade, we were allowed to invite our friends to come and play basketball at the gym. Members of the church and our friends from Eastern Christian High School and Lodi all came to play basketball. My Dad ran this basketball fellowship for 15-20 years and he also played. Many of the individuals who played basketball with us on Friday nights attended my Dad's wake and all reminisced about the good times we had at the Lodi gym.



One of the hardest things I ever had to face: The 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. At the time, I worked in the 100 Church Street building, which was diagonally across the street from WTC building #7. I was at my desk when the first jet struck the North Tower. First thoughts were that a steel plate or dumpster was dropped in the road next to our building. Then someone yelled that a bomb went off in the WTC. I tried to call Kathi at home, but she did not answer the phone. I called my Mother to let her know I was alright and she told me that a plane struck a WTC Tower. After assuring her that I was alright, I wandered down to the west side of my floor and looked out the windows at the hole in the North Tower. I then moved to the south side of the floor and stuck my head out the window and saw the fire and what I thought was debris falling from the tower. Someone yelled that people were falling from the tower and suddenly my eyes fixated on the bodies. At that moment, the second jet struck the South Tower and I saw the fireball reflected in the side of the WTC #7 building as it came towards me. Thankfully, the U.S. Post Office shielded me from the fire ball and debris, but the heat was so intense, that it knocked me back. I quickly retreated to the north side of the floor. I still could not reach Kathi by phone.

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The police finally let us leave the building about 30 minutes later. I walked north on Church Street with Lenny Goldstein, my coworker, and several other Bank of New York employees. When we reached Canal Street, we heard rumbling and turned to watch the first tower collapse. Lenny and I continued walking north and found every Path Station was closed. We could hear jets soaring overhead and radios blaring from limos parked on the street. We heard both true and false news reports of attacks of the day. Our cell phones did not work, so I still had not talked with Kathi. We walked to a Bank of NY branch at 1290 Avenue of the Americas and W. 51st Street. The branch was closed, but the security guard let us enter and the manager let us use the office phones to call our families. I finally got to tell Kathi that I was safe and trying to find a way to get home. I called my Mother next and while talking with her, the events of the day finally caught up with my emotions. Hours later, after unsuccessfully trying to walk across town to the 34 street ferry (2-4 hour wait), Lenny and I wandered back to Time Square, where two police officers told us the Path Trains were running again. It was so strange to see Times Square almost completely deserted. We got to the Hoboken train terminal in time to catch the 5:38 P.M. Pascack Valley train. That was the train we usually took to get home.

If I had my dream job: An Astronaut

One of the best things that ever happened to me:
Marrying Kathi



Something that very few people know about me: My voice instructor, a former Metropolitan Opera singer, taught me a variety of operatic arias. I wrote and sang my own song "With This Ring" at our wedding.



Favorite Scripture: I Corinthians 13

Favorite Hymn: How Great Thou Art

Favorite Praise Song: For Those Tears I Died

How long have you been worshipping at United Reformed Church? 4 1/2 years

What first brought you to United? Merger discussion between Richfield CRC and United.

The thing I most appreciate about United is Pastor Mike and a very caring congregation

Who had the biggest influence in shaping your faith and why? My Mother. She endured so much pain from her illnesses, but never blamed God or complained to anyone.

The thing that God is teaching me right now Patience. To let bad things go because I know He is handling it.

My biggest question about my faith is Am I doing all I should to be a good Christian?

What difference has God made in your life? He has made me a kind and caring person.