



## David Ross Bowbeer

October 18, 1941 - January 17, 2016

Age 74 passed away on Sunday, January 17, 2016 at the University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor. He was born October 18, 1941 in Detroit, MI, the son of Ross Lee and Jesse (Grant) Bowbeer. On June 11, 1966 in the Blessed Sacrament Church in Windsor, Ontario, he married Lynne Bowman and she survives. Dave began his lifelong love of Scouting and the outdoors as a Cub Scout in 1948. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout in 1957, and he continued his involvement in various capacities through the 1980's. He earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Wayne State University and a master's degree in microbiology from Eastern Michigan University. He worked at the University of Michigan, conducting medical research until the early 1970's. He also worked for the Boy Scouts as a District Executive. He then began a career with Saline Community Hospital as its Director of Purchasing, from which he retired in 2000. Dave was a history buff and was particularly interested in American and local history and politics. His community involvement included posts with the Uptown Saline Association, Historic District Commission, and United Way, as well as other roles with his children's schools and various sports. He was known by many for his prolific storytelling ability. In addition to those who survive him, he will be missed by the "seminar" tables at Benny's Bakery in Saline. He was a devoted family man and friend. Above all, his greatest loves were his wife, children, and grandchildren. Survivors in addition to his wife include their children Erin (Steve) Babiak, and Lee (Michelle Poris) Bowbeer. Other survivors include his grandchildren

Cameron and Ellie Babiak, Jordan and Alex Bowbeer, his brother Robert Bowbeer, brother-in-law Patrick, sisters-in-law Donna, Cathy, Teresa, Pam, and many nieces and nephews. Dave was preceded in death by his parents, father-in-law Patrick Bowman, mother-in-law Betty Bowman, and brothers-in-law Mike and Brian Bowman, and Ken Westlake, and sister-in-law Suzan Bowman. Funeral Services will take place on Thursday, January 21, 2016 at 11:00 A.M. at the Keystone Church in Saline, MI, with Pastor Ken Gilmore officiating. Burial will follow the service in the Oakwood Cemetery in Saline. Memorial contributions may be made to The Chad Tough Foundation. Friends may begin calling at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 between the hours of 1:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. and at the church on Thursday, January 21, 2016 from 10:00 A.M. until the time of service at 11:00 A.M. To sign Dave's guestbook, to leave a memory, or for more information or directions please visit [www.rbfhsaline.com](http://www.rbfhsaline.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

227 West Michigan Ave  
Saline, MI 48176

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 20. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
301 E Michigan Ave  
Saline, MI 48176  
(734) 429-9760  
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com  
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

## Visitation

JAN 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Keystone Church  
3375 Saline Waterworks Road  
Saline, MI 48176  
<http://www.keystonechurch.us/>

## Funeral Service

---

JAN 21. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Keystone Church  
3375 Saline Waterworks Road  
Saline, MI 48176  
<http://www.keystonechurch.us/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *David Ross Bowbeer*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Dear Lynne and family, I wonder now if Bob and Dave are talking about everything and anything up there (and then both of them napping). One thing I know is that both of us are watched over by loving angels. I love you Lynne and know what you are going through. What did you do for yourself today? If my docs can ask me each time they see me, I feel I can ask you too. RIP dear Dave.*  
*Sharon Williams*

**Sharon Williams** - January 28, 2016 at 10:32 AM



*Thank you Sharon. With both Dave and Bob up there God has his hands full now!*

**lynne Bowbeer** - March 03, 2016 at 04:56 PM



“ *Lynn and Family, my sincere condolences. Cousin David was always fun to be with when we were kids. I remember him teaching us to do 'One potato, two potato' instead of 'Eenie Meanie Minie Moe'. It was our first lesson in being politically correct before that was common. I hope loving memories sustain you.*  
*Jackie Howe*

**Jackie Howe** - January 21, 2016 at 07:49 AM

LB

*Thank you Jackie. dave was a special guy. I appreciate your kind words.*

-----  
**lynne Bowbeer** - March 03, 2016 at 05:00 PM

CY

“ *What fond memories I have of Mr. Bowbeer watching our matches and having dinner after! I can still hear him calling "sweet lou" as he approached my court! His meal was always wrong or delivered much later than everyone else's - every single time! He was so kind hearted and fun spirited. My prayers go out to you and your family but know your wonderful memories last forever!*

