



Robert Joseph Hensel

November 9, 1937 - December 6, 2021

Walnut - Robert Joseph Hensel, 84, passed away on a Monday, December 6, 2021, at his home.

Robert was born on November 9, 1937 in Princeton, IL to the late Verner and Lillian (Reynolds) Hensel. He was a graduate of Ohio High School, Class of 1955. He met and married the late Roberta Mae Wiggim on July 12, 1955, at the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Manlius, IL. She passed away July 12, 1989.

Bob was a lifelong farmer. Throughout the years he had milking cows, raised cattle and for more than 60 years, he raised pigs. The grandchildren and great grandchildren all loved to go to Papa Bob's to see the baby pigs. He was also a Seed Corn Dealer for PAG and Cargill Seed. He measured grain bins for several years and also installed carpet for Eckberg's Carpet in Walnut. He also grilled pork chops at the Princeton Homestead Festival for over 30 years.

He loved his family and friends and was always stopping in to visit and catch up with all his loved ones, never meeting a stranger and always willing to share his story.

Bob was a member of the Sportsman Club in Manlius, IL., he was also a member of several Antique and Steam Engine Clubs, way too many to name.

He served many different positions at the Limerick Cemetery including but not limited to President, Overseer and Treasurer. He was member of the Manlius Historical Society. He was also a very active member of his church, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Manlius.

Surviving Bob are his five children, Bettie Jo May of Princeton, IL, Robert J. Hensel of San Diego, CA, Richard Hensel of San Diego, CA, William (Arlene) Hensel of Princeville and Ronda (Kurtis) Geldean of Walnut, IL,; six grandchildren, Jared Shepard of Denver, CO, Branden Hensel of Princeville, Amber (Austin) Taylor of Brimfield, Taran (Michael) Cobb of Valdosta, GA, Sadie (Jacob) Robinder of Tampico, and Ellie Geldean of Walnut; two step grandchildren, Eric (Christine) May of Shorewood, IL and Brad (Sue) May of Peru, IL.; seven great grandchildren, Madison, Makenzie, Marleigh and Maddex Leopold, Brantley Taylor, Clea and Brooks Cobb; four step great grandchild, Gracie, Eastin, Ambria and Camden May; two sisters-in-law, Janice (Rod) Attig of Dixon, IL and Nancy (Jerry) Levitt of Wellsville, NY; as well as numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Preceding Robert in death are his parents, Verner and Lillian Hensel, his wife, Roberta (7/12/1989), one son in infancy, Johnny R. Hensel, two grandchildren, Angelia Shepard in infancy and Brett Shepard, one brother, Verner Eugene (1963) and one son-in-law, Danny May.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran church of Manlius, IL.

The services for Robert will be private per Robert and the family's request.

Online memorials and condolences may be directed to www.norbergfh.com

Arrangements by Norberg Memorial Home. Inc. & Monuments.

Tribute Wall

ED

“ I’m so sorry for this. Bob was such a good guy and neighbor. One day when I was alone, somebody knocked off my mailbox. What the heck was I going to do.? Early the next morning when I looked out the window, there was Bob fixing my mailbox. So nice and thoughtful. Elin Dumney

Elin Dumney - December 14, 2021 at 07:32 AM

RG

Well GUESS what! Last night I’m looking at Dad’s things, Elin! I found your Thank you for this in Dad’s thing—with a \$25 check Thanking him! He never cashed it! Hugs, Ronda

Ronda Geldean - December 19, 2021 at 10:10 AM

PG

“ WE are saddened to learn of Bobs passing. He was a neighbor and friend of our mom and dad, Paul and Ona Andersen, he often stopped by the farm and visited with them and mom always had the coffee pot on and usually some of her delicious pie, cinnamon rolls etc. He also farmed for them for a few years. For the past 20 years. we would see him often at the Manlius Historical Society where he would stop in if we were their working and chat. He often would bring in items of interest for the museum and always had story to tell. About 5 weeks ago he stopped in and hung a fall wreath on the outside picture window, said he wanted to brighten up the window. He carried in a heavy bench and table for the winter for us. He stopped in often to check on the building to make sure there were no leaks, he paid the neighbor kid to mow our lawn., etc. He did these things unannounced! Just did it! These are just a few of things he did for us! He was a kind and giving man and a Life-Time Member and friend of the Manlius Historical Society. We will miss him and his visits! Sincere Sympathy to Bob's family. You are all in our thoughts and prayers. Cherish all that was yours.! Pat Andersen Glafka, Sterling., IL Betti Andersen Appenzeller, Rock Falls, IL Robert Andersen, Rural Walnut, IL Friends and members of The Manlius Historical Society

Pat Glafka - December 12, 2021 at 09:08 PM

BA

As Pat Glafka wrote, our family will miss seeing Bob and chatting and of course appreciated so much all his help at the Manlius Historical Society. He did a lot of behind the scenes things and was so interested in keeping the bank in repair. He will be sorely missed by all of our members and especially our family. We are so saddened and extend our deepest sympathy to his family. RIP Bob.

