



Robert "Bob" Leo Bernert

APR 27, 1932 - MAR 15, 2024



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Robert "Bob" Leo Bernert

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Robert "Bob" Bernert was, as he would say, "as old as dirt" when he passed peacefully at home in the company of his family. He was just one month shy of his 92nd birthday. Born and raised in West Linn, Bob developed an early love for the rivers of Oregon that would last a lifetime. He began working for his father's business - Albert Bernert Inc - when he was a teenager, driving tugboats up the Willamette river, and later expanding onto the Columbia and Snake rivers. The business was renamed Bernert Barge Lines when Bob took over in 1981. In 1952, he married Kathryn, with whom he raised five children: Sue, Steve, Karen, Lori, and Ken. Bob was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, known for hosting large family gatherings and pool parties. He and Kathryn were married for 60 years until her passing in 2012. In 2016, Bob was lucky in love again and married fellow boat-lover Ellen Starks. In Ellen he found a true partner in adventure; together they explored the US Intercoastal Waterways, living aboard their boat and traveling through Texas, down the Mississippi, up to New York City, and through the Great Lakes, exploring every bend along the way. Bob's cheerful and positive outlook on life touched everyone he met. He was usually whistling a happy tune, always generous, quick with a joke, and he delighted in spending time with his large family, which now included Ellen's sons and families.



Obituary

Robert "Bob" Leo Bernert

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He leaves behind his five children, beloved wife Ellen, Ellen's two sons, 23 grandchildren, and a practically uncountable number of great-grandchildren.

A funeral mass will be held at 11 am on March 22nd at St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church (10:30 rosary),

followed by interment at St. John's Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will follow in the ballroom of the

Tumwater Museum in Oregon City from 12:00 - 4:00 pm. Friends and family are invited to share stories

about Bob while drinking a Singapore Sling in his honor.

In lieu of flowers, we welcome you to make a donation in Bob's name to your favorite charity.





Events


Robert "Bob" Leo Bernert

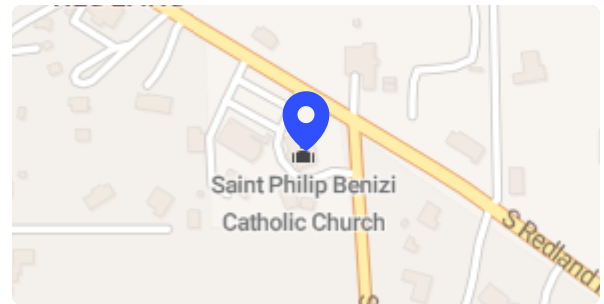
APR 27, 1932 - MAR 15, 2024

Funeral Mass


 **Friday**, March 22, 2024

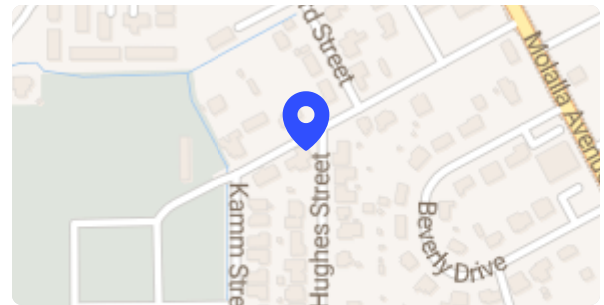
 11:00 AM PT

 **St. Philip Benizi Church**
18211 S. Henrici Rd., Oregon City OR



Cemetery Details

 **St. John the Apostle Catholic Cemetery**
451 Warner Street, Oregon City OR 97045





Tribute Wall

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MP

Michael O'phelan posted:

I am so lucky to have known Bob, and his ever-present smile and genuine goodness and kindness to everyone. The Bernert family is a genuine presence of God's Love in the world. Every event was joyous and memorable in many ways. My loving wife, Mary Muoth, learned well from the spiritual gifts to serve Christ in the lives of others. Our world has lost a truly remarkable and loving man when Bob left us to return home to God. Thanks for the lesson to be thankful for life. peace always. Mike O'Phelan

March 21 at 5:50 PM



Mary Muoth April 26 at 7:35 AM

Bob was the best Uncle ever. What a gift to have him in our lives, he touched so many people's hearts. A shining example how to live a holy life, enjoying people, all the goodness that God has given us, and living his Catholic Faith to the fullest. Bob, you will always be remembered with that bright smile and loving ways.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Robert "Bob" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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