-----  
**Cindy Mikolajewski Yonker** - January 20, 2016 at 06:39 PM

JG

“ *I knew Dave from the Boy Scouts many years ago. He was our District Executive, He was out going ,kind and funny. I also knew him in the Hospital at St.Joes when he had been in an accident. He broke his leg, when I came in to work the next morning the night shift were talking about the patient that had come in during the night that they thought might have a head injury because of the way he was talking and acting, I went to visit him and found He was just the way he had always been, funny and making everyone laugh. I'll always remember that sweet guy. My prayers to Lynn and family.*

-----  
**Jo Ann Gibbons** - January 20, 2016 at 03:03 PM

LB

*Thanks so much for sharing your memories and for your kind words Jo. I really appreciate it.*

-----  
**lynne Bowbeer** - March 03, 2016 at 05:12 PM

CR

“ *Big Dave, Big Dave, Big Dave! I can't begin to remember all the memories & all that you have taught, not only to me but all of the other kids in Scouts and the neighborhood. I always remember a big smile, open heart and a joyful kindness not often seen. So many memories of Big D and Scouts & all that was taught both big and small which I still value and hopefully can pass along as gracefully as he did. Big D was always a positive influence in my life and is directly responsibly for convincing my pop's to buy me my first over-the-top Schwinn BMX'r!!! I would also like to thank Big D for again convincing my pop's to man-up and attend the overnight scout trips "may have been bribed by a lovely beverage!" but nonetheless Bid D was always looking out for me! Thank you for being our friend and that smile.*

*Chris Rinna.*

---

**Chris Rinna** - January 20, 2016 at 02:19 PM

GA

“ *Dear Lynn, Erin and Lee, Although we haven't seen Dave in quite awhile he was an unforgettable guy, so glad we were able to be neighbors for many years, our thoughts and prayers are with all of you, our deepest condolences.*

*Charlie and Gerri Anderson*

---

**Gerri Anderson** - January 20, 2016 at 02:08 PM

RF

“ *The four of us went canoeing for the fall colors up north. Lynne and I were bundled warm. Dave was in his bare feet and shorts! Nanook always seemed like the right name for Dave.*

---

**Richard and Carlene Foster** - January 20, 2016 at 11:47 AM

RF

“ *Richard And Carlene Foster lit a candle in memory of David Ross Bowbeer*



---

**Richard and Carlene Foster** - January 20, 2016 at 11:39 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.*



---

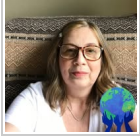
January 20, 2016 at 08:47 AM



“ *I'd like to think that somewhere, he's making Michigan Dogs. My deepest condolences to you all - every memory I have of your dad is a happy one - Deron*

---

**Deron Albright** - January 20, 2016 at 07:20 AM



“ I remember my mother talking often of her cousin David. I am sure I met him at times during my growing up but what I do remember is he came to my mom's funeral last October. He stood up and told the story of the day I was born and how he had been there. This was before they allowed anyone into the delivery room but they allowed him to come up and see my mom and me. It was a lovely story. I talked to David afterwards and he came across as such a warm and loving man. What is funny, is that I remember his dad, Uncle Ross. I have many memories of my grandpa (Harold Bowbeer) and Uncle Ross building the boat and working in the shop. I will treasure them. My deepest condolences to Lynne, Erin and Lee.

*Lisa Gillett (Lynne Bowbeer's (his cousin Lynne) daughter)*

---

**Melisa Fezzey Gillett** - January 19, 2016 at 11:48 PM



“ *The Woehrle Family (Jim, Ann, Ben and Hannah) purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.*



---

**The Woehrle Family (Jim, Ann, Ben and Hannah)** - January 19, 2016 at 10:07 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.*



---

January 19, 2016 at 07:43 PM

JW

“ *Bob, our thoughts and prayers for you and your family...our deepest condolences.*

*John and Joy Williams*

---

**joy williams** - January 19, 2016 at 06:09 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.*



---

January 19, 2016 at 05:39 PM

TO

“ *The Osterhuses purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.*



---

**The Osterhuses** - January 19, 2016 at 04:52 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.*



---

January 19, 2016 at 03:15 PM

DG

“ Our condolences to all of you. May your precious memories and love of Dave fill your hearts with peace during your time of sorrow.



*Debbie & Wayne Girard  
(Friends of Cathy & Al)*

---

**Deborah Girard** - January 19, 2016 at 02:53 PM

TD

“ The World Language Department at Detroit Country Day purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphillum for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.



