

## Jeffrey Allen Robles

April 21, 1955 - January 24, 2017

Jeffrey Allen Robles, 61, of Bluffton, died Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017, at the University Nursing Center in Upland, Indiana.

A lifelong resident of Wells County, he was born on April 21, 1955 in Bluffton to Alfred P. and Martha Louise (Sliger) Robles.

He graduated from Bluffton High School in 1973 as one of the greatest football players in BHS history. His senior year on the Tiger football team, Jeff scored 20 touchdowns and set school records in scoring with 137 points and rushing, with 1,335 total yards.

For his senior season, he totaled a record 2,065 yards in rushing, receiving and handling punts and kick-off returns.

He also was an outstanding performer on Tiger basketball and track and field teams. In track and field, he was the first Tiger athlete to clear 12 feet 10 inches in the pole vault, setting a BHS school record in 1972.

Jeff had a passion for football all of his life and was an avid Chicago Bears fan. He was a former assistant coach with Bluffton High School football teams. He also was a founder of the Wells County PeeWee Football League. He also was involved with coaching girls softball teams in the summer months.

Jeff was employed at Corning Glass Works, including a period at a Corning plant in South Korea. He also was employed at Towne Air Freight and Rock Leasing.

Jeff is survived by three daughters, Kayla (Bryant) Ponchot of Greenwood, Janette (Curt) Funk of Gas City, and Leah (Brandon) Huggins of Greenville,

South Carolina.

Also surviving are grandchildren Kyler and Camden Funk, Brecken Ponchot and Mia Huggins.

Additional survivors are a sister Judy (Harold) Wheeler of Bluffton, and two brothers Michael (Carol) Robles of Hartford City and Anthony "Tony" (Camelia) Robles of Domestic. Also surviving is a sister-in-law, Mary Robles of Fort Wayne. Other survivors include numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Dennis.

Funeral services and calling will be on Friday, January 27, 2017 at Thoma/Rich Lemler Funeral Home. Calling will be from 12 noon to 5 p.m. The funeral service will begin at 5 p.m. with Pastor Tony Robles officiating.

Burial will be at a later date at Six Mile Cemetery.

Preferred memorials are to the Bluffton Athletic Boosters Club.

Funeral services have been entrusted to the care of Thoma/Rich Lemler Funeral Home. Friends can send online condolences to the family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Six Mile Cemetery

4795 SE State Road 116  
Bluffton, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 27. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

## Service

JAN 27. 5:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - January 27, 2017 at 02:03 PM



“ *Jeffrey Allen Robles*

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September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Jeff and I played together on the BHS basketball team. Each of us would push the other in practice to the point of exhaustion. A great competitor who was always positive and well liked by all. I will always have the great memories of Jeff in competition and his infectious smile. Rest in peace.*

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**Tim Reusser** - January 29, 2017 at 06:14 PM



“ *Valerie Wilson Jackson lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



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**Valerie Wilson Jackson** - January 28, 2017 at 05:40 PM

KN

“ Little Jon and I met Jeff at rock leasing. He quickly became a close friend. We will miss him dearly. Rest in paradise my friend. Our condolences to his family.



Kayla Nordman - January 28, 2017 at 12:03 PM



“ Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Allen Robles.



January 27, 2017 at 02:27 PM

BG

“ Brett Garrett lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



Brett Garrett - January 27, 2017 at 01:34 PM

BG

Jeff Robles was one of the many BHS athletes whom I looked up to and admired as a young boy.

