



Robert H. Beacom

October 13, 1929 - June 26, 2022

Robert Harold “Bob” Beacom, 92, of Clare, died June 26, 2022, at Pioneer Golden Estates. Bob was born to Harold and Ruth (Clegg) Beacom on October 13, 1929, in Pickford, in the U.P. He was very proud of his hometown and the U.P. He married Lucienne “Lucky” Gervais on Dec. 8, 1950, in Rudyard. She passed away on Nov. 20, 2015, after almost 65 years of marriage.

He is survived by their four sons, Harold of Hendersonville, NC, William Raoul and Ronald (Lorraine) of Midland, Daniel (Jennifer) of Wayne, PA, six grandchildren, Andrew, Justin (Alayna), Nate (Erin), Kaitlyn (Brent), William (Laura), and Charlie; great-grandchildren, Reed, Luke, and Gwen, and many nieces and nephews. He’s also survived by Marlene Porter; they shared a blessed union for the past five and a half years.

He was predeceased by Lucky, their grandson, Joshua, his parents, his sisters and their spouses, Betty Jean (Ivan) and Greta (Dewey).

Bob was a graduate of Pickford High School. He attended Soo Tech, now called Lake Superior State, NMU, and graduated from Michigan State. He also graduated from the U of M’s banking school. Bob served in the United States Army.

Bob had three careers. He was the president and chief executive officer of Chemical Bank Michigan in Clare from 1980 through 1994. He joined Chemical Bank Michigan in 1974 as manager of the Coleman office. Prior to that, he had been a self-employed milk distributor for 14 years in mid-

Michigan. Before entering the milk business, Bob was an educator, first as a teacher at the age of 19 in a one-room schoolhouse in Stalwart. He then taught in Trout Lake, Coleman, and was the principal of Coleman Intermediate.

Bob was involved in the community. He served as chairman of the board of the Mid-Michigan Regional Medical Center-Clare, president of the Pardee Cancer Treatment Fund of Clare County, president and founder of the United Way of Clare County, board member of the CMU Development Fund, the Mount Pleasant Industrial Development Corp., MidMichigan Community College, and the Clare Kiwanis Club. He was one of the three "Wise Men" who led the effort to raise money to help build a new library in Clare along with A.J. Doherty and Rich Smith.

In retirement, winters were spent in Tucson, Arizona. In addition to his grandkids, Bob had many passions. First, the Detroit Red Wings. He'd tell the story of driving all day from the U.P. to Detroit with his parents to attend game seven of the Stanley Cup Finals in 1950. The Wings won on an overtime goal by the only American born player in the NHL at that time, Pete Babando. Bob enjoyed golf, scoring two hole-in-ones. At the age of 90, he and his partner, Ernie Slater, won their golf league. He loved tennis, playing for 30 years, starting in his early 50's, in the Clare Area Tennis League, and at the Midland Community Tennis Center. Bob attended performances of the Metropolitan Opera simulcast in theaters. We will miss playing cribbage with him.

Visitation will be held Monday, July 11, from 10:00-11:30am at the Doherty Hotel in Clare. A memorial service will follow at 11:30am. In lieu of flowers, contributions are encouraged to the Pere Marquette District Library or the Clare County Community Foundation. Arrangements were handled by the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. On-line condolences may be left at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 11. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Doherty Hotel and Conference Center
Clare, MI 48617

Celebration of Life

JUL 11. 11:30 AM (ET)

Doherty Hotel and Conference Center
Clare, MI 48617

Tribute Wall

HF

“ *Ron and the Beacom Family,
Sorry for your loss! We just happened to see the tribute while on the
Midland Daily News site. I met your Father only briefly on the golf
course once. We remember the Midland area fondly. Coleen
remembers your stories of going on the milk route with your father.
Our sincere condolence.
Coleen and Henry Fulks*

Henry Fulks - July 09, 2022 at 12:55 PM

TM

“ *I first met Bob when he was on the Clare Hospital Board and we
began affiliation discussions in 1972. Through his leadership and
several others we formed MidMichigan Health System. Then, for
years, Bob served as Chair of that board and represented Clare on
the holding company board . He was ALWAYS a great board
member and he, along with Larry Barco and some other key board
members, was responsible for much of the efforts to upgrade and
expand the Clare Medical Center.
I am eternally grateful for his leadership and friendship.
Terry Moore
Former President
MidMichigan Health System .*

Terry Moore - July 09, 2022 at 08:59 AM

MA

“ *We are so sorry Aunt Marlene for your loss. We love you!*

Mary and Matt

Mary - July 05, 2022 at 09:03 PM

BH

“ He will be missed. I didn't have him as a teacher, but he was our milkman for many years and I loved seeing him at the bank.

