



Robert Rowland

January 9, 1925 - November 21, 2019

Robert S. Rowland, 94, of McClure, Ohio died peacefully Thursday, November 21, 2019 at his home surrounded by his family. He was born January 9, 1925 at his childhood home in Damascus twp. to the late Carl and Mildred (Anthony) Rowland. He married Sarah (Fisher) Rowland on June 22, 1952 in Deshler, Ohio and she preceded him in death on November 28, 2014.

Bob was a 1943 graduate of McClure High School. After graduation he was drafted in the U.S. Army Airforce during WWII. He served as a Staff Sergeant Aerial Gunner 1943-1945 and received the Distinguished Flying Cross after flying 36 European Theater missions in a B-17 Ball Turret for the 398th Bomb Group. On November 2nd, 2018, he was awarded the French Legion of Honor by Consul General of France Guillaume Lacroix for his participation of the Liberation of France during the Second World War.

Even with Bob's prestigious military background he stayed humble to his roots. He worked at Gilson Machine and Tool in Napoleon, State of Ohio Department of Highways Bowling Green, and farmed part-time. He was a faithful member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, McClure, McClure American Legion Post #332, Bethel Grange-Damascus Twp., and the 398th Bomb Group Memorial Association.

He is survived by his children; James Rowland of McClure, John (Tresa) Rowland of Hamilton, IN, Dennis Rowland of Napoleon, Nancy Rowland of McClure, Tony (Roberta) Rowland of McClure; grandchildren, Jeffery (Dawn) Rowland, Cassandra (Todd) Bishop, Carla (John) Powell, Joshua Rowland,

Tyler (Sara) Rowland, Matthew (Nicole) Rowland, Diana (Will) Swinghammer, Sonia (Mark) Schlegel, Tiffanie (Steve) Creager, Angela Green, Jacob Rowland, and Jared Rowland; 16 great grandchildren; a sister, Ruth Behnfeldt; and brother-in-law, Bill Heckler. He was also preceded in death by a daughter-in-law, Berlinda Rowland, sister, June Heckler, and brother-in-law, Walter Behnfeldt.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, November 26th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, McClure. Interment will follow at Hockman Cemetery where military honors will be accorded by the McClure American Legion.

Visitation will be held on Monday from 2-8 p.m. at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, McClure and Tuesday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the 398th Memorial Bomb Group Memorial Association (www.398th.org), McClure American Legion, or St. Paul's Lutheran Church, McClure.

Online condolences may be made at www.rodenbergergray.com

Cemetery Details

Hockman Cemetery

100 Township HWY O4
Corner of County Road O4 and Township
Road 3A
McClure, OH 43534

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **25**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

McClure Funeral Home
310 Frank Street
McClure, OH 43534
(419) 748-8011
help@rodenbergergray.com

Visitation

NOV **26**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, McClure
155 Depot St.
McClure, OH 43534

Service

NOV **26**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, McClure
155 Depot St.
McClure, OH 43534

Tribute Wall

TN

“ I only know of Mr. Rowland from the documentary I am watching. I feel compelled as a disabled American Army veteran to thank him for his selfless service and sacrifice to our great nation.
Respectfully, Timothy Niles

Timothy Niles - November 25, 2020 at 11:02 PM



“ I'm sorry for your loss. I've wanted to try to get in touch with Robert before and wasn't able to because I'm sure he knew my dad since they were both from McClure and gunners on B-17's.
RIP Sir...

Jody Shaneyfelt - November 25, 2019 at 08:10 PM

BG

“ I'm so very sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Rowland. He was a true patriot who loved his country and his family. May he rest in peace... You all remain in my thoughts and prayers.

Beverly Gerdes - November 25, 2019 at 01:51 PM

BG

“ Beverly Gerdes sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert Rowland



Beverly Gerdes - November 25, 2019 at 01:46 PM

DR

“ Ruth we were sorry to read about the passing of your brother. You have our deepest sympathy.
Darrel and Sharon Rettig

Darrel and Sharon Rettig - November 25, 2019 at 10:08 AM



“ Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Robert Rowland.



November 24, 2019 at 08:53 PM

RM

“ Condolences to the Rowland family from Rose McClure and family.

Rose McClure - November 24, 2019 at 05:02 PM

SR

“ I have never met a nice man than Bob. He was always so friendly. Always a smile. And most of all, Bob was a very humble man. We have lost a treasure. I am praying for the family.



Sherri Rochester & Bruce Reitman - November 24, 2019 at 11:52 AM