



## Robert "Bob" Michael Hutchens

July 18, 1943 - February 20, 2026

Robert Michael Hutchens, age 82, passed away Friday, February 20, 2026. Bob – or Hutch, as he was known to all his family and friends – was born in Detroit, Michigan on July 18, 1943 to William and Ina (Rhind) Hutchens. A 1961 graduate of Henry Ford High School in Detroit, he was a gifted athlete, excelling at basketball, football, and track. His love of sports remained throughout his life, and in later years he found great joy on the golf course.

Bob married his high school sweetheart, Carol Besonen in 1962, and relocated to Washtenaw County where they raised their family.

Bob began his professional career in 1964 as a recreation aide at Mercywood Hospital in Ann Arbor, organizing activities for patients. He later worked as a line operator at General Motors' Willow Run Assembly Plant from 1965 to 1967. In 1967, Bob embarked on a 20-year career with Michigan Bell Telephone Company, later part of AT&T. During his tenure, he played an important role in the company's transition from mechanical to electronic switching systems in the late 1960s — a pivotal advancement in telecommunications.

In the mid-1970s, Bob began investing in real estate, eventually becoming a full-time owner and operator of multi-family residential properties in Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti. Through dedication and hard work, he built a successful second

career that reflected his entrepreneurial spirit.

Bob is survived by his wife, Carol; his children, Robert (Randi) Hutchens of Mt. Kisco, New York, and Michelle (Monte) Doran of Saline; his grandchildren, Jonathan (Ava) Hutchens, Jennifer Hutchens, Andrew Doran, and Allison Doran; his great-grandson, Jonathan Robert Michael Hutchens; his brothers, Gary and William Hutchens; and his sister, Carol Haley.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, April 11, 2026, at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home, 301 E. Michigan Ave., Saline, MI. Visitation will begin at 9:00 A.M., with the service following at 11:00 A.M. Family and friends are invited to join the family for a luncheon afterward at Travis Pointe Country Club.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Bob's name may be made to the Washtenaw Housing Alliance, P.O. Box 7993, Ann Arbor, MI 48107 or by visiting <https://www.whalliance.org/donate>.

To leave a memory you have of Bob, to sign his online guestbook or for directions please visit [www.rbfhsaline.com](http://www.rbfhsaline.com)

Bob will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his strong work ethic, his athletic spirit, and the many friendships he cherished throughout his life.

# Cemetery Details

## Oakwood Cemetery

227 West Michigan Ave  
Saline, MI 48176

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 11. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

## Celebration of Life

APR 11. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

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# Tribute Wall

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“ I met Hutch in 1989. What I remember most was his sense of humor. He could take teasing to great lengths. Second, I remember his ability to fix things and help out, including with my taxes. Third, I remember how important his family was to him. He was proud of them. They were equally proud of him.

*Hutch enjoyed eating and drinking and golf.*

*He administered his apartment duties well and was respected by the tenants, keeping a cool head and using good judgment.*

*I have treasured memories of meeting up with Hutch and Carol on Grand Cayman, Mackinac Island, in Las Vegas, and cruising the Caribbean, and also the Danube River (Passau to Budapest).*

*Story: Hutch and his pal, Les Neinas, took a trip up north, buying a gallon of maple syrup along the way. While Les was driving, Hutch called out, "Stop sign!" Les slammed on the brakes overturning the maple syrup which spilled all over the van's floor. After the sticky clean up at the side of the road, it was determined the stop sign didn't exist! That's our Hutch. He will be missed.*

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**Linda Luke** - April 10 at 06:06 PM

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*Hutch was one of those people who, upon seeing him at a gathering, you were always happy to see. You knew you would be laughing soon because of his sense of humor. He was a close friend and business partner with my dad. I am sad to lose them both within a month of each other. My sincere condolences to Carol and family.*

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**Scott Neinas** - April 10 at 06:58 PM



*I met Hutch in the early 80's thru Les Neinas. The three of us became very close friends. We decided we needed tax write offs to reduce out taxes so the three of us bought apartments. Hutch ran the apartments during the day and did the required maintenance and collected rent. As I had a full time job, I helped with maintenance and collected rent knocking on doors after work. We were successful and 90 % was due to Hutch. He had a way of handling the tenants and keeping them happy. Hutch, Les and I had many good years as friends together and running the apartments. I will miss Hutch very much.*

*Edgar Bergmann*

**Edgar Bergmann** - April 10 at 11:44 PM



*I met Hutch in early 2007. I was looking for work, and he gave me a chance; although I knew nothing, he taught me everything there was to know about maintenance. From that moment on, he became both a boss and a friend—someone I will miss deeply. I thank God for the privilege of having known him, as well as for his help to my family and the Hispanic community in Ypsilanti. Thank you, my friend, for all the beautiful moments we shared; I hold in my heart very fond memories that I will never forget. Thanks to the promise of the Lord Jesus Christ, I know that one day I will see you again*

**Victor Munoz** - April 11 at 06:54 AM



“ 248 files added to the album LifeTributes



**Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - April 10 at 04:27 PM