



Robert Edward Blankenship

May 26, 1937 - January 3, 2010

Robert Edward Blankenship was born on May 26, 1937 in Carroll, Iowa to Bryan and Lucille Blankenship. He was one of ten children. Robert was raised in South Dakota. He attended and graduated from Alexandria High School in Alexandria, South Dakota.

After high school, Robert worked for a short time in pipeline construction, before serving in the U.S. Army for two years. After his service Robert went back to working in pipeline construction. He worked pipeline construction his entire career, retiring as a pipeline foreman.

Robert met Carolyn Vander Sluis. On June 24, 1967 they were married at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Lovilia. Their 42-year marriage was blessed with two children and five grandchildren.

Robert passed away on Sunday, January 3, 2010 at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines at the age of 72 years, eight months, and 8 days.

He was preceded in death by his parents Bryan and Lucille; and three brothers, Paul, Harold, and Marvin Blankenship.

Robert is survived by his wife, Carolyn Blankenship; two daughters, Patti and Dan Crawford and Bobbi and Travis Cram, all of Knoxville; five grandchildren, Kinsli and Kodi Cram, Olivia, Abbi, and Patrick Crawford. Robert is also survived by two brothers, Al and Richard Blankenship; and four sisters, Darlene Lauck, Thelma Hofer, Judy Thompson, and Doris Grady.

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Edward Blankenship*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Robert Edward Blankenship*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *I often think about the many annual trips to Kansas City that we took during the 1980's to see the Yankees play baseball. Along with Bob were my dad, Barney Stangl, Don Smith, Ed Lineback, Harv Elliott, and myself. We would all pile into Harv's big Lincoln Town Car on a Saturday morning and never stop laughing until we returned to Knoxville Sunday night. Each trip resulted in so many hilarious stories, and they were told and retold many times over the years in the Dingus Lounge. Those were great times and Bob's presence and great sense of humor were instrumental in making them that way. Bob was a good man. Now I'm the only one left of the old gang.*

Larry Stangl - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ I often think about the many annual trips to Kansas City that we took during the 1980s to see the Yankees play baseball. Along with Bob were my dad, Barney Stangl, Don Smith, Ed Lineback, Harv Elliott, and myself. We would all pile into Harvs big Lincoln Town Car on a Saturday morning and never stop laughing until we returned to Knoxville Sunday night. Each trip resulted in so many hilarious stories, and they were told and retold many times over the years in the Dingus Lounge. Those were great times and Bobs presence and great sense of humor were instrumental in making them that way. Bob was a good man. Now Im the only one left of the old gang.

Larry Stangl - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ I am sorry to hear of Uncle Bobs passing. What a wonderful guy. I am fortunate to be of an age that I remember lots of visits through out the years. When we came down racing you guys were always so accomodating and great. Will always remember those times. Darn weather kept Mark, Wilbert, Thelma, Brenda and myself from physically being there ... we are there in prayers.
Brian Hofer

Brian Hofer - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

IG

“ Carolyn~~I have you and your family in my thoughts and prayers. May your happy memories help carry you through. It is obvious that you have many caring and supportive friends and family...lean on them. Bob was good for laughs all around. Mom and Dad always enjoyed their visits and had good stories to tell when they got back home. Take Care, Ila

Ila Gordon - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ We were so sorry to here of Bob's passing. He will be deeply missed. Ryan will definetly miss Bob commenting on mowing over the tree. The girls will miss the popsicles that he brought out to them while they were swinging in the back yard. I will miss his smile and the way he loved Sophie even though he pretended to hate her! He will be missed by all who were blessed to have known him.

Ryan, Gina, Kinser, and Kennady Beaver - January 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JC

“ What a great life to celebrate! Our prayers are with your family. Joanne, Joe, JJ and Jolyn

Joanne Cram - January 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CW

“ I am so sorry to heard of bob's passing. My prayes and thoughts are with you. My deepest sympathies to the your family.

Carolyn Wallace - January 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ So sorry to hear of Bob's passing-If you need anything please call.

Jo Hackett - January 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ You have our deepest sympathy, Carolyn & family. I'm sure he will be greatly missed! Remember all the good times (Bob was always there for a good laugh); he will always remain in your hearts. Our thoughts & prayers are with you & the girls in this time of sorrow. God bless you all!

Mike & Jan Evinger - January 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Carolyn & Family: We are so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. We are thinking of you all at this time.

Chad, Dee, Evan & Taylor Bradshaw

Dee Bradshaw - January 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ Carolyn and girls,
I am going to try like heck to get there to offer you a hug and my condolences. I was so saddened to hear of Bob's passing. I asked my girls if they remember dancing to Polka music in your garage when we came to visit. I'm so glad we visited.....I'll never forget it now. My mom is sad to have another brother die, Bob was very special to her. Bob, give grandma blankenship a BIG hug for us when you see her in heaven :)

Love, Brenda (Hofer) McCallan

Brenda McCallan - January 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ Dear Carolyn, Patti, Bobbi and families,
Sorry to hear of Bob's passing. This is but a "temporary home" and while he was here he certainly did touch many lives. Memories will bring you both tears of loss and love, smiles of times remembered. Thinking of you and understanding your loss.

Donna and Mike Flattery - January 06, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ We are so sorry to hear about Bob. A great husband, dad & grandpa that will be truly missed. All of you are in our prayers. Andy, Kelly, Cody, Hunter & Ty Shives

Andy & Kelly Shives - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ You have our deepest and heart felt sympathy. May God Bless.
Jim and Bev Tierney

James Tierney - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ My deepest sympathies to the entire family. If there is anything I can do please just let me know.

Melanie Funk - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ We were so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Our deepest sympathies to the family. Ron & Erma Curry Grinnell, Iowa

Ron & Erma Curry - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ Our thoughts and prayers with all of you. God Bless .Jane, Bruce, Shauna, Christa

Schmitt Family - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Dear Carolyn and Family - We were so sorry to hear of Bob's death. He was so proud of his family. May the memories you all have help get you through this difficult time. Our deepest sympathy. Carolan and Chuck Brooks and Family

Carolan Brooks - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ I am sorry to hear of Bob's passing. My deepest sympathies to Carolyn and the family.

Debbie Harms - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Bob and my dad, Barney, going fishing, playing cards, and watching sports together. They had such a special friendship, and my dad was so fond of Bob. I think they came up with some pretty entertaining fishing stories, though they might actually be classified as tall tales! My sympathy to you and your girls, Carolyn. Bob was truly a great guy.

Beth Stangl Clarke - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM