



William Robert "Bob" Arington

June 3, 1932 - July 4, 2020

William Robert "Bob" Arington, age 88 years, a resident of Vienna, passed away Saturday, July 4, 2020 at 1:25 AM at his home.

Bob, as he was affectionately known by his family and friends, was born on June 3, 1932 on Cane Island on the banks of the Mississippi River near Wickliffe, Kentucky. He was the son of Arthur Robert and Hazel Marie (Lyons) Arington.

On August 4, 1972 Bob was united in marriage to Edwina Henson in Harrisburg, Illinois. She survives.

Other survivors include- his four children: Robbie Arington Lewis (John) of Florence, Alabama, Cindy Arington Greer of Tampa, Florida, Julie Arington Foster (Erik) of Steamboat Springs, Colorado and Laura Arington-Newbold (Brent) of Cincinnati, Ohio; 5 grandchildren- Amanda Lewis Beiler (Scott), Rachel Greer May (Sean), Rebekah Greer Jackson (Jared), Peter William Foster and Alden Elias Foster; 3 great-grandchildren- Asher Kaeden May, Emery Kate May and Cole Harrison Jackson; a sister- Oretha Bass of Wickliffe, Kentucky and a nephew- Bruse Bass of Wickliffe, Kentucky.

In addition to his parents, Bob was preceded in death by- a brother-in-law- James Edward Bass and a nephew- Larry Bass.

Bob was honorably discharged from the United States Air Force and had served stationed in Europe during the Korean War.

Bob earned his Bachelor's degree with a double major in education and physical education, and his Master's degree in education from Murray State University. Mr. Arington began his teaching career in Eminence, Kentucky and taught from 1960-1965. He taught in the Cairo High School from 1965-1969. He later went on to teach at Vienna High School from 1969 until his retirement in 1993. Throughout his career, he primarily taught Science and Biology and was a successful football and basketball coach. Mr. Arington also was the chartering teacher for the Vienna High School's Ecology Club. He and his family took many students on educational trips to Everglades National Park in Florida during spring break. This had a big impact on many of the students and remains a favorite memory for many.

Bob was a member of the Illinois Education Association, the National Education Association and a member of the Johnson County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Bob was a longtime, faithful member of the First Baptist Church of Vienna. He was instrumental in founding the Food Pantry Program that helped many families in need. He was a longtime volunteer and supporter. He was a loving husband and father. He always made a point to call his daughters on their birthdays to sing Happy Birthday every year.

Bob enjoyed reading, fishing, hunting, camping, farming, traveling, bird watching and enjoying the outdoors. He loved eating fried fish and Italian cream cake for his birthdays.

Visitation will be held at the Vienna Fraternal Cemetery, Friday, July 10, 2020 from 9AM-10AM. A Graveside service will immediately follow at 10AM at the Vienna Fraternal Cemetery. Pastor Travis Wilson will officiate. Military honors will be accorded.

Memorials may be made to Vienna First Baptist Church (Food Pantry program), P.O. Box 727, Vienna, Illinois 62995.

Cemetery Details

Vienna Fraternal Cemetery

N. 6th Street
Vienna, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 10. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Vienna Fraternal Cemetery
N. 6th Street
Vienna, IL

Graveside Service

JUL 10. 10:00 AM (CT)

Vienna Fraternal Cemetery
N. 6th Street
Vienna, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington*



Bailey Funeral Home - August 07, 2020 at 04:51 PM



“ *William Robert "Bob" Arington*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM



“ *Mr. Arington was one of a kind. The very best teacher I have ever had. So many wonderful memories in his class. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.*

Tara Evans - November 09, 2021 at 08:40 PM



“ *Tara Evans lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington*



Tara Evans - November 09, 2021 at 08:38 PM

MB

“ Mr. Arrington ignited in me a love of Biology and became a mentor for a young person developing interests in environmental protection that remains today. He had a faith in me that made my backbone a little stronger, and my mind determined to understand the need to protect the environment and encouraged my ideas to put that into action. At one time the governor of Illinois proposed to allow coal mining in the Shawnee National Forest. With his stamp of approval, the Ecology Club launched a letter writing campaign in opposition. At an Ecology Club meeting one day each member hand wrote a letter to governor protesting any coal mining in the forest. Mr. Kinkaid allowed the club to keep the letters in the safe in the office. Each morning for over 100 days I would go into the safe, take one letter, and place it in outgoing mail. Mr. Arrington was always standing outside his classroom door next to the office and would see me do it. As I came out of the office, every morning, he would wink at me as if to say "you go girl". I admired and respected him very much!

