



# Robert "Bob" Bozwell

SEP 10, 1934 - OCT 10, 2019



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## Robert "Bob" Bozwell

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Robert Friel Bozwell, Sr. passed away on Thursday, October 10th at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines at the age of 85. He was born on September 10th, 1934 to Cecil and Ursul Bozwell in Cincinnati, Iowa. He graduated from Cincinnati High School as class Valedictorian in 1952. He was joined in marriage to Barbara Wood of Exline, Iowa on July 4, 1953, celebrating 66 years of marriage in 2019. Robert and Barb would have four children, 6 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. Robert had several vocations, including working at the Daily Iowegian. In the late 1970's he and Barbara would get their real estate licenses and started Bozwell Realty, which became one of Centerville's most successful real estate businesses. But his passion was his work at the Centerville Fire Department. Starting as a volunteer fireman in 1963 and eventually becoming Fire Chief, he devoted 48 years with the Fire Department, retiring in 2011. He considered being Fire Chief as one of his greatest honors. In that role he reshaped the department through educational training. At one point during his tenure as Fire Chief, the Centerville Fire Department had the most firemen achieving the highest level of fire fighter certification in the entire state of Iowa. Robert was involved in several civic activities. He was a member of the Jaycees, an organization for young businessmen, for many years. He was very involved in Little League Baseball, coaching Reliable Culvert for several years. He was a member of the Sheriff's Posse, an organization of citizens that assisted in emergencies and disasters, including the Continental Flight 11 crash. In later years, he was a member of the Fraternal Order of Eagles. His hobbies included fishing, hunting, golfing, and wood working. Robert is survived by his wife Barbara, his daughter Cathy Whisler (Jerry), his oldest son Robert Bozwell, Jr. (Debbie), and his youngest son Dustin Bozwell (Karen), his grandchildren Mason Whisler (Taren), Corrie Wray (Justin), Jamie Fehring (Nick), Brinley Bozwell, and Braelyn Bozwell, and his great-grandchildren:



## Obituary

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Kiptyn Cox, Kirra Whisler, Dylan Whisler, Drew Whisler, Kyndal Wray, Kayleigh Wray, Mason Wray, McKinley Wray, Madilyn Wray, Samuel Fehring, and Alice Fehring, and great-great grandchild Bentley Levens. Robert was preceded in death by his parents Cecil and Ursul Bozwell, his sister Louise Reynolds, one son Chriss Bozwell, one granddaughter Nicole (Whisler) Cox, two brothers-in-law Joe Reynolds and Clyde Wood, and one nephew Richard Reynolds. Funeral service will be 1:00 pm, Thursday, October 17, 2019 at First United Methodist Church in Centerville with Rev. Brian Hargrave officiating. Interment will immediately follow at Oakland Cemetery, Pallbearers will be Robert Bozwell, Jr., Dustin Bozwell, Jerry Whisler, Mason Whisler, Justin Wray, and Nick Fehring. Honorary Pallbearers will be John Farrington, John Humphrey, Gary Golic, Larry Golic, Carlo Cossolotto, Jack Kauzlarich, and Joyce Davis. Visitation will be 2 hours prior to the service, from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Memorials may be made on Robert's behalf to the following organizations: Furever Friends Rescue of Appanoose, Inc., Centerville Fire Department, Oakland Cemetery/Chimes, EveryStep Hospice, or the First United Methodist Church of Centerville. Memorials may be sent to the Thomas Funeral Home and condolences may be shared at [www.thomasfh.com](http://www.thomasfh.com) or [facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome](https://www.facebook.com/thomasfuneralhome). To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Robert "Bob" Bozwell please visit our Sympathy Store. Cemetery Details Oakland Cemetery State St.

N. 21st St.

Centerville, IA 52544 Visitation OCT 17. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CDT) First United Methodist Church 410 North Main St. Centerville, IA

52544 <http://www.centervillefirst.org/> Funeral Service OCT 17. 1:00 PM (CDT) First United Methodist Church 410 North Main St. Centerville, IA

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## Tribute Wall

**Robert "Bob" Bozwell**

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**Thomas Funeral Home** posted:

October 21 at 11:54 AM



**Thomas Funeral Home** shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 12:27 PM



**Margery Davison** posted:

Bob is going to be greatly missed. Our condolences to the family. From Tony Shriver and Margery

October 17 at 7:00 PM



**Margery Davison** posted:

Bob was a great man and he his going to be greatly missed. Our condolences to the family. From the Ewing family Matthew, Margery and Marilyn

October 15 at 7:00 PM



**Carol J Flowers Carr** posted:

Barb and Family We were so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Although we were neighbors via our backyards we felt like we were right next door. You and Bob graciously welcomed the neighborhood kids for countless kickball games and other backyard activities. We couldn't have asked for better neighbors. Please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time of loss. May all your wonderful memories bring some joy and comfort to your hearts. The Flowers Girls-Debbie, Carol, and Diane

October 13 at 7:00 PM



**Norman And Kay Guffey** posted:

So sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Our sincere condolences to his family. Peace be with you.

October 13 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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RM

**Rex A Mcclanahan** posted:

Rex Mcclanahan and family purchased the Comfort & Light 30 Sonnet for the family of Robert Bob Bozwell.

October 11 at 7:00 PM

DL

**Dennis & Beverly Sisul Laurson** posted:

Dear Barb and Family, I always enjoyed waiting on Bob when he'd come in the office and check on real estate and sales, he was funny and it was a joy being around him. Please accept our sincere sympathy, and may your loving memories give you peace. Bev

October 11 at 7:00 PM

NT

**Nellie Thomas** posted:

Nellie Thomas sent a virtual gift in memory of Robert Bob Bozwell

October 11 at 7:00 PM

RA

**Rick Alexander** posted:

G

October 11 at 7:00 PM

FB

**Full Of Love Bouquet** posted:

Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert Bob Bozwell.

October 10 at 7:00 PM

JP

**Jerry Power** posted:

Absolutely one of the greatest men I've known, a real Prince of a Man! Our condolences to Barb and all of the Family! Back in 1983 I asked him and Barb if they would let me put my real Estate Sales License with them at Bozwell Realty. Bob said normally we don't but for you yes we would! Honesty and integrity best describe him! May you Rest in Peace Bob!!!

October 10 at 7:00 PM



## Media

**Robert "Bob" Bozwell**

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**Thomas Funeral Home** shared 2 photos to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 12:27 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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