



Robert Bob G. Koch

June 28, 1932 - June 15, 2012

Robert G. "Bob" Koch, 79, Bismarck, passed away June 15, 2012, at St. Gabriel's Care Center, Bismarck. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:30 am Wednesday, June 20, at Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, 519 Raymond St, Bismarck, with Rev. John Guthrie and Rev. Shane Campbell officiating. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, Bismarck. Visitation will be held from 3:00 pm until 9:00 pm Tuesday, June 19, at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway, Bismarck, where a vigil will begin at 7:00 pm. Robert G. Bob Koch, was born on June 28, 1932, in Mandan, ND, the son of Joseph and Julia Hoffman Koch. He attended St. Joseph's Grade School and graduated from Mandan High School in 1950. Following his graduation, Bob worked with Bell Telephone for a short time, which led to him serving in the Korean War from 1951-1953 as a radioman. After Bob's discharge from the Army, he began working with Sweetheart Bakery as a salesman, and was the supervisor with Sweetheart for the N.D. and S.D. territory. Bob married Margaret Wald in Bismarck on September 4, 1954. In 1964 Bob and his partner Bob Hintz started Scotty's Drive- In and made a lifetime of friends and memories. They started the Downtowner Restaurant in 1972, and operated until 1978 when it was lost in a fire. During his ownership in the food business, Bob's employees were his extended family and he considered them dear friends. Bob always had a love of cars, and began in the car business with Corwin – Churchill Motors in sales until his retirement. Wanting to stay busy, Bob continued working and did specials with Cross Country Courier. Bob appreciated being

with family and friends, and enjoyed many years at their cabin on Brush Lake. He was a patriot who loved his country, and signified his families arrival at the lake with raising the American flag. In his later years, Bob battled some health issues, but he continued to retain his great sense of humor and his terrific smile. Bob had so many one-liners. And when you would ask him how he was doing. His response was always, "Better now that you're here." So when the Lord welcomed Bob into heaven and asked him how he was doing, Bob could say, "Better now that I'm here." Bob will be deeply missed by his family and friends who loved him very much. He is survived by his wife of nearly 58 years, Marge; their seven children, Patrick Lynette Koch, Bismarck; Michael Deb Koch, Bismarck; Thomas Judy Koch, Eagan, MN; Geri Ann Steve Reinert, Lake of the Woods, MN; Joseph Donna Koch, Burke, VA; Kenneth Kelly Koch, Germany; and Mary Rich Aboody, Cambridge, MN. His grandchildren, Ryan Natalie, Kortney, Kinzie, Matthew Kristen, Christopher Tonya, Shane, Hope Chris , Heidi Andrew, Holly, Steve, Alex, Samantha, Mariah, Jessica, Jennifer Dan, John, Heather, Hanna, Annalise, and Joseph; his great-grandchildren, Kendall, Kaleb, Kayden, Hannah, Hunter, ElleAahna, Deakyn, Mason, Bennett, and Carter; and a brother Ronald. Bob was preceded in death by his sons, Robert Scott and John; a stillborn son and daughter; and his brother, Lyle. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to the John Koch Memorial Fund established at Saint Marys Central High School.

Tribute Wall

TS

“ *May the Lord embrace your family.*

Terri Hancock Sterling - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ *Marge, Pat, and family: We are so sorry for the loss of Bob. We always remember his smile everytime we saw him. You are all like family to us, mom and jody, and Dad and Mitch too. Thank you for all you have done for mom the past several years also. She right now is up in Bottineau in the nursing home to rehab two ankle fractures. Mom said that Marge and Bob stopped by to see her at home several weeks ago. She was so glad that you stopped by. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Paula and Ross Gonitzke, Lou Schlaht*

Paula and Ross Gonitzke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ *Geri and family - I know the sorrow of losing a father. My Dad has been gone a little over 2 years and I still think about picking up the phone and calling him. I didn't know your dad very well, but my husband, Mike, had great things to say about him. Mike works at Cross Country and was the dispatcher when your Dad was there. I hope you find comfort in your memories and always keep your Dad in your heart.*

Peg Haug - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ I was so sorry to hear about Bob. I will always remember him as a hard worker and someone who always had a smile on his face. He was one of those people that you just never forgot. My prayers are with the family...God bless!

Margo Bennett - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ I loved Bob! He was my first boss at the Downtowner Restaurant when I turned 16. Bob was warm and gracious to everyone, he gave me my first nickname; Squirt. Bob made me feel like one of the family, he will truly be missed. Colleen Schmidt

Colleen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ Great guy. Knew him for a short time while in Bismarck.