---

**The World Language Department at Detroit Country Day** -  
January 19, 2016 at 02:50 PM

LL

“ Bob, I am saddened to hear of your brother's passing. You and your family have my deepest sympathy.

*Lynda Ludy  
DCDS gr2 Teacher*

---

**Lynda Ludy** - January 19, 2016 at 02:46 PM

LM

“ Love, Ron & Karen Modreski purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.



---

Love, Ron & Karen Modreski - January 19, 2016 at 01:03 PM

RM

“ Dave would really enjoy all the messages being posted here and on Facebook. Dave was loved by all. Dave was one of my few best and oldest friends. We met in the 6th grade when I moved to his neighborhood in 1953. We became lifelong friends, grew up together in junior high, high school at Cody in Detroit. He went to Wayne and I went to Univ of Michigan. We stay connected after graduation and had the opportunity to be in each others weddings. We moved to the south in the mid 70's and Dave, Lynne and Erin visited us. After we moved back to Michigan (Grand Rapids) in 1989 we still saw each other but not as often as we would have liked to. We came to Dave's surprise 60th birthday. Dave remained as friendly and fun loving his entire life. He was a rock of stability and kindness in a changing world. I was truly blessed to call him my friend. I am sure he is organizing a scouting event for God. Karen and I will really miss him but will see again someday.

*Love Ron and Karen Modreski*

---

Ron and Karen Modreski - January 19, 2016 at 12:30 PM

CA

“ Dave's smile was infectious and he will be missed by so many people.

*Carole and John Eichler*

---

carole - January 19, 2016 at 10:52 AM



“ *Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.*



---

January 19, 2016 at 10:38 AM



“ *Dear Lynne and family,*

*We were heartbroken to hear of Dave's passing. We will remember his great love for his family and his great friendship for over 40 years. There are so many happy memories that we shared. We take solace that he is now safe in the arms of God and pray that God will comfort you and give you strength in this difficult time.*

*Carl and Carolyn Kammer*

---

**Carolyn and Carl Kammer** - January 19, 2016 at 10:38 AM



“ *We remember Dave with fondness. He enriched the lives of so many, including the Kantners. No man had a better wife or children. Our hearts are with you all.*

---

**Perry & Denise Kantner** - January 19, 2016 at 10:23 AM

SA

“ *Stamford Youth Hockey Association purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of David Ross Bowbeer.*



---

**Stamford Youth Hockey Association** - January 19, 2016 at 10:22 AM

LE

“ *Lee and Erin, your dad always had a smile plus could engage in any conversation. My heart understands this loss. He was always so proud and easily talked about you both. May all the memories bring measures of peace to your Mom, you, and family. Take care, I am here for you.*  
*-Ruth Lockwood*

---

**Lee** - January 19, 2016 at 08:06 AM

DB

“ *Good bye sweet cousin. As far back as I can remember, you were a big part of my growing up. Days spent at Rondeau Park in Canada were always fun with you. We would walk over to each others cottages, which was only a couple of lanes behind us, and just hang out. I can see you sitting at your table there , doing your homework. You would come to our cottage and we would play Michigan Rummy with pennies. We all played, no matter how old we were. Your laugh was contagious and loving. I am sure you and my sister, Lynne, are debating politics in Heaven. Wonder if your dad, Ross, and my dad, Harold are sailing together again. I will miss you. See you again.*

---

**Donna Bowbeer** - January 19, 2016 at 08:06 AM

LE

“ Today, my wonderful brother-in-law Dave Bowbeer passed away, surrounded by his loving family. He has been a part of our lives since he met and married my oldest sister when I was 8 years old. Most of my friends have met him at one time or another. He had such a positive, profound affect on our family. I am thankful to ancestors for beginning our family, and grateful in a big way for Dave always pulling it together and ensuring that we keep in touch and move forward together. He will be sorely missed, but remembered everywhere we go.

-Donna Bowman

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 08:04 AM

LE

“ Sadly, my brother in law Dave Bowbeer passed away yesterday. Being very young when he and my sister Lynne Bowbeer were married, I can't remember a time when he was not a part of our family. I do however remember everything he has done for all of us. A dotting husband, father, grandfather, uncle, and brother in law, he was always taking care of us, keeping us well fed, and entertained with his endless supply of stories. So many fond memories!! He will be missed by many from his closest family and friends to the people at the bakery to the local grocery store staff and the many others he stopped to befriend along the way. Rest in peace Dave, you earned it!

