



Robert C. Graves

October 1, 1933 - January 8, 2021

Robert (Bob) Graves passed away on January 8, 2021 with his wife Gail, by his side at their winter home in The Villages, Florida. He was born on October 1, 1933 in Pontiac, IL. He graduated from Hillsboro High School and went on to receive a B.A. in Music Education from Illinois State University. He served 2 years in the First Infantry Division Army in Fort Riley, Kansas. He began his career as a band director at Mid-County Schools in Lacon-Varna, IL, and then moved to a position of music director at Thornton Fractional High School in Lansing, IL. After receiving his M.A. in Education Administration at Illinois State University he became the principal of Schrum Memorial School in Calumet City, IL for 23 years before retiring. Music has always been a part of his life, playing trombone in a college dance band, "The Dreamtimers"; Army band and dance band in Ft Riley, Kansas; Adult Band in Munster, IN, Joliet Jazz Band, and Concert Bands in The Villages, FL.

Bob was a man of faith and an active member of several Christian Churches throughout his life. He served as a deacon and elder, involved in music ministry, and served on building and missions committees.

He was a member of Illinois Education Association, American Federation of Teachers, Illinois Federation of Musicians and Illinois State Administration Club.

He was elected to serve on the Illinois Elementary School Association Board

of Directors in the mid 1970's, which was instrumental in initiating Girl's Volleyball to interscholastic statewide activities at the elementary and junior high school levels in IL.

He enjoyed camping across the U.S. with Holiday Rambler friends, golfing, watching sports, and attending all his grandchildren's activities.

Bob is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Gail D. Graves (nee Evans), 2 children Debra (Rick) Summers and John (Maria) Graves, 10 grandchildren; Jacob Graves (Jessica), Sarah Graves, Ryan (Anna) Summers, Lindsey (Kevin) Lind, Ross Summers, Brandon (Michelle) Graves, Toni (Sebastian) Arias, Kacie Graves, Joni Graves and 7 great grandsons. He joins his son, Charles Graves and grandson, Joseph Graves in heaven.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorial Donations can be made to New Life Christian Church World Missions, The Villages, FL in memory of Bob.

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Lady Lake, FL. Online condolences may be left at www.BeyersFuneralHome.com

Tribute Wall

RN

“ Gail & family,

Our heartfelt condolences to you! We really enjoyed having Bob in our Small group at church in the past and I enjoyed caring for him after his stroke sometimes. We watched basketball together. He was a very nice guy and he will now walk freely in heaven! God bless you Gail and the family!

Roseann & Mike Norman - February 14, 2021 at 12:59 PM

MH

“ *My dearest Gail and family...I was so saddened to learn that your beloved, Bob, passed away. He was such a good hearted and sweet man and I will always remember him for that. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your lives in The Villages. It has been my pleasure knowing you and helping you over the years! Sending prayers. Michele Halloy*

Michele Halloy - January 18, 2021 at 11:18 AM