Bryan Burcham - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ Aunt Marge and family, We just heard about Uncle Bob and wanted to you to know you are all in our thoughts and prayers. He was always special to me. Please keep in touch. Pam and Linda Koch family

Pamela R Koch-Focht - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Dear Marge and family, Prayerful sympathy to you all. Last evening's vigil service was a great tribute to Bob! He gave of himself freely, generously and lovingly. May he experience God's generous and loving welcome! May you keep his memory alive and may we who knew Bob, through his example of living life to the fullest, be more fully the persons we are called to be with God's good grace. Love, Sister Susan Lardy

Sister Susan Lardy - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ We are sorry for the loss of Bob. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Stephen Miller - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ To Kenny, Kelly, Heather, Hanna, Marge and the entire Koch family, Our hearts ache for you during this difficult time. You are in our thoughts and prayers---from Germany. Love, Brad and Michele Mason

Mason - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ My sympathy goes out to the Koch family. My assoication goes back a long way with Bob. I work for Mandan Steel and helped make the steel posts that made up part of Scottys and ate many meals with my family there and work as a bus boy at the Downtowner for a while. May God be with and Bless you all.

David Barth - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Dear Marge & Family So sorry to hear about Bob's passing. A lot of happy memories came to mind--going back way before Scotty's Drive Inn--You and your Family will be in our prayers John & Sharon Horott

John & Sharon Horott - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ So sorry to hear about your dad. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Shannon Kelley Sak - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Mary, I am sorry for the loss of your dad. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers. Laura, Scot, and Jake

Laura Hayer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Dear Koch Family, I don't think I ever saw Bob without a smile and his half moon twinkling eyes. He made work at the Downtowner fun with his wit and wisdom & had nick names for all of his "girls". He was the only car salesman you could call up and tell him what you had to spend and knew you had a good deal when you left. He was a very special man that touched a lot of lives and was loved by all, and I am proud to have known him. I know there's another angel in heaven now with a beautiful smile.

Jeff & Naomi Benz Turner Family - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KI

“ I have many memories of Uncle Bob smiling. He always smiled. I remember the restaurant & Scotty's Drive in, but mostly the house on Thayer. It was a magical place to me as a child. The last time I saw him, he had taken me to the Bismark airport & gave me one of those famous "bearhugs" and told me he loved me. And he really meant it. He genuinely loved his family unconditionally, no matter who or how long it had been in between visits. I will never forget him & his impact on a young & grateful girl from Idaho.

Kelly Wald Irving - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Joe, We are holding you and your family in our thoughts and prayers. Mark

Mark Bigham - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ My 1st job while attend high school was at Scotty's Drive In, and working for Bob I would have to say was a “ pleasure”!! I left for a short time to be a carry out at a grocery store because it paid more money, but came back to work for Bob. I learned early on money wasn't everything. Bob had several old cars and to the best of my knowledge I was the only employee that was ever allowed drive them. That's the kind of trust we had between each other. He was a great mentor. Tom

Tom Huber - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ Joe, May God wrap his loving arms around you and your family during this time of loss.

Terry Hazuda - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ *It is always so hard to say good-bye to someone so special in your lives. Luckily they leave us with treasured memories. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.*

Sue Linnemeyer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Sid, Brenda & family*

Brenda Miller - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SE

“ *Sorry to hear about your grandpa Kortney. You and your family will be in my prayers.*

Sally Ell - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AF

“ *Our deepest condolences for your loss. Our love and prayers for you all. May God bless you and watch over you in this time of need. Love- The Aboody Family-Richard, Sandra, Christian, Susan, Wayne, Denise, Alysia and CJ.*

Aboody Family - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Bob was always an amazing man that we were privileged to know! Matthew 11:28*

Kathy Miller - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Mrs. Koch, Mike and family. Some of the best memories I have today are "hanging" with the Koch family. Those days on the mouth of the heart river, Bob's boat on the river, Scottie's drive-in, the lake cabins from Heart Butte to Brush Lake, or working on cars in Bob's garage were the best. High School would not have been as much fun if it was not for the Koch family. I am deeply in debt to you, for I met my terrific wife through you guys !! You guys always treated us like we were one of your own, I thank you for that. Bob will be missed by many, but he will keep heaven a lively place for the time being. I am so sorry for your loss, you will be in our prayers. God bless you all. Your friends - Greg and Pam Scherr

Greg Scherr - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Joe, I am so sorry for your loss. I am sure your father will be missed. My prayers are with you and your family. Bernie

Bernie Frank - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Dear Marge and all the Koch family, My sympathy and prayers at this time Bob's death. His vibrancy, great smile, and love for his family will remain as memories forever.

Sister Kathleen Atkinson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RR

“ Bob showed me how to have fun on the water at an early age. He fostered a wonderful family environment in which friends and family alike learned and laughed together. God bless the Koch family.

Rick Robinson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Our thought and prayers are with you and your family. He is in Heaven what a wonderful place to be and is now at peace.

Joe & Mieke Derks - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Dear Marge and family, My prayerful sympathy! Bob was a great man, a great dad, compassionate and loving. How you will miss him. I am so sorry we Deanna and Matt and I missed seeing him at St. Gabriel's. Deanna felt especially sad about it. I pray for your strength and consolation. May God give you courage to go on with life as Bob would want you all to do. Prayers and love. Sister Susan Lardy

Sister Susan Lardy - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ To the Koch Family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Dieter Schad & Family - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Our prayers are with you and all of your family during this painful time.

Ken and Sherry Holden - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

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Ken and Sherry Holden - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM