



Robert F. Centers

July 20, 1933 - April 12, 2023

Saline, MI (formerly, Roscommon, Utica, Oxford and Lake Orion, MI)

Robert "Bob" Centers, age 89, of Saline, Michigan passed away at home after a short illness on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 surrounded by family. Bob was born July 20, 1933 in Detroit, Michigan to the late Robert L. Centers and Louisa (Ringrose) Centers. On June 23, 1956 Bob married Nancy Woodbeck who preceded him in death on December 7, 2019 as did their son, Robert A. Centers on January 22, 2004. Bob is survived by the remaining three of their four children, Michael (Margaret) Centers of Sterling Heights, Patti Vogel of Harrison Township and Kimberly (Marcel) Santiz of Saline. Bob is also survived by seven grandchildren, Marie (Clint) Peacock, Marcia (Jeremy) Walters, Michael (Mandi) Centers, Christopher Vogel, Philip (Annmarie) Vogel, Mara Santiz, Elise Santiz; twelve great-grandchildren, Carter, Kaylin, Jaidyn Peacock; Trevor, Haley, Kendall, Janell, Rylee, Payten Walters; Colton and Camden Centers and Thaddeus Vogel. Bob worked as a railwayman in his early years and also while serving in the United States armed forces in Korea. He retired as a much-loved manager from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Previously he was also a Michigan State Trooper and was a member of their scuba search and rescue team for a time. Bob loved University of Michigan sports, the Detroit Lions and a good laugh. He was loved by virtually everyone he touched, was always quick to share his sense of humor and will be remembered for the way he enriched others' lives.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Tuesday, April 18, 2023

between the hours of 12:00 P.M. and 2:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. Funeral Services will take place at 2:00 P.M. Pastor Drex Morton will officiate the service. Military Honors will be held under the auspices of the Washtenaw County Veteran's Honor Guard. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Robert's name may be made to the American Heart Association or to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. To leave a memory you have of Bob, to sign his guestbook or for directions please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 18. 12:00 PM - 2:00 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>

Funeral Service

APR 18. 2:00 PM - 2:45 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>

Tribute Wall



“ *Bob and Nancy lived for several years across from my aunt and uncle in Roscommon. What a great couple. When my uncle passed away and my aunt was in a nursing home Bob and Nancy volunteered to take my aunt’s little dog. They’d bring the dog on visits to the nursing home which thrilled my aunt. Their kindness and compassion was really appreciated by my family. My wife and I were lucky to have known such a nice couple.*

Jack and Rose Thebo

Jack Thebo - January 09, 2025 at 05:42 PM



“ *Robert F. Centers*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *To the Centers family I'm sorry for your loss. I remember him having a sense of humor. He was well liked by the Blue Cross Blue Shield family,*

Maria Patuna - April 17, 2023 at 02:09 PM

BM

“ We were sad & heartbroken when we learned that Bob passed.

Our friendship began at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan in the late 1970's, and have stayed in contact and remained close friends. For a number of years we celebrated our wedding anniversaries together at Bud's in Fair Haven; one of Bob & Nancy's favorite restaurants. We cherish the memories we shared, weddings, barbeques, their 50th anniversary, lunch get togethers, golf weekends, Tally's Bar, casino outings, visits to Houghton Lake, Christmas party's etc.

We will especially miss the “Go Blue” phone conversations during the U of M football & basketball games. We were fortunate to have Bob visit us last April in Arizona. While visiting we drove up to Tortilla Flat in the Superstition Mountains, (Bob & Nancy visited this same spot years ago). During his time here we reminisced about the “Good Old Day's”. His witty remarks and his laughter were unique. He will be greatly missed by those he leaves behind. We've lost our dear friend and find comfort in knowing that Bob is reunited with Nancy & Bobby. Prayers & condolences to his family.

Bob & Mary McNeese

Bob McNeese - April 16, 2023 at 04:07 PM

SL

“ Oh Uncle Bob, my heart is full of sorrow. I have so many good memories of you.

I miss those days. I remember your laugh, you laughed like your sister Joan.

I had fun when I spent time with you and Aunt Nancy. So many memories.

Go rest high on that mountain Uncle Bob. I love you, always.

Sherry Sue

Sherry Lane - April 15, 2023 at 10:15 PM

MG

“ To the family of Bob Centers, I am Marilyn Garstka and I used to work with Bob at Blue Cross Blue Shield in downtown Detroit. In fact he was my Boss! Such a likeable gentle man who always made you feel at ease when you were at work. Nancy was a great fit for such a charismatic man! At the reunion in June 2013, we had a great time discussing "old times" ! So very glad I got the opportunity to go and see many of the other co-workers from long ago! May God Bless him in his new life, now he is with his Nancy, and son in the arms of the Lord. I lost my husband in July so I know the sorrow that you feel now! Prayers to all !

Marilyn Garstka - April 13, 2023 at 05:36 PM