Betti Appenzeller - December 13, 2021 at 04:42 PM

BM

Thank you so much

Bettie Jo May - December 13, 2021 at 10:02 PM

GV

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you.
So Sorry for Your Loss.
G. V.*



Gloria VanDenBerg - December 11, 2021 at 01:56 PM

BM

Thank you Gloria

Bettie Jo May - December 13, 2021 at 10:01 PM

LW

“ *Bob would stop in the happy spot during morel season looking for any extras or any advice where to find some. Always had a bag for him to enjoy. Will be missed.*

Larry Whitebread

larry whitebread - December 11, 2021 at 11:19 AM

BM

Thank you

Bettie Jo May - December 13, 2021 at 10:07 PM

MD

“ *Sorry to hear about Bob. Will always remember him taking a Pepsi break at Buelahs Tap. Also the fishing memories at Balsam Lake.
Thanks Bob.
Mark Donahue*

Mark Donahue - December 11, 2021 at 09:43 AM

BM

Thanks Mark.

Bettie Jo May - December 13, 2021 at 10:08 PM

BA

“ *Bob would stop in at Konz in at Konz every now and then for a Pepsi, we would talk what seemed forever, he was a great person and it was a pleasure knowing him he will be greatly missed, Rest in peace my friend.*

Bobbie Anderson - December 11, 2021 at 09:36 AM

DE

“ *Always loved visiting with Bob where ever we met up Sure am going to miss this man My Sympathy to the entire Family*

Doug Egan - December 10, 2021 at 07:35 PM

GK

“ *I was best man at Bob and Roberta's wedding. Bob would stop to see us here in Byron, when ever he was in the area. He was a great guy and a good friend. Rest in peace Bob George and Louise Krebs*

b

George Krebs - December 10, 2021 at 08:57 AM

BM

Thank you so much Kerry. He would mention that he would stop to see you. Take care.

Bettie Jo May - December 10, 2021 at 02:01 PM

JC

“ Farewell Bob. It was always a pleasure working with you. Your upbeat attitude and humor will be fondly remembered and missed. Our thoughts are with your family, and may they take comfort in each other.

Jacqui and Jack Coulter

J Coulter - December 10, 2021 at 07:36 AM

BM

Thank you so much Jack for everything.

Bettie Jo May - December 10, 2021 at 02:02 PM

SS

“ Heaven has received a new wonderful soul!! Bob loved his family and friends and he was loved by many!! He was a good friend of my dad and stepdad, hope you all meet up soon! I will never eat chilli again without thinking of him!! He loved Kevin's chilli, he would come early to chilli cook off in walnut to sneak some! He was very loved and will be missed by many!! Our love and prayers to his family and all his friend's!! He will always be with us, watching over all of us!!! RIP Bob, you were loved!!

Susan DeBroeck, Kevin Smith - December 09, 2021 at 06:38 PM

BM

Thank you so much

Bettie Jo May - December 13, 2021 at 10:09 PM

LA

“ *What a wonderful man and neighbor! Jimmy and I and the boys have many fond memories of Bob! We always looked forward to his visits up the road, and the kids were always thrilled to see what special treats he had to offer. The world will be a little less bright without Bob’s warm smile and a joyful “Howdy neighbor”. Our deepest condolences.*

Jimmy, Laurie, Keil, Dillon and Brodie Anderson

Laurie Anderson - December 09, 2021 at 03:49 PM

BB

We will surely miss our cousin Bobby. Happy we were able to hug him one more time this October. He will be missed.

Barbara Warfield Billings - December 09, 2021 at 05:23 PM

RD

*Bill and family,
All I can say is it was his time to go! God has it planned. I believe he knows when you’re coming into this world and the day you’re leaving, if it wasn’t for that I don’t think I can handle life. I’m sorry for your loss, but I bet he’s rejoicing in heaven as we speak.*

Raylene Dippel - December 09, 2021 at 09:38 PM

DB

Cherish the memories. My last funniest memory was a few years ago when he was doing a carpet job for me. A mouse came out of the roll and watching Bob chase that mouse down the steps from the second story. Rest In Peace Bob. Thanks for the memories.

Duane Blackert

Duane Blackert - December 10, 2021 at 12:00 PM

MD

Bill and Arlene and Family,

So very sorry to hear about your Dad. You will have many, many family memories.

Love and prayers.

Marge Dell

Marge Dell - December 10, 2021 at 06:37 PM