



Robert W. Schellhas

January 1, 1928 - May 27, 2012

Robert (Bob) William Schellhas, 84, of Clare passed away peacefully at sunset on Sunday, May 27th surrounded by his family.

Bob was a devoted husband, raised a wonderful family, served his country, operated successful businesses, and was a dedicated servant to his church and community. His faith in God and love of family and country were at the center of his life.

He is survived by his loving wife of 53 years, Joyce Marie (Kleinhardt) Schellhas, his daughter Tamara (Tammy) Jo Haynak and husband Kevin, his son Robert (Bobby) Jay Schellhas and wife Caroline, his four grandchildren, Krista Marie Haynak, Aaron Robert Haynak, Ella Eaton Schellhas and Vivian Rose Schellhas, his mother-in-law Vera Kleinhardt, sisters-in-law Carol (Tom) Beatty, Gayla (Del) Wiley, Karen (Mike Ireland) Kleinhardt, brother-in-law Jay (Karen) Kleinhardt, and dozens of nieces and nephews. Bob also leaves behind the hundreds of friendships he forged in a life that spanned more than eight decades.

Born to John William and Rosine Theodora (Poellet) Schellhas on January 1, 1928, in Frankenmuth, Michigan, Bob was the youngest of their five children. His parents, his brother Walter Schellhas, and sisters Edna Kaul, Helen Zeilinger, and Mildred Asbury preceded him in death.

Growing up during the Great Depression and World War II in a community settled by German families in the 1800s, Bob spoke both English and German as he attended St. Lorenz Lutheran School, where he was confirmed in the

Church on Palm Sunday of 1942. He graduated from Saginaw's Arthur Hill High School in 1946. Bob moved to Clare, Michigan the next year, where he worked for his father at the Kraft Foods Company.

During the Korean War, Bob enlisted in the US Air Force and served four years, including stints at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, Ellington Air Force Base in Houston, Texas, and an eighteen-month assignment to Tripoli, Libya in North Africa. He was honorably discharged in 1954 having achieved the rank of staff sergeant.

Bob returned to Clare in 1955 and opened his first Sunoco gas station at the corner of McEwan and John R Streets. In business for more than 30 years, he at one time had three full service gas stations in Clare and Coleman that also maintained and repaired vehicles, sold hunting and fishing supplies, and rented U-Haul trucks and trailers.

On September 6, 1958, he married Joyce, his partner in life and business. Together, they raised children Tammy and Bobby, living their entire life in Clare, and being active in the church, community, and schools.

Bob never retired from a life of work. Though spending a few winter months with family and friends in Alamo, Texas, he has maintained a business selling chemical supplies and paper products to businesses and schools in mid-Michigan for more than 25 years.

Bob was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 5738, served as an All-State Post Commander and for many years participated and commanded the honorary color guard for Clare's Memorial Day and the funerals of fellow veterans. He was also a member of the American Legion, Post 150, in Frankenmuth.

Active in Michigan politics for a number of years, Bob served as Chairman of the Clare County Republicans, was involved in several candidates' political campaigns, and was elected a Delegate to the 1992 Republican National Convention.

His community involvement over the years included: Member and Past-President of the Clare Rotary Club, the Clare County Board of Social

Services, currently a member of the Clare County Jury board since 1998, the Board of Directors of the Clare Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Gasoline Retailers Association, the City of Clare Auxiliary Police Force, had been a member of the Clare Irish Festival Committee, and he and Joyce had been honored as Parade Marshalls of the Summerfest Parade of 2003.

Bob was committed to the youth of Clare through his support of the Clare High School Athletic programs and the Clare County 4-H Youth Fair. He also hired many Clare High School students to work in his gas stations where they learned the value of hard work and interacting with people in a business setting.

Bob's ability and love to engage with people of all ages and from all walks of life to discuss politics, religion, family, or just to exchange common pleasantries, is a hallmark of his life respecting others, and caring for his family, friends, and fellow man.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church or the City of Clare Historic Depot Preservation Project.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, June 1, 2012 at 11 AM from the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church with pastors Ted Voll and Dennis Bromley officiating. Burial will be in the Cherry Grove Cemetery, in Clare. Friends may visit with the family on Thursday, May 31, from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 PM at the Clare Chapel of Stephenson-Wyman Funeral Home. If you are unable to attend, you are invited to sign the Schellhas family online condolence register at www.stephenson-wyman.com

Cemetery Details

Cherry Grove Cemetery

1000 Cedar St.
Clare, MI 48617

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 31. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)
1005 North McEwan St.
Clare, MI 48617
(989) 386-7451
wymanhf@chartermi.net
<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

Visitation

MAY 31. 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Stephenson - Wyman Funeral Home (Clare)
1005 North McEwan St.
Clare, MI 48617
(989) 386-7451
wymanhf@chartermi.net
<https://www.stephenson-wyman.com/>

Service

JUN 1. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
10333 S. Clare Avenue
Clare, MI 48617

Tribute Wall



“ My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Will miss seeing him in his "favorite seat" in the bleachers at the Pioneer football games this fall.##imported-begin##Eileen Brow##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



