



Robert R. Bernicke

April 25, 1933 - December 20, 2015

Robert Raymond Bernicke of Napoleon, Ohio passed away peacefully in his home on December 20, 2015 at the age of 82.

Robert (Bob) is survived by his wife of 61 years, Mary Anne (Wendt) Bernicke, his children Mary Meyer of Napoleon, Carol Bernicke of Ann Arbor, Michigan, Peggy (Kevin) Bloom of Napoleon, Jeanne (Randy) Rabe of Greensboro, North Carolina, and Mark (Diane) Bernicke of Avon, Indiana; his siblings James (Linda) Bernicke and Sally (Pep) Weaver; 13 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his parents, Raymond and Margaret Bernicke, his sister Janet Bernicke, and his grandson Michael Rabe.

Bob was born on April 25, 1933 in Lagrange, Indiana to Margaret and Raymond Bernicke. He graduated from Napoleon High School in 1951 and attended Ohio Northern University. He served in the Navy from 1952-1956 before returning to Napoleon, where he began working with his father at Bernicke's Super Valu. Following his father's retirement, with the help of his siblings, children, and even grandchildren, he managed the store until its closure in 2006. Under his management the store enjoyed great success, eventually opening a second location in Wauseon.

Bob was an avid supporter of his family and community and is fondly remembered for his generosity, sense of humor, and easygoing nature. He was a lifetime member of the Napoleon Athletic Boosters and an enthusiastic supporter of the NHS football and swimming programs. He coached Little League Baseball for many years, providing guidance to his son Mark and

grandsons, Dustin and Cody. He and Mary Anne drove many miles, as far away as North Carolina and Tennessee to attend countless sporting events, graduations, weddings and other important ceremonies. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Napoleon, where he served as an elder and was previously a deacon.

Bob was an accomplished woodworker and a talented handyman. He took pleasure in remodeling his and his children's homes, interior and exterior, and was always available to make emergency repairs for his loved ones. He spent countless hours laboring in his workshop, and his coffee tables, coat trees, chairs, and other works will remain cherished heirlooms for years to come. Bob also enjoyed family barbecues, travel, golf, western movies, popcorn, naps in the sun, and feeding the neighborhood birds, squirrels, rabbits, and deer. He loved camping with his family, and continued camping with Mary Anne well into retirement.

Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 23 at the First Presbyterian Church of Napoleon. A graveside service will follow at 1:30p.m. at Riverview Memory Gardens, Defiance where military honors will be accorded by the Napoleon Joint Veteran Posts.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday from 4 - 8 p.m. at Rodenberger Funeral Home, Napoleon.

Memorials to First Presbyterian Church, Napoleon Athletic Boosters, or a charity of the donor's choice.

Online condolences may be made at www.rodenbergerfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **22**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Napoleon Funeral Home
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545
(419) 592-2333
help@rodenbergergray.com

Service

DEC **23**. 10:30 AM (ET)

First Presbyterian Church
303 West Washington Street
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

FG

“ Mark- you and your family are in our prayers. I always enjoyed being around him. He was kind and generous to so many people in Napoleon. God bless Mr. Bernicke.

Felix Garcia - December 23, 2015 at 06:28 AM

JD

“ I actually didn't know who he was for several years when I would shop, he was simply a sweet guy who sometimes bagged my groceries. (I was new to Napoleon life) Discovered that I LOVED your "hometown" family store, & how Mr. Bernicke always greeted customers with a generous smile. I am sorry for your loss, but thank you for sharing him with us!
Sincerely, Jana L. Huffman - Von Deylen

Jana L. Huffman - Von Deylen - December 22, 2015 at 11:01 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert R. Bernicke.



December 22, 2015 at 08:14 AM



“ Vivid Recollections was purchased for the family of Robert R. Bernicke.



December 22, 2015 at 05:59 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert R. Bernicke.*



December 21, 2015 at 11:27 PM



“ *Peggy and Family,
So sorry to hear about your Dad. I know how much he loved to follow Codys' football games. No matter what he was going through healthwise, he always bounced back to trek to another game.
Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!
Diane, Frank and Crystal*



Diane Elliott - December 21, 2015 at 10:00 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Robert R. Bernicke.*



December 21, 2015 at 10:00 PM

BO

“ *Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep,
Its own appointed limits keep.*

*Oh hear us when we cry to Thee,
For those in peril on the sea! Amen.*

*Eternal Father, lend Thy grace To
those with wings who fly thro' space,
Thro wind and storm, thro' sun and rain,
Oh bring them safely home again.*

*Oh Father, hear an humble prayer,
For those in peril in the air! Amen.*

*Oh Trinity of love and pow'r,
Our brethren shield in danger's hour,
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,
Protect them where so e'er they go.*

*Thus evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea! Amen.*

Bob - December 21, 2015 at 08:08 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for
the family of Robert R. Bernicke.*



December 21, 2015 at 06:57 PM

DR

“ Bob was the first person to give me a job. He was always there to lend a helping hand and invited me into his family. I learned a lot from him during the time I knew him. He will be greatly missed. Mary Ann and family we are truly sorry for your loss. He truly was a great man. Danielle, Abigail and Cayson

Danielle Ruskey - December 21, 2015 at 05:17 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Robert R. Bernicke.



December 21, 2015 at 03:25 PM

CJ

“ Bob was always a good neighbor. Gordon and I enjoyed those patio chats in the summer. He will be sadly missed by the community and close friends.

Colleen

Colleen Jameson - December 21, 2015 at 01:45 PM

JJ

“ Mary Ann, We're so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Our prayers are with you and your family. We'll hope to see you the next time we're in Napoleon. Jo and George

Jo and George Jennings - December 21, 2015 at 11:56 AM

EG

Mary Ann, Carol & all the Bernicke family: I am saddened to hear of Bob's passing and wish you all my deepest sympathy. Recalling all the many years caring for Bob, I am struck at what a kind, gentle and caring soul he was; a soul bursting with love for family, friends, and of course golf. I know heaven will surely benefit from his soul, though he will be dearly missed down here. It has been my distinct honor and pleasure to have known and cared for Bob. Please know that he and you will be in my thoughts and prayers. I wish you comfort and peace during this difficult time,
Eric Good & family

Eric Good - December 21, 2015 at 10:43 PM

LC

Jeannie, I am so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. My deepest sympathies to you and your family.

Lana Faber-Simi Valley, CA - December 22, 2015 at 01:01 PM

BE

How we remember Bob's smile when we were in the grocery store. Our sincere sympathies during this time of sadness. Bonnie and John Eddy

Bonnie & John Eddy - December 24, 2015 at 04:19 AM

JT

Mary Ann and family so sorry for your loss, just found out Bob passed away. John and I thought a lot of him, he was a great person and a great boss. It was great working for him. Will keep you in our prayers.

John and Martha Tester - January 02, 2016 at 09:08 AM