



Robert H Stoel

April 10, 1940 - July 1, 2023

After July 1, 2023, the world grew a little quieter and heaven filled with the boisterous greetings of Robert (Bob) Stoel who was reunited with his parents (Herman and Maggie) and his son Brent, who died shortly after birth.

Bob was born April 10, 1940 and grew up on the northside of Holland ice-fishing in the winter and blueberry-picking in the summer.

His life forever changed the day he met 15-year-old Sharon Waterway at Jack's Restaurant. He soon became a regular. A regular trouble-maker for Sharon. But as he does with everyone, he won her over with his good-natured charm. They were inseparable for the next 65 years, attending every sporting event of their athletic children and grandchildren.

Bob's commitment to family was not merely on the sidelines however. He was a hands-on father, and when his sons started families of their own, he and Sharon took great joy in providing childcare to all of their grandchildren and even their great-grandchildren over a span of 35 years.

Professionally, he graduated from Hope College in 1963 and began teaching English at Maple Valley in 1964, but the majority of his career was devoted to the students and athletes at Hamilton High School where he taught for 29 years.

His best lessons were not only in the classroom but also on the football field and wrestling mat. In 1968 he established the first wrestling team at Hamilton High School after the Administration asked for a coach. Bob read a book on wrestling and went on to coach successfully for 27 years, eventually passing the Head Coach title to his son Gregg. Even after retiring, Bob and Sharon continued attending Hamilton sporting events; the Hamilton students affectionately referred to him as Grandpa Stoel.

Today, Hamilton wrestlers practice in the Stoel Wrestling Room, a testament to the institution Bob Stoel was at both the school and in the community. His sons have grown to coach their own sons. All of his daughters-in-law and one granddaughter are educators, like him, and have learned much about patience and generosity from him. He has had many of the same lasting friendships for over fifty years. His legacy is strong.

Telling stories about Bob for years to come are his wife of 60 years, Sharon, his brother Carl (Susan) Stoel and sisters Marsha (David) Windemuller and Karen (Mark) Gee and sister-in-law Doreen (John) Veenman and many nieces and nephews; his sons, Gregg (Brenda) Stoel, Ron (Beth) Stoel, and Eric (Michelle) Stoel; grandchildren, Todd (Courtney) Stoel, Malory (Jason) Postma, Cameron (Rachel) Stoel, Li (Nick) Giese, Jake Bommarito, Brendan Stoel, Ella Stoel, Abby Stoel, Maddie Stoel, Zach Stoel, and Sara Stoel; great-grandchildren Talia and Damian Stoel, Ryinn and Naomi Postma, and one on the way.

Visitation and funeral services will be held at Haven Reformed Church in Hamilton (4691 Oak St.) where Bob was an active member for 56 years, serving as both elder and deacon and as a volunteer for Hand 2 Hand and Kids Hope: Visitation Thursday, July 6 from 5-8 and funeral service Friday, July 7 at 11 am with luncheon and fellowship following. Burial will be in

Riverside Cemetery, Hamilton. Donations can be made to Hand 2 Hand through Haven Church or Hospice of Holland. Arrangements are by Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home and condolences may be left online at www.langelandsterenbergh.com.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

Hamilton, MI 49419

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 6. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Haven Reformed Church
4691 Oak St.
Hamilton, MI 49419

Funeral Service

JUL 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Haven Reformed Church
4691 Oak St.
Hamilton, MI 49419

Tribute Wall



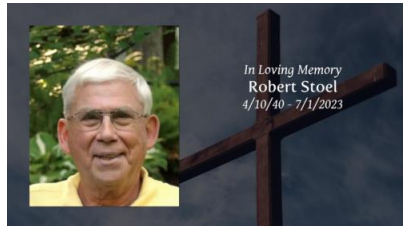
“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Robert Stoel Funeral Service in memory of Robert H Stoel*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - July 11, 2023 at 12:43 PM



“ *Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert H Stoel*



Langeland-Sterenberg Yntema Funeral Homes - July 05, 2023 at 04:31 PM

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“ *I loved having the Stoel family as neighbors and babysitting for the boys. As Mr. Stoel would take me home in the evening we would chat. His words I took to heart in raising my own children later in life. The smiles they always share with other and there kindness.*

Beth Nichols - July 06, 2023 at 06:30 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.



July 06, 2023 at 12:45 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.



July 05, 2023 at 05:04 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.



July 04, 2023 at 12:47 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden* was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.



July 04, 2023 at 06:38 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert H Stoel.

July 04, 2023 at 06:38 AM



“ Mr. Stoel was one of my favorite individuals. I remember his mischievous smile and his hearty laugh. He made an imprint on many lives. To the family: you will be held up in prayer as you walk this journey. Hold on deeply to the many memories. Rhea Osborne Boender Class of 1976

Rhea Boender - July 03, 2023 at 07:24 PM



“ Coach Stoel was an encouragement to me as a boy and a teen. I enjoyed playing with his sons often. I'll always remember him talking to me after losing a match and smiling as he said, “ You know you could be undefeated if you weren't in love.”

Scott Eding - July 03, 2023 at 02:46 PM



“ Sunny Memories was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.



July 03, 2023 at 01:59 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.*



July 03, 2023 at 01:38 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.*



July 03, 2023 at 01:17 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.*



July 03, 2023 at 12:28 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert H Stoel.*



July 03, 2023 at 12:01 PM