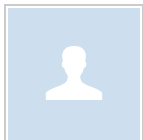
“ I worked for Bob my junior and senior year at Clare. He taught me responsibility and a life long work ethic. I'll miss seeing him and talking to him at Clare sporting events.##imported-begin##Larry Ruby##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ We extend our sincere sympathy to Joyce, Tammy and Bobby and their families. Bob was truly a nice man and always enjoyed conversations and joking around with him. Our Son Ed was one of those students that worked for him and learned many lessons. After learning to weld at Mid he never had trouble finding a job and we are sure that part of that was the work ethics he learned from Bob. Sincerely, Nancy and Lee Eisenhauer##imported-begin##Lee and Nancy Eisenhauer##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ The Kratt family extends his condolences and prayers to the Schellhas family.##imported-begin##The Kratt Family##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Please know that friends and family are with you at this most difficult time. My prayers and sympathy are with you and your family.##imported-begin##Linda Chinavare##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Joyce and family, all of us at Stephenson-Wyman will miss our frequent visits with Bob. He was a good neighbor when he ran the gas station next door. No one was a fussier detailer on my dad's vehicles than Bob. I've often heard it said that "if you could hire an employee that was trained by Bob Schellhas you would have a well trained and valuable employee that knew how to work. Rest in Peace Robert.##imported-begin##Larry Wyman Jr.##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Bob's death. It was surprising to us as the last time we saw him he looked good. He didn't mention he was sick. Thinking of Joyce and the family at this time. We will keep you all in our thoughts and prayers. Bob will be missed.##imported-begin##Jeanine Helmer##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Joyce and family, my deepest condolences on Bob's passing. It was truly a pleasure to do business with Bob over the last several years and I will miss his booming voice as he would always make a point of coming into the lobby and loudly voicing the fact that my prices were too high. He would make sure he said it loudly enough that I could here from my office. My reply would always be "Bob, if your looking for sympathy call your buddy Obama". I am sure you can imagine where the conversation went from that point. I will remember with great fondness our conversations of business, politics and high school sports. He truly was a great man. Scott Schafer, Bear Packaging###imported-begin##Scott Schafer / Bear Packaging###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ NULL###imported-begin##NULL###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Dear Joyce, Tammy and Bobby:I am so sorry to hear about Bob. Even though it has been many years, he isn't someone you can forget. Beneath his exterior he really was a big-hearted person and I learned alot from my years at the station with him. He will be missed. Please accept my condolences for your loss.###imported-begin##Tom Collom###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Bob was a true and dear friend to all who knew him. Our prayers go out to the family, he will be missed by so many who at one time or the other crossed paths with him down thru the years.##imported-begin##K. C. Green##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Bob was my first long term employer. I worked for him at Bob's Sunoco and Sporting Goods from 1974 to 1976. He gave me latitude in sales and an opportunity to learn about business and cars, together! Thanks, Bob. God Bless you. Rest in Peace.##imported-begin##Mike Collom##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ I'm sorry to hear that Bob has passed on, but he is surely in the loving arms of our Lord. I knew Bob to always demand emphatically that we, as Christians, do what was RIGHT, not what was convenient. I admired his dedication and convictions. My love and condolences to my friend Joyce and the rest of the family.##imported-begin##Sue Campbell##imported-end##

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“ Bob was a wonderful man and will be missed. He would always stop me on the street to say hello and ask how I was doing. May God bless Bob and his family.##imported-begin##Monica Rouech##imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ I THOUGHT THE WORLD OF BOB AND SO GLAD HE CALLED ME A FEW WEEKS AGO AND WE CHATTED FOR AWHILE.....HE WAS ONE SUPER FRIEND.....I WILL MISS HIM AT WINTER RANCH.....YOUR REPUBLICIAN BUDDY###imported-begin##GENE BROWN###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Our sympathy to Joyce and family.###imported-begin##Dick Albertson###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of your husband, father and friend. The times he visited us here in Washington are memorable - he was such a lovely spirit. He will be missed by everyone he touched. My thoughts and prayers are with you.###imported-begin##Amy Lozupone###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ I have had the great pleasure to know Bob for the past several years. He always had a smile (and an opinion) to share. He will be missed by all who knew him. My deepest sympathy is with the family.###imported-begin##Gina Hamilton###imported-end##

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“ Just learned of Bob's passing. We remember your family from Prince of Peace even though we have been gone since 1979. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May God give you peace in knowing your loved one is safe in His loving arms.
Chuck and Eileen Root###imported-begin##Chuck and Eileen Root###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Joyce and FamilyWe will miss Bob and our conversations about politics, work ethics, his love of camping (?) and just general things.Somewhat I would like to think he has gotten into a conversation in heaven with Ronald Reagan, Abe Lincoln and maybe Dwight Eisenhower about the state of affairs....wouldnt one like to be able to listen in? Our thoughts and Prayers are with you..###imported-begin##Bob and Sylvia Kern###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Dear Mrs. Schellhas and family, We're keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. Words seem inadequate but I hope that knowing Bob is in a much better place brings you some comfort from your distress.Love, The Krieger FamilyPam, Mick, Barb and Bill###imported-begin##Pam and Mick Krieger###imported-end##

May 28, 2012 at 07:25 PM



“ Dear Joyce, Tammy, Bob and the entire Schellhas family. It was with great sadness that I heard of Bob's passing. He was a true Patriot and a great American. My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time, with the hope that time and the comfort of family and friends will help ease the pain of your loss.##imported-begin##Henry Gandy##imported-end##

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