



Robert "Bob" Teig Birkeland

August 25, 1921 - March 24, 2015

Robert "Bob" Birkeland was born on August 25, 1921 to Solomon and Dena (Teig) Birkeland of Roland, Iowa. He graduated from Roland High School in 1938. From there he went on to serve in WWII from 1945-1947. After returning from the war, Bob married the love of his life, Mazel Hoverstein on June 29, 1947.

Bob was an active member of Salem Lutheran Church. Bob sang in the church choir, attended prayer groups and found great joy whenever his son Roger shared his gift of music at church services while home on visits from Chicago. Bob devoted much of his time visiting homebound friends over the years. Always a farmer at heart, Bob would bring his thermos of coffee with a handful of kringla baked by his wife, Mazel and listen to a ballgame in the tractor. Anyone who knew Bob would recall these memories when seeing him out in the field.

Bob was never one to sit still. He was a "professional" hobbyist – golf, bowling leagues, bridge clubs, puzzles, books, sharing emails and especially mowing the lawn were activities that he loved. He also loved attending local sporting events. He spent over 50 years in the press box keeping score at softball and basketball games, alongside with some of his closest friends. When the Norsemen weren't playing, Bob could be found in his chair with a bowl of freshly popped popcorn watching one game on TV while listening to another on the radio.

Bob's wife and family always came first in his eyes. He took pride in teaching all his grandkids how to ride a bike and eventually how to drive a car. Bob was also one to think about the legacy one leaves behind – one of the most special gifts he shared with his family was his book of memoirs.

Robert Teig Birkeland, 93, passed away on March 24, 2015 surrounded by his wife, family and friends in Story City, Iowa.

Bob is survived by his wife Mazel (Hoverstein) Birkeland of Story City; his children, Robert

(Zorica) Birkeland, Addison, IL; Carol (Kurt) Raymond, Cedar Falls, IA; Janet (Kevin) Baldus, Roland, IA; his grandchildren, Kevin Raymond, cedar Falls, IA, Britta, Raymond, Ankeny, IA, Karl Baldus, West Des Moines, IA Justin (Michelle) Baldus, Roland, IA; Laura (Clint) Henderson, Radcliffe, IA a great-granddaughter Brooklyn Henderson; and his sister Donna Lacowicz, St. Petersburg, FL

Bob was preceded in death by his parents Solomon and Dena (Teig) Birkeland; brother Ingvald Birkeland and sisters' Corene Larsen and Doris Johnson.

Cemetery

Roland Cemetery
59168 130th St.
Roland, IA, 50236

Events

MAR 27 Visitation 05:00PM - 07:00PM
Bethany Manor Chapel
212 Lafayette Ave., Story City, IA, US, 50248

MAR 28 Funeral Service 10:30AM - 11:30AM
Salem Lutheran Church
102 S. Main Street, Roland, IA, US

Comments



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Teig Birkeland.



March 28 at 10:45 AM



“ Bob aka Uncle Bob came into my life in 2014 and what an added surprise of warmth and kindness this extension became. I had the pleasure of seeing his handsome smile every morning and a kind and welcoming hug at the end of my day.....who could ask for more than that? Bob along with his sweet wife Mezel and their wonderful children, grandchildren and precious great granddaughter Brooklyn, made a strong and unique difference in my life. He will be immeasurably remembered and yet so greatly missed. My heartfelt condolences to you Mezel, you were and are eternally, the love of his life.

Darla



Darla Heller - March 26 at 07:20 PM



“ To Birkeland family,

My heartfelt sympathies to you all on the loss of your husband, dad, grandpa, etc.

Yes, I'll always remember Bob and Mazel at the press boxes for softball and basketball while I played for the Roland Rockettes ;)

Bob always had a huge smile on his face and I loved to hear him laughing.

What a wonderfully written obituary telling of all the pleasures he had in his life ... family, sports, etc. He was a man of many loves in his life.

May God comfort you all now and in the days, months, and years ahead. When you are missing him the most, get out your favorite videos hearing his voice/laughter and

watching his gestures and mannerisms. MAKE COPIES 1ST and file original ones away so they don't get worn out ok.

RIP BOB.



Betty Tungesvik Gordon - March 26 at 03:37 PM



“ Tim Christian is following this tribute.

Tim Christian - March 26 at 03:54 AM



“ Cindy Cole lit a candle in memory of Robert "Bob" Teig Birkeland



Cindy Cole - March 25 at 03:22 PM