BRUCE HALES - June 30, 2022 at 06:36 AM

FM

“ When we first became "WEB" (winter economic boosters) to Tucson, I was introduced to Bob and Lucky and became the fourth member of a golf croup. I was new at golf and Bob was kind, patient and very supportive. One day we played at the challenging Fred Enke course. Bob was the oldest and the best. We started in 90 degrees but about the 8th hole, the sky clouded over and a torrential rain started to fall. By the time we finished the 9th all were soaked through. No one had the courage to quit, so at the transition to the 10h we entered the Golf Store, purchased dry shirts and headed out again. If Bob could do it, so could we. Later he admitted he had wanted to quit but was not going to let these younger ones think he was a quitter. The pro in the shop laughed at the four crazy golfers going out into the rainstorm to continue play. It became the story for the future but all agreed no more macho playing in storms. We played many of the different courses around Tucson and always enjoyed the company. We also shared many an evening with our wives at restaurants. Bob will be remembered for his wit and as a true gentleman. How blessed he was to have been loved by his Lucky for so many years and then in his twilight years by Marlene. We miss you, Bob. May you make many more "Holes in One" in heaven. Rest in peace good friend.

Felix and Agnes Maguire

Felix and Agnes Maguire - June 30, 2022 at 12:48 AM

JB

I knew Bob for many years as he was a good friend of my families. I got to know Bob in my seventh grade year when he was a principal as I was in his office many times. Bob and Lucky were great people.

jack Brugger - June 30, 2022 at 07:31 AM

JD

“ I had known Bob and Lucky for many, many years. No matter when I would run into them it was just like I had visited with them yesterday. I saw Bob just three days before his death and we had such a good visit. Thank you Marlene for sharing your life with Bob, he smiled every time your name was mentioned. May he rest peacefully.

Joanne Dana - June 29, 2022 at 05:23 PM

EM

*“ Ron, Charlie and the Beacom family.
I grieve for your double loss in a week's time.
I met "Bob" when Ron and Charlie brought him down to play some cribbage with the Midland Cribbage Club a couple of years ago. He made about 20 new friends that night. Is anyone surprised? Such an unassuming man - and he played a mean game of cribbage!
May he be at peace now.
Eric McPeak*

Eric McPeak - June 29, 2022 at 11:07 AM

RH

“ Bob and Marlene were favorites in our circle of friends in the Summertree community in Tucson. We all loved Bob with his witty humor and story telling.

Ruth Hanon - June 29, 2022 at 11:07 AM

KE

“ *Mr Beacom was my neighbor growing up and our families played many ball games in what was known as BEACOMS field. And I remember Bill and Ron during summers driving the ice cream bicycle around the neighborhood.. we couldn't wait to by something. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.*
Kc and Kris Eagly

Kris Eagly - June 28, 2022 at 07:33 PM

SN

“ *I met Bob on the golf course way back in the 1980s. He was visiting Ron in Rochester. That kind demeanor and an absolutely sweet swing were two things that struck me immediately. Reading some of the tributes posted here affirm my initial impressions. He insisted on my calling him Bob. He was one of those guys who lived by the philosophy that a stranger is a friend you haven't met yet. God bless Bob, and our kind wishes to Ron, Rainey, and family.*

Steve Newvine - June 28, 2022 at 06:27 PM

PG

“ *Bob was my Jr. High principal. He and Lucky were long time friends of my parents. God rest their souls.*

Paul Graveline - June 28, 2022 at 05:59 PM

JM

“ *Another community icon has left us.
Thank you for all of your involvement.
You will be missed.
Sincerely Sharon and Jeff Michels*

jeff michels - June 28, 2022 at 02:48 PM

MG

“ *Such a sweet uncle. Thank you for being apart of our family.*

Mary and Randy Gersten - June 28, 2022 at 01:34 PM