



Mr. Robert Gene Bates

October 17, 1936 - December 25, 2012

Robert Gene Bates, 76 of Bluffton passed away at 6:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 25, 2012 at River Terrace Estates.

He was born in Blackford County on October 17, 1936 to Arthur and Mary (Ault) Bates.

He married Rose Marie (Leimgruber) on January 25, 1958 in Bluffton and she survives.

Robert graduated from Montpelier High School in 1954.

He retired from Franklin Electric Company with 30+ years of service in the Data Processing Division.

He was a member of the St. Joseph Catholic Church and an Honorary Life Member of the Knights of Columbus. Bob was a United States Marine Veteran having served our country from August 1954 to August of 1957. He was a member of Grover Sheets American Legion Post #111.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons, Michael (Beth) Bates of Indianapolis, David (Nancy) Bates of Bluffton, Steven Bates of Bluffton, two daughters, Kathy (Duane) Scott of Bluffton, Karen (Michael) Holsinger of Kirkland, thirteen grandchildren, Trent, Jennifer, Carly, Andrew, Abby, Morgan,

Allie, Kay Marie, Susannah, Lydia, Phoebe, Jackson, Madeline, and ten great-grandchildren.

Calling hours are 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. Friday, December 28, 2012 at Thoma/Rich, Chaney & Lemler Funeral Home and one hour prior to service Saturday at the church. Rosary will follow the calling hours on Friday at 8:00 p.m. at the funeral home. Funeral Mass is at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 29, 2012 at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Father Francis Chukwuma officiating. Burial will be at Fairview Cemetery with military rites by American Legion Post #111 and the U.S. Marine Corp Honor Guard. Preferred memorials are to St. Joseph Catholic Church or the Alzheimer's Association. Online condolences may be made at www.thomarich.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **29**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

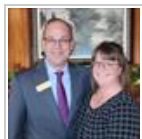
St Joseph Catholic Church
1300 N Main St
Bluffton, IN

Service

DEC **29**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St Joseph Catholic Church
1300 N Main St
Bluffton, IN

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Robert Gene Bates*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - December 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mr. Robert Gene Bates*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Rest in peace, Bob. K. Wolfe.*

K F Wolfe - December 30, 2012 at 07:18 AM



“ *Karen D. Arnett lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Gene Bates*



Karen D. Arnett - December 28, 2012 at 01:59 PM

KA

Mike, May God's love comfort you. My condolences and prayers to you and your family. "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble," Psalm 46:1

Karen D. Arnett - December 28, 2012 at 02:04 PM

TC

“ *TOM & JAN COTTON lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Gene Bates*



TOM & JAN COTTON - December 28, 2012 at 01:07 PM

S(

“ *On behalf of the "Société de Police - IPD Adam & Edward" (Facebook Group), our condolences to Mike Bates and the Bates family on your loss.*



Some people are in our lives and quickly go. The Bates family has been blessed to have a long standing relationship with their loved one. That fact itself was a blessing for the family.

Cherish the memories and there will be no need for goodbyes!

S.I. Drake, Lt. IPD (Ret) - December 28, 2012 at 01:04 PM

TF

“ *The Chaffee family purchased the Red & White Sympathy Basket for the family of Mr. Robert Gene Bates.*



The Chaffee family - December 27, 2012 at 10:35 PM



“ *Classic Fireside Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Robert Gene Bates.*



December 27, 2012 at 06:53 PM



“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Rose Marie (Ree) and the family. Your Father and Mother are dear friends and have been for over 60 years. We live on the West Coast near Seattle and will not be able to be with you on Saturday except in spirit. Bob was a great guy and a very good husband and father as well as a great friend. We visited them each time we returned to Bluffton and will miss him very much. May God be with you all in this time and comfort you as you remember all the good times you had with your Dad. Kenneth and Ann Taylor*

Ann (Emshwiller) and Kenneth Taylor - December 27, 2012 at 06:51 PM



“ *Jan M Faber lit a candle in memory of Mr. Robert Gene Bates*



Jan M Faber - December 27, 2012 at 03:27 PM



“ *Peaceful Wishes* was purchased for the family of
Mr. Robert Gene Bates.



December 27, 2012 at 12:14 PM