



## Robert Joseph Ryan Sr.

April 14, 1945 - May 9, 2020

Robert Joseph Ryan, Sr., 75, originally from Chicago, passed away at the Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria, IL on May 9, 2020.

He leaves behind his beloved wife of 53 years, Barbara Gornell Ryan; son Robert Ryan (Jill) Dunlap, IL; daughters Therese Ryan Pickett (Jeff) Ft. Gratiot, MI; and Joanna Ryan Becker (Jason) Sterling, VA. He also left behind the joys of his life, grandchildren: Alex, Sara, Callie, Lauren, Sam, Zachary, Josalyn, and Brendan; his brother William (Kathryn) Ryan; sister-in-law Diane Gornell (Bill Tarr); brother-in-law Larry (Madeline) Gornell; nieces Kelly, Allyson, Shannon, and Angela; nephews Jonathan and Roman.

Bob was a proud member of the Chicago Royal Airs Drum and Bugle Corps. He met his wife, Barbara, at a Royal Airs fundraising dance in Cicero, IL, in 1961. He served in the U.S. Army from 1965-1967.

Bob was an ISU graduate, majoring in Occupational Safety and Industrial Technology. He had a passion for all genres of music, movies, and The Ohio State football team. He loved and played sports and ballroom dancing.

A Celebration of Life will be streamed on YouTube from the Universalist Unitarian Church of Peoria at a later date.

Donations may be sent to St. Jude's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org), in Bob's memory.

# Comments

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“ I will always remember Bob for his sense of humor and his helpful ways: two special memories are: (1) as a very helpful person. A few times when I was struggling with my computer, he patiently walked me step through the process UNTIL I GOT IT ...and I still remember his instructions. (2) It was easy to tease him . A special memory while visiting him and Barb in Ohio I released the “ watch’s sounds of a bird.” Bob truly believed a bird had entered the house. He started looking everywhere. He looked under the sofa, behind furniture, etc. He truly wanted to find the “poor bird.” When he was told about the watch he bursted into a laughter and joined us in the joke!! When I was told about he “getting his Angel’s Wings” immediately I remembered the “ watch incident”- Dear Bob, you memory will always be in our heart - Love you always dearest friend...Until We see you again !!

Liz Acevedo-Alstrum - May 15, 2020 at 02:49 PM

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“ I was blessed to be able to call Bob my “Dad#2” as I spent lots of time with the Ryans growing up. The world was a better place cause he was in it...

Rebecca Alstrum-Acevedo - May 12, 2020 at 07:47 PM

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“ Bob married my first cousin Barb. He always had a smile that would light up the room. When I was in grammar school, I asked him to become my god-father for my confirmation ceremony.  
I remember how it shocked him that I had asked him. I wanted him to feel welcomed to our family after just getting married to Barb. He was a wonderful man and will always hold a special place in my heart.

Mark Richter - May 12, 2020 at 07:31 PM