-Teresa Fryday

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 08:03 AM

LE

“ To a man with a larger than life smile and an even bigger heart. Uncle Dave had an amazing way of making everyone he came in contact with feel important and special...and he could make a mean sandwich! RIP Uncle Dave Bowbeer you will be truly missed. Keeping Aunt Lynne, Lee and Michelle, Erin and Steve and families close in my heart during this very sad time!  
-Tiffanie Webber

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 08:02 AM

LE

“ You were a wonderful and loving husband, father, grandfather and uncle. Always making people smile! Thanks for enabling my love for Michigan clothing and sports, for making me think of yelling "HOTDOG!" every time I see the food, for teaching us all how much "Windsor Pizza" should be appreciated and for simply being, you. You will be missed Uncle Dave. Rest in Peace.  
-Kristina Guenot

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 08:01 AM

LE

“ Dave brought so much happiness to the lives he touched. He was a wonderful husband, father and friend. Rest in peace, euchre buddy. Heaven is a very good place!  
- Cathie Curran

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 07:59 AM

LE

“ Lynne, Lee and Erin, so sorry to hear about Dave. Mine and Cheryl's thoughts and prayers are with all of you. One of the best tennis dads I ever had the pleasure of being around. May he rest in peace!

- Mike Flynn

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 07:59 AM

LE

“ The big campground in the sky just got one of the great ones - Dave Bowbeer, my very first Cub Scout leader and the father of my longtime (since 2nd grade) friend, Lee. Mr. Bowbeer was in many ways a second dad, and he played an important part of some of the formative experiences of my youth in Saline. For example, my very first job interview at The Saline Reporter (age 15) came about because Mr. Bowbeer knew the editor. So it's no stretch to say my career in journalism came about at least in part because of him. I have many fond memories of his warmth, his humor and his incredible storytelling abilities. But most of all, my heart goes out to Lee, Erin Bowbeer Babiak, Lynne Bowbeer and the rest of the family.

- Jim Woehrle

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 07:58 AM

LE

“ When I first brought Lee to NYC, a friend said that Lee was the nicest guy he ever met, a sentiment we've heard many times since moving back east. But really, Lee is only the second nicest guy I've ever met. The true #1 nicest person honor goes to his dad, Dave. From day 1 Dave welcomed me to his home with open arms (and a Michigan hot dog), and over the past 19 years he continued to demonstrate unmatched kindness, generosity, and love (and the uncanny ability to offer me more food & drink than anyone else I've ever met.) It has been my honor to be his daughter-in-law - or, really, as he has always said, his daughter. As many of you have already seen, Dave passed away peacefully among loved ones this afternoon. May his memory be for a blessing.  
-Michelle Paris

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 07:56 AM

LE

“ Sorry to hear the news. I have very fond memories of your dad as my Cub Scouts leader. I have vivid memories of the first five mile hike our troop took with your dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
-Glenn Ellis

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 07:55 AM

LE

“ I remember we were at his house out front playing and he asked me how to flex his muscles. So I taught him, it was fun. He was easy to be with.  
-Jim Bowbeer Gatacre

---

Lee - January 19, 2016 at 07:54 AM

LE

“ I look at your beautiful and talented families and think about how much of that comes from your fun and great-natured personalities. I feel so lucky that I personally know where a lot of that comes from. I was 3 years old when we moved in next to you on Springbrook Ct. From day one, your Dad was such a lovable guy! I think of the countless mornings laughing with him on the way to school. I remember him chasing us away as we attempted to scare the girls for sleepovers; but still then, he did it with a wink. He always had such a great attitude and the whole community knew it and looked forward to it on Saturday mornings. I love the guy. And, I am so proud of the lifelong friendship my parents have shared with him and your mom. Thinking of you every day and remembering such good memories of BIG Dave.

Love, JR (Jeff Rinna)

---

**Lee** - January 19, 2016 at 07:53 AM

FG

“ Dear Lynne and family,  
Louis and I are so sorry to hear of Dave's passing. We have wonderful memories of our travels through New Zealand and Australia in 2009. Dave made the trip very special to us. We will never forget. Our condolences go out to you, Lynne, and to all who loved Dave so much. We'll be thinking of you over the next few days. Take comfort in the love of your family and friends.

Freda and Louis Goodwin

---

**Freda Goodwin** - January 18, 2016 at 05:45 PM