Brett Garrett - January 27, 2017 at 01:37 PM

BM

“ *Becky Moore lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



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**Becky Moore** - January 27, 2017 at 01:32 PM

HJ

“ *My condolences to the family...Howard Vaughn, Jr. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

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**Howard Vaughn, Jr** - January 27, 2017 at 09:34 AM

TM

“ *I remember the days of Jeff pole vaulting in the back yard and boy he liked to rub it in once he could go higher than everybody. I do remember playing basketball with him at our garage basketball court and boy could he steal the ball from me without even looking. I have thousands of memories with him. One Halloween when we were older he was embarrassed to go, so we found an old cardboard box that covered our faces and went anyway. Jeff, you will be missed.*

*Tony Miler*

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**Tony Miller** - January 27, 2017 at 09:07 AM



“ *Simply Lily was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Allen Robles.*



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January 27, 2017 at 08:40 AM

JK

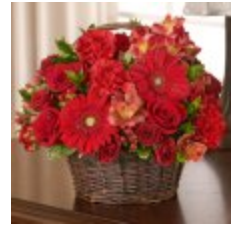
“ *Joan Kelly lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



Joan Kelly - January 27, 2017 at 07:40 AM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All Red was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Allen Robles.*



January 26, 2017 at 09:56 PM



“ *Garden Accent Stone - "Your memory is..." was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Allen Robles.*



January 26, 2017 at 09:21 PM

DE

“ *A great competitor. A super nice guy. I am sorry for your loss.*  
*Dennis Elick*

Dennis Elick - January 26, 2017 at 06:53 PM

SB

“ Sharon (Holley) Bennett lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



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**Sharon (Holley) Bennett** - January 26, 2017 at 06:03 PM

SM

“ Jeff and rest of the Robles lived across the street, and became childhood friends with Denny, Jeff (J-myleg) Tony and Mike. Spent nearly all summer evenings with the Robles. Jeff learned to polevault in our back yard (dad built a pit and we used bamboo poles)..also I did beat him once or twice in hoops. A great time to grow up on the wrong side of the tracks..following the bug sprayer jeep around the neighborhood and playing home run derby with whiffle balls in our backyard with the Robles. Miss you old friend and will see you in heaven. Stan Miller

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**stan miller** - January 26, 2017 at 04:18 PM

PC

“ Peggy Crosbie lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



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**Peggy Crosbie** - January 26, 2017 at 03:03 PM

JF

“ Joe Farling lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



Joe Farling - January 26, 2017 at 02:20 PM



“ White Sympathy Baskets was purchased for the family of Jeffrey Allen Robles.



January 26, 2017 at 01:52 PM

LJ

“ Love, Aunt Julie purchased the Plants-A-Plenty for the family of Jeffrey Allen Robles.



Love, Aunt Julie - January 26, 2017 at 12:44 PM

N(

“ Nicole (Nicky) purchased the Peaceful Wishes for the family of Jeffrey Allen Robles.



Nicole (Nicky) - January 26, 2017 at 11:46 AM

DW

“ *My thoughts and prayers to all of Jeff's family.*

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**Deb (Trimble) Wasyk** - January 26, 2017 at 10:18 AM

TZ

“ *the Beaty's Jared, Sara & Zelmo purchased the P  
eace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for  
the family of Jeffrey Allen Robles.*



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**the Beaty's Jared, Sara & Zelmo** - January 26, 2017 at 08:16 AM

MP

“ Jeff was a very good friend. I was fortunate to be able to share the backfield with Jeff and have always stated that Jeff Robles was the best all-around athlete I played with or coached in my careers. Jeff was not a fast 40 guy; however, his quickness to be missed by a tackler or avoid the direct hit was exceptional. Jeff was durable, competitive, supportive, and a great teammate. Jeff was tough. Jeff Robles never sought out a fight or was a bully in any fashion; yet, he was fearless and backed down from no one.

Coach Modlin and the Bluffton football team played very few sophomores on the varsity. Jeff played all year on the JV team and was moved up to the varsity after the JV season. In his first game on the varsity, Coach Modlin had Jeff return kick-offs. Against a very good Blackford team, Jeff ran two kick-offs back for TDs that night and we beat them on our plush Wilson Field (The Tiger Turf). I was at the South Adams Relays the night Jeff had a fiber glass pole explode on him during a jump. It sounded like a shot gun . . . some athletes may have become a bit hesitant to continue; but, Jeff laughed and continued with the same aggressive style we had all become accustomed and won the invitational.

