Robert W. Friedl, Sr.

April 4, 1931 - February 28, 2016

Robert W. Friedl, Sr., age 84, of Bloomingdale, went to be with his Lord Sunday, February 28, 2016. Robert was born April 4, 1931 in Allegan, the son of Frank and Margaret Friedl and had lived in the area the past 44 years. Bob honorably served his country as a member of the US Army, serving in Korea. He and his wife Shirley had been long-time members of Merson Church. Bob had worked as an Art Director in Chicago prior to moving to the area where he took on the same role at RBM Ministries in Kalamazoo. He then went on to found the ministry God's Helping Hands in 1980 where he remained until his retirement in the fall of 2015. Surviving is his wife, Shirley, whom he married on June 23, 1956; 3 children, Robin (Jeff) Awe of Grand Junction, Robert, Jr (Juanita) of Holland, Brian (Denise) of Phoenix, AZ; 16 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren; 2 sisters, Nancy Yahr of Florida and Margaret Furlong of Maine. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Renee McGuckin. Following his wishes, cremation has taken place. A memorial service will take place Friday, March 4th, 11AM at Merson Church, Pastor Alan Carson officiating. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to either God's Helping Hands or Merson Church. Arrangements by BLOOMINGDALE CHAPEL, D. L. Miller Funeral Home.

Cemetery Details

Spring Grove Cemetery

CR 665
Bloomingdale, MI

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR **4**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave.
Gobles, MI

Tribute Wall

NY

My only brother Bob used his talent for The Lord . If you said it couldn't be done he would prove you wrong . He took home economics in high school one year and impressed the teacher with his talent. He stared in a play (Arsenic and old lace) in high school. He was in the Army during the Korean War . He raised 4 children . Founded Gods Helping hands. Was instrumental in leading many children to The Lord. He worked with young boys in Christian Service Brigade. Wrote a how to make things in the CB magazine (which I have in my scape book) . He took an old school bus and made a camper for them to travel all over the country reaching children for Christ. He built a house out of cast offs the house God built . My 3 sons looked up to him and loved him He was so gifted with God gifted talent an d praise God he used it for he lord . I can hardly write this through my tears .i will miss him so much . But will see him again praise God.
His sister Nancy

nancy yahr - March 04, 2016 at 06:38 PM

BP

What a blessing to work with this servant of the Lord for a lot of years. Bob and Shirley came to Springdale Community Church with a music ensemble from Merson Church. They came to Springdale when GHH was still in the yellow bus and we had to replace heads on the motor during one of those trips....What memories!
May God bless you, Shirley, with a sense of God's presence and comfort during these days. II Cor. 1:3,4.
Ben and Janice Pike

Ben Pike - March 04, 2016 at 06:32 PM

DF

I was blessed to have an amazing father-in-law. When I began dating his son, Brian, Bob was the first family member I met. He wad kind, funny, and had the knack of putting people at ease. Bob's fire for God's Helping Hands and using all of his talents for the Lord is an inspiration to all. He gave me the gift of calling him Dad. I love you, Dad. I will miss you more than I can say. Rest in the arms of the Savior, until we meet again.

Denise Friedl - March 04, 2016 at 02:20 PM

MF

My brother Bob was an amazing man. A husband,a father, a grandfather, a great grandfather, and the best brother a girl could have. Being his baby sister, he was a role model beyond reproach. He taught me to fish to shoot to draw and most of all to put the Lord first in everything. I was his flowergirl,his babysitter and often his sidekick and partner in crime. I cried when he got on that big plane for Korea and watched him dissappear into the sky. I remember waiting for the mail for that airmail envelope from overseas with hand drawn pictures of his army life. Over the years he continued to amaze me with his devotion to serving the Lord and using his God given talent to share the gospel from coast to coast. Him and Shirley were the perfect team. Their unique talents were a perfect blend of sheer genious. All these years later I was fortunate to travel from Maine to Michigan in time to watch him prepare to take to the sky yet again,only this time his journey on this earth was complete as God ushered His good and faithful servant into his forever heavenly home. What a ride that must have been. Congratulations my brother. You finally made it. We love you and miss you but we have the blessed hope that we will see you again. You baby sis Maggie

Maggie Furlong - March 04, 2016 at 01:37 PM

SP

I will always remember Bob's "dry" sense of humor, and his kindness to everyone he met.
He and Shirley complemented each other perfectly. Their lives always have been, and always will be a living testimony as to God's love for us, and for meeting all their provisions through the years. I know things seemed pretty lean many times, but Bob always shared how God met their needs ...sometimes in unexpected and unusual ways. I especially remember Bob sharing with everyone about their "house that God built" ...busses breaking down, and everyone's safety in all situations. Bob with his family, put his heart and soul into God's Helping Hands ministry ...and when Christ returns, who knows what the "final tally" of saved souls will be? Maybe Bob knows now. A great thing for Bob is that he is no longer suffering, but enjoying a new body, fellowshipping with others who've gone before. What a joyful picture!

May God comfort all of you during your time of loss.

Love & prayers,
Mel & Sandy Peterson

Sandy Peterson - March 02, 2016 at 06:34 PM

DM

This family became part of my life when my sister Denise married Brian Friedl. Bob was always sweet, excepting, and happy to include my family with theirs. He was such a talented man who loved God, his family, and God's Helping Hands; and anyone who wanted to be involved and learn from GHH. We were blessed to have been given the gift of Bob, and Heaven now get him back. You will be missed, Bob. Give Renee a hug for me.

Doreen Moody

Doreen Moody - March 01, 2016 at 04:56 PM