



## Robert G. Bonczyk

February 18, 1960 - February 25, 2024

Robert Bonczyk, “Bob”, age 64, of Holland, Michigan, passed away on February 25, 2024, from complications following a heart attack that occurred on December 14, 2023.

Born on February 18, 1960, Bob was blessed to have many roles as a husband, father, grandfather, brother, son, mentor and friend. He was raised in Saline, Michigan and moved to West Michigan to attend Ferris State University where he graduated with a degree in Tool and Die Making. After graduating, he started working at Prince Corporation (presently Yanfeng) where he eventually retired after working there for 38 years. Bob met his wife Michelle while working at Prince as well as many lifelong friends. In 1995, Bob began volunteering as a robotics mentor, a role that he continued at Holland Christian until his death, and a role in which he received national recognition for his dedication and impact on the lives of many people.

Bob was a man of many talents and hobbies. All of which expanded his impact on the lives of others. A “short” list of his hobbies include: hunting, tractor restoration, fishing, biking, camping, hiking, motorcycling, machining, and completing Michelle’s “honey-do” list. After retirement, Bob and Michelle traveled the country camping in their RV. Bob shined a light that few people could match.

Bob is preceded in death by his Mother, Jane (Ellen) Bonczyk. He is survived by his wife, Michelle (De Haan) of 38 years; his daughters Nicki Bonczyk and Jessi Strikwerda (John); his grandson Willem Strikwerda; his father Robert C. Bonczyk; his siblings John (Cindy), Ellen (Raymond) and Bill (Lorrie).

A memorial service will be held at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, March 2, 2024, at Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th St. Holland. Burial will be in Pilgrim Home Cemetery. Visitation will be 5-8 p.m. Friday, March 1, also at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Bob's GoFundMe Page. Funds raised will be used for an annual FIRST Robotics Scholarship to continue Bob's positive impact on students: <https://gofund.me/061ce4e7>

# Cemetery Details

## Pilgrim Home Cemetery

370 E. 16th St.  
Holland, MI 49423

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 1. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenberg Funeral Home  
315 E 16th St  
Holland, MI 49423  
(616) 392-2306  
[info@langelandsterenberg.com](mailto:info@langelandsterenberg.com)  
<http://langelandsterenberg.com/>

## Memorial Service

MAR 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenberg Funeral Home  
315 East 16th Street  
Holland, MI 49423

# Tribute Wall



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Robert Bronczyk Memorial Service in memory of Robert G. Bonczyk*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - March 02, 2024 at 01:15 PM



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert G. Bonczyk*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - February 28, 2024 at 04:34 PM



“ *Love, Tom, Cindy, & Mark purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.*



Love, Tom, Cindy, & Mark - February 29, 2024 at 08:39 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.



February 29, 2024 at 04:49 PM



“ - Ben/Lauren Slager purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.



- Ben/Lauren Slager - February 29, 2024 at 11:22 AM



“ Team 4003 The TriSonics purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.



Team 4003 The TriSonics - February 29, 2024 at 10:12 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.



February 29, 2024 at 09:12 AM

YA

“ Your friends at GVSU Athletics. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert G. Bonczyk.

Your friends at GVSU Athletics. - February 29, 2024 at 09:12 AM

FM

“ FIRST in Michigan purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.



FIRST in Michigan - February 29, 2024 at 07:17 AM

LR

“ Lightning Robotics purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.



Lightning Robotics - February 28, 2024 at 06:39 PM

LR

“ Lightning Robotics planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert G. Bonczyk.

Lightning Robotics - February 28, 2024 at 06:39 PM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.*



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February 28, 2024 at 03:03 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.*



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February 28, 2024 at 08:30 AM



“ *Walter, Jackie, Nat, and Ken purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Robert G. Bonczyk.*



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**Walter, Jackie, Nat, and Ken** - February 27, 2024 at 06:03 PM



“ *I did not know Bob, but I know that I have been privileged to know and work with one of his lovely daughters, Jessi. Her own life is a testament to the legacy that Bob is leaving on this earth.*

*Jessi, I am praying for you and your family during this challenging time. May the Lord hold you close.*

*Melissa Hake*

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**Melissa Hake** - February 27, 2024 at 03:14 PM

SD

“ I have so many amazing memories with this man, I remember how excited he would get during competitions and the late nights he spent dedicated to the team.

When they had mentors stand up to be recognised for their years of service he would always be near the last one standing, at one competition the entire stadium started chanting his name knowing he would be the last one standing.

Bob truly believed in every one of us students, I remember overhearing him speaking with another mentor sharing that the reason he was so devoted to FIRST was because of all the students who got excited and gave their all.

Over the past few years I have learned more from this man than from anyone else about what it means to be a leader, he may be gone, but his legacy lives on in everyone who ever had the privilege of meeting him.

RIP Bob, you will be forever missed.

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**Sami DeVries** - February 27, 2024 at 02:55 PM

AB

“ I have considered Bob to be one of the kindest people I have known since I first met him almost 15 years ago. He was always willing to help, offer advice, or just talk for a while when you needed some inspiration. He was a truly wonderful man and will be missed by so many.

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**Andrew Basse** - February 27, 2024 at 02:32 PM

GV

“ When they did the recognition of mentors by number of years of service, Bob was often one of the last still standing. His contribution to his team, WMRI, FIRST in Michigan, and FRC cannot be recognized enough.

Beside that, he was a truly nice man. I consider Bob to be one of the top mentors I've ever met, in the ranks people like of Andy Baker and Dave Verbrugge. We would trade quips and I always looked forward to events where Team 107 was competing.

I pray for his family (wife, daughters, son-in-law and grandchild) that they may find the peace that their faith will give them. You will be sorely missed, Bob.

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**Gary J Voshol** - February 27, 2024 at 02:20 PM