



Rev. Robert L. Pumfery

October 4, 1935 - June 6, 2016

Rev. Robert Pumfery

Age 80

Bob completed the physical phase of his existence on June 6, 2016 in Breedsville, Michigan, which had begun on October 4, 1935 in Coloma, Michigan. His parents were Lester and Louise (Hetler) Pumfery. He graduated from Coloma High School, the University of Michigan (BS) and Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary (M. Div. In Honors). Bob completed graduate studies in astronomy at Indiana University and Islamics at Hartford Seminary Foundation. On January 23, 1960, he and Carole Nies were joined in marriage. They have two children, John (Virginia) Pumfery and Marguerite (Pumfery) Medler; six grandchildren, Jason (Emily) Pumfery, Aaron (Lindsay) Pumfery, Matthew Pumfery, Nicci (Jared) Petrowski, Daniel Medler and Jennifer Medler; 5 great grandchildren, Annabell, Trevor, Reese, Macy and Jaxon. Bob was predeceased by his parents and sister, Eloise Enevald. Bob worked as an astronomer for the Smithsonian Institution in their satellite tracking program. This took them for two year assignments in each Iran and South Africa. While in South Africa, he became a Local Preacher in the Methodist Church in South Africa. After ordination, Bob pastored churches at Camden and Montgomery, New Buffalo and Lakeside, Muskegon Heights, Allegan, Three Rivers First, Ovid, Townline and Breedsville and St. Johns Church in Wangeria, New Zealand. The Pumferys also spent 4 ½ years as missionaries in the Philippines, where Bob worked in church development and

taught at Dansalan College. Bob served as voluntary chaplain at Camp Teetonkah Boy Scout Camp, US Air Force base at Cagayan de Oro, Philippines, Hackley Hospital in Muskegon and Allegan General Hospital. After retirement he spent several years as chaplain for Wings of Hope Hospice in Allegan. He helped lead several Crop Walks and was Construction Supervisor and Board member of Habitat for Humanity in Three Rivers for 7 years and was Scout Master for 4 different troops. Bob lead many seminars on world religions and authored a book based on his experiences entitled, "Lord, When Did I See You?" Bob played trombone for 8 years in the New Horizons Symphony Band in Grand Rapids and for 16 years in the Casco Community Band. Bob was a man of great faith. A quiet, supportive husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather and friend. There will be an empty space in the lives of many.

Visitation will be held at the Bangor Chapel, D.L. Miller Funeral Home on Thursday, June 9 from 5-8 PM and Friday from 10-11 AM at Simpson United Methodist Church in Bangor where a celebration of life will follow at 11 AM. The family suggests memorials be made to Wings of Hope Hospice, Allegan or Simpson UMC.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **9**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Bangor Chapel
258 West Monroe Street
Bangor, MI

Visitation

JUN **10**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Simpson United Methodist Church
507 Joy Street
Bangor, MI

Service

JUN **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Simpson United Methodist Church
507 Joy Street
Bangor, MI

Tribute Wall

BJ

“ *John and Ginny,
Haven't seen you in ages, but you are often in our thoughts ... fond
memories of your folks and you "kids"...those were good times, puts
a smile on our face and that's what carries us through.*

Bob and Mary Lou Johnson

Bob & Mary Lou Johnson - June 14, 2016 at 08:36 AM

PS

“ *John, Ginny and Family, Our sincere condolences your in our
thoughts and prayers.*

Steve Swain and family

prggy swain - June 13, 2016 at 05:38 AM

DN

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you Aunt
Carol and Family. I'm the youngest of the Nies
group and still have some good memories
from the past.*

Debra Nies



Debra Nies - June 10, 2016 at 01:52 PM

LC

“ *Lou And Connie Curio lit a candle in memory
of Rev. Robert L. Pumfery*



Lou and Connie Curio - June 10, 2016 at 08:41 AM

LC

Our thoughts and prayers are with you Carole and family. The world was a much better place with Bob in it. His wisdom and stories were wonderful to receive. God Bless You.

Lou and Connie Curio - June 10, 2016 at 08:45 AM

KM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Aunt Carol and family. Blessings from Colorado. It has been a long time, but I do think of you. May God be with you. Kathleen Nies-Miller

Kathleen Miller - June 09, 2016 at 09:43 PM

SS

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole family. Sorry we can't be there in person, but we are there in prayer. There are many good memories of times past.

Flora Nies, & Sandy Steggerda



Sandy Steggerda - June 09, 2016 at 09:24 PM

CK

*“ I remember Bob for his Halloween benedictions
Carl Keefer Family New Buffalo*

Carl Keefer - June 09, 2016 at 09:17 AM



*“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for
the family of Rev. Robert L. Pumfery.*



June 09, 2016 at 09:12 AM



“ We have great memories of a trip to the Copper Canyon in Mexico that we shared with Bob and Carole in 2004. Larry and Mary Lou Eckoff

Larry Eckoff - June 09, 2016 at 07:53 AM



“ Pat Huberty lit a candle in memory of Rev. Robert L. Pumfery



Pat Huberty - June 08, 2016 at 03:19 PM



“ Lynn Ashbrook lit a candle in memory of Rev. Robert L. Pumfery



Lynn Ashbrook - June 08, 2016 at 02:42 PM



I thought the world of Bob and Carole when they pastored at Townline UMC. RIP Mr. Pumfery, and condolences to Carole, his family, and all who loved him.

Lynn Ashbrook - June 08, 2016 at 02:44 PM

NS

“ *May Bob join the great band in heaven and play his trombone most joyously "When the Saints Go Marching In"!*

*He will be missed!
The Casco Community Band*

Nadine Stacks - June 08, 2016 at 01:20 PM

TB

“ *The Family of Reynold and Jeane Banger purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Rev. Robert L. Pumfery.*



The Family of Reynold and Jeane Banger - June 08, 2016 at 09:20 AM

JF

“ *He was our pastor for several years, but more important he was our friend! His wisdom saw us through a difficult time and we are forever grateful for having him in our lives. Never forget his wonderful hugs! Our love and prayers to Carole and family. John & Judy Fry*

judy fry - June 08, 2016 at 06:29 AM