



Robert "Bob" Black

March 1, 1951 - April 9, 2012

Robert "Bob" Black, age 61, of South Haven, passed away Monday, April 9, 2012 at Rose Arbor Hospice, Kalamazoo. Bob was born March 1, 1951 in Jackson, MI, the son of William and Eileen (Horthrop) Black and has lived the past seven years in the South Haven area, where he was the South Haven Public Schools Superintendent, and was active in the community. In 1969 he graduated from Jackson Parkside, received his BS from Hillsdale College in 1973, and completed his Masters in Educational Leadership at Western Michigan University in 1985. While at Hillsdale College he played baseball and football, and met his wife Cathy whom he married in 1976. Bob started his teaching career in Albion, MI teaching fourth grade, and coaching high school football and baseball. In 1989 he became Principal at North Adams-Jerome Elementary School, and in 1995 was named Superintendent. In 1998 he became Superintendent at Dundee Community Schools, and in 2006 he became Superintendent at the South Haven Public Schools. He was involved with many community activities and organizations but never missed any of his children's sporting events or school activities. Bob enjoyed all sports but especially his Tigers, Lions, Red Wings and Michigan football. He also enjoyed playing golf with his sons. Surviving are his wife, Cathy; 3 children, Andy Black of Miami, FL, Dan (Allie) Black of Bowling Green, OH, Libby Black of Daytona Beach, FL; granddaughter, Madison Black; sister-in-law, Kathie Black; aunt, Jane Gallas; 11 nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by a brother, Thomas Black; his parents; and an uncle, Alex. The family will meet friends from 12 Noon until 1:00 PM at the Listiak Auditorium in the South Haven High School where the funeral service will be held at 1:00 PM Saturday, April 14, 2012. The family suggests memorials be made to the South Haven Schools Scholarship fund, South Haven Memorial Library for Children's Programming, or caringbridge.org/visit/blackfamily1. Funeral arrangements entrusted to the Bangor Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **14**. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Listiak Auditorium
600 Elkenburg Street
South Haven, MI 49090

Service

APR **14**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Listiak Auditorium
600 Elkenburg Street
South Haven, MI 49090

Tribute Wall

SB

“ *The Diversity Coalition will miss Bob a great deal. He was a wonderful man and was so easy to work with. We enjoyed all the help and assistance that he gave to the Martin Luther King Jr. bagging of rice for the needy. I know he had a positive influence on many, many students. I'm grateful that he was in my life.*

Suzie Blair

Suzanne Blair - April 23, 2012 at 07:15 PM

FD

“ *Cathy, so sorry to hear the news of Bob's passing. Coached with Bob in the "early years" at Albion High School. I can see by comments that Bob continued to be a significant force in the lives that he touched. Prayers*

Frank and JoAnne Desy

Frank Desy - April 13, 2012 at 12:07 PM

DS

“ *Donald Spencer purchased the Blooming Garden Basket for the family of Robert "Bob" Black.*



Donald Spencer - April 13, 2012 at 10:52 AM

CL

“ *What a sweetheart of a man. If you had questions he would answer, if you had comments he would listen, and if you needed a friend he was there. I got to know Mr. Black during the time they were trying to pass the mileage for the High School. I will never forget the smile that he always had and the words of wisdom he always shared with us. Prayers love and support to his family during this time. RIP Mr. Black JOB WELL DONE!!*

Carrie L. McKeever - April 12, 2012 at 01:02 PM

RF

“ To the family of Bob Black - we are sorry for your loss. While my son is only in 6th grade, Bob touched our lives by making sure my son got the teacher we needed for 3rd grade. He made Grant a promise that he would take care of it and not to worry and we will never forgotten his kindness in this matter. I know we are not the only family touched by his loss. We pray for you at this difficult time. The Frabes (Mike, Rita & Grant)

Rita Frabe - April 12, 2012 at 08:36 AM

SW

“ One of my favorite teachers! 4th grade at Caldwell 77/78.

Suzy (Webb) Warner - April 11, 2012 at 01:01 PM

LD

“ Mrs. Black, Andy, Dan and Libby, Very sorry for your loss. Please accept our condolences and prayers for healing of your broken hearts. Will, LuAnn, Rachael and Zachary Duncan

LuAnn Duncan - April 11, 2012 at 12:59 PM

MF

CATHY - Lost touch with you and Bob since our time at Hillsdale College and the teaching years in Albion. It sounds like Bob has gone on to great things - so sorry about your loss. You and the kids are in my prayers.

Martha Fierke

Martha Thorne Fierke - April 13, 2012 at 02:18 PM

GT

“ Dear Cathy and Family
I have fond memories of Bob going back to Parkside High School in Jackson, MI. I'll never forget the day I reported for my first teaching job at Caldwell and there sat Bob. We shared a lot of good times teaching next door. I loved his "dry" sense of humor.

God Bless and keep you at this difficult time.

Gwen Perry Tabb

Gwen Tabb - April 11, 2012 at 11:40 AM

BB

Dear Cathy and Family,

My law partners and I had the pleasure and privilege to work with Bob as legal counsel to the school districts that he faithfully served as superintendent or principal over the past several years. We are saddened by the loss of such a devoted servant to public education. Bob's humor, commitment, sense of fairness and positive attitude will be missed by many of us in the public education field. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Sincerely, Beverly Bonning, East Lansing

Beverly J. Bonning - April 12, 2012 at 11:00 AM