-Myra Wood Bennett

Myra Wood Bennett - December 09, 2020 at 10:17 PM

VS

“ I have great memories of the trip to the Everglades with the Arrington family and the High School Ecology Club in a school bus! And also later chance meetings when we had a chance to reminisce and talk of White Pelicans at Mermet. Condolences to the family of Bob. Virginia Street

Virginia Street - July 27, 2020 at 05:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Robert "Bob" Arington.*



July 09, 2020 at 11:27 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Robert "Bob" Arington.*



July 09, 2020 at 10:39 PM



“ *Never did get tired of hearing Bob tell about the miracle God did when He healed their little girl of cancer. He always said God spoke to him and told him that everything was going to be alright. And it was! God bless you all at this difficult time.*

Karen Carlton - July 08, 2020 at 08:56 PM



“ *Mr. Arington always had a smile on his face and brought joy to the hallway down by the office! Cindy and family I am sorry for your loss.*

Joyce Casper Teich - July 08, 2020 at 06:23 PM

SS

“ Susie Smith lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Susie Smith - July 08, 2020 at 04:46 PM

PE

“ In my memory of high school, Mr. Arington always had a smile on his face, and was a cheerful guide to the class material. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Pam Enoch - July 08, 2020 at 01:04 PM

KE

“ Karen Elder lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Karen Elder - July 07, 2020 at 06:59 PM

BF

“ Brandi Fisher lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Brandi Fisher - July 07, 2020 at 06:54 PM



“ Valerie Kinkade Warmath lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Valerie Kinkade Warmath - July 07, 2020 at 06:38 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of William Robert "Bob" Arington.



July 07, 2020 at 11:25 AM



“ Tom And Carmen Murrie lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Tom and Carmen Murrie - July 07, 2020 at 10:39 AM



“ So sorry for you loss. Prayers for the family. Even with the short few years that I knew Bob, he will always hold a special place in my heart. Luv you Edwina.



Maria Vaughn - July 07, 2020 at 12:57 AM

MP

Sorry for your loss. Prayers 🙏🙏🙏

Marty Powers - July 08, 2020 at 11:07 AM

AB

“ Anita Bullock lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Anita Bullock - July 06, 2020 at 10:37 AM

ME

“ Mr. Arrington was a wonderful teacher and he inspired so many to love biology. I had such a good foundation In science because he encouraged learning in the classroom and outside as well. Lessons from ecology club has always been with me. Recycling, reusing, conserving-always relevant! Thank you Mr. Arrington!



Marie Kerr Emery - July 05, 2020 at 11:07 PM

GW

“ Gayla Warren lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Gayla Warren - July 05, 2020 at 09:05 PM

GW

“ *Mr. Airington was my favorite teacher in high school. He always teased me in biology class calling me ski foot. Said I had big feet. He brought fun and laughter to our class and cared about all of the students. He will always be remembered and missed. Prayers for his family.*

Gayla Warren - July 05, 2020 at 09:04 PM

RH

“ *He was a fun teacher, fond memories. A wonderful man. We are sending you and the girls our prayers. Robert and Crystal Heal*

Robert and Crystal Heal - July 05, 2020 at 08:11 PM

SG

“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. May God be with your family during this hard time.*



Sondra Goins - July 05, 2020 at 05:57 PM

KT

“ *Mr. Arington always had the best sense of humor with the gleam of mischief in his eyes. I remember when the biology lab was infested with brown recluse spiders. He let me take one home to show my folks. Made me promise not to tell. 😎 Never did till now.*

Kim Tucker - July 05, 2020 at 05:11 PM

SN

“ Sam Riley And Deb Newton lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Sam Riley and Deb Newton - July 05, 2020 at 11:14 AM

 Sue Martin White

I will Never forget the the card Bob gave me. OR HIS STRONG FAITH IN JESUS!!

Sue Martin White - July 05, 2020 at 02:11 PM

TK

“ Tara Koker-Noia lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Tara Koker-Noia - July 05, 2020 at 11:04 AM

RR

“ Prayers for your family at this sad time

Rick and Janice Reynolds - July 05, 2020 at 08:44 AM

DP

“ Davis And Pat Prewitt lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Davis and Pat Prewitt - July 05, 2020 at 08:00 AM

JT

“ *Janis Tapley lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington*



Janis Tapley - July 05, 2020 at 01:39 AM

MB

“ *He was a awesome teacher! Also spent some lunch times in detention with him! He would always joke with me and say "what the heck have you done now".lol! Prayers to all the family!*

Marlene Belden - July 05, 2020 at 12:42 AM

MP

“ *Thank you Mr. Arington for the memories we shared with your family. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Edwina, Bobbie, Cindy, Julie and Laura.*



Matthew Prewitt - July 05, 2020 at 12:32 AM

TA

“ *Teresa Anderson sent a virtual gift in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington*



Teresa Anderson - July 05, 2020 at 12:24 AM

VR

“ Vickie Russo lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Vickie Russo - July 05, 2020 at 12:13 AM

FH

“ Frederick And Betty Heaton lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Frederick and Betty Heaton - July 04, 2020 at 11:17 PM

LM

“ Larry And Carolyn McGill lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Larry and Carolyn McGill - July 04, 2020 at 10:47 PM

TT

“ Tara Gulley Thompson lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington



Tara Gulley Thompson - July 04, 2020 at 08:44 PM

TM

“ *Mr. Arington was one of My Favorite Teachers....Sending Thoughts and Prayers to ALL of you*



Theresa McKenzie-Trovillion - July 04, 2020 at 08:31 PM

SH

“ *So sorry to hear of Bob's passing, thoughts and prayers for all the family during this difficult time.*

Merrel & Sharon Henson

Sharon Henson - July 04, 2020 at 05:40 PM

CT

“ *Carla Tapley lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bob" Arington*



Carla Tapley - July 04, 2020 at 05:35 PM