And, did you know that Jeff Robles never missed a day of school from kindergarten to his graduation. Did you know that Jeff worked on Saturday mornings after football games as a job and never complained about the need for this to happen. I always valued Jeff's friendship. Amen

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Mike Pettibone - January 26, 2017 at 08:09 AM

KB

“ Rick Collins had signed us up for a league while in college that played downtown Fort Wayne and along with me, Tim and Stan Miller and some others we were severely thrashed a few times. Tim talked to his old neighborhood friends Jeff and Crusty and they were more than happy to join our team. At that moment our team became competitive in the league. Crusty's shot and Jeff's relentless rebounding and refusal to let anyone beat him were the difference. We had so much fun . . .

Zelmo

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**kevin beaty** - January 26, 2017 at 07:32 AM

SM

“ Suzanne McFarren Markley lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



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**Suzanne McFarren Markley** - January 26, 2017 at 07:20 AM

TH

“ Jeff was the founder of the Wells County Pee Wee football program. Because of his commitment, hard work and unselfish organizing, Wells County had its first State Champion in football, the Southern Wells Raiders. I had the pleasure of working with Jeff on this project, and can honestly say, with out Mr. Jeff Robles this would of never came together. A truly amazing person. Until we meet again my old friend, RIP. You will be sadly missed by all that knew you. GOD bless your family.

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**Tony Harris** - January 26, 2017 at 05:45 AM

TH

“ Tony Harris lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



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**Tony Harris** - January 26, 2017 at 05:33 AM

TH

*RIP my friend*

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**Tony Harris** - January 26, 2017 at 05:34 AM



“ Rest in peace my friend.  
Steve Fulton



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**Steve Fulton** - January 26, 2017 at 05:32 AM

KN

“ Kelly Neidigh lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



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**Kelly Neidigh** - January 26, 2017 at 04:37 AM



“ *Susie Ellison lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



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**Susie Ellison** - January 25, 2017 at 09:00 PM



“ *Neil & Karen Mowery lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



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**Neil & Karen Mowery** - January 25, 2017 at 07:57 PM



“ *Jeff was great at basketball. Watched him do his thing on the court. While us girls was in the cheer block. Cheering the Tiger's on. He will be missed. May God be with him and his family. In Christ's Love, Julie (Stout) Studebaker.....Class of 1973....*



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**Julie Studebaker** - January 25, 2017 at 07:46 PM



“ 86 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - January 25, 2017 at 07:16 PM



“ Connie Connett lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



Connie Connett - January 25, 2017 at 06:44 PM



“ Julia Tobias lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles



Julia Tobias - January 25, 2017 at 06:16 PM

EF

“ *Eddie Ferguson lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



Eddie Ferguson - January 25, 2017 at 04:34 PM

EF

*Remembering ..A Great Classmate !*

Eddie Ferguson - January 25, 2017 at 04:36 PM

SB

“ *Steve Bradtmiller lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



Steve Bradtmiller - January 25, 2017 at 12:56 PM

TC

“ *Tammy Campbell lit a candle in memory of Jeffrey Allen Robles*



Tammy Campbell - January 25, 2017 at 08:52 AM

BC

“ So very Sorry for your loss Jannette, Kayla, Leah, and the Robles Family! Jeff was a very Good Friend of mine for as long as I can remember! Growing up close to Jeff in the neighborhood and always running around with him and all of his Brothers! We shared some very good times together the Crosbie twins! Jeff was one of the best athletes I ever had a chance to play sports with in high school! We will deeply miss Jeff but also know he is in Heaven rejoicing with Jesus, Denny and Crusty Amen! Our Prayers and our Hearts go out to u all God Bless! Barry and Joellen Crosbie!



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**Barry Crosbie** - January 25, 2017 at 03:37 AM