



Robert Anthony Witowski

April 08, 1942 - April 16, 2025

Robert "Bob" Anthony Witowski, 83, of Ames, Iowa, passed away peacefully on April 16, 2025, at the Israel Family Hospice House in Ames after a valiantly fought battle with cancer. In the same way he had lived his life, he approached this new experience, with a strong demeanor, positive attitude, and appreciation for life, leaving a legacy of enduring strength, resiliency, and optimism.

His family will never forget his famous "Game of Life Lecture" and the lessons it taught us...

"Life is full of new experiences...whether it be a new school, a new job, a new place to live! It will feel uneasy and uncomfortable at first; but after several months, it will become routine. It is like learning to ride a bike. Keep at it and you will work through it. And remember, I am always proud of you, and I will always be here for you."

Born on April 8, 1942, and raised in Kulpmont, Pennsylvania, to Joseph and Louise (Czechowski) Witowski, Bob left Pennsylvania to continue his education and basketball career at Independence Junior College in Kansas. He continued playing basketball and earned his bachelor's degree in education from Yankton College in Yankton, South Dakota, and later a Master of Science degree from Iowa State University in Ames.

He dedicated 36 years of his life to education as a beloved teacher and coach in Carroll, Iowa. He was proud to have taught Economics, Government, and Driver's Education at Carroll High School and coached football, basketball, and track. He shared his expertise presenting Driver's Education workshops for the Iowa Department of Education and the National Safety Congress in Chicago.

After retiring from teaching in 2000, Bob continued to share his passion for education by teaching classes through the University of Northern Iowa at the DMACC Carroll campus and supervised student teachers. He also enjoyed substitute teaching in various Iowa schools only leaving the classroom due to COVID at the age of 80.

Bob was actively involved in his community, contributing to Region XII Council of Governments in Carroll and the Regional Workforce Investment Board. He received the Outstanding Young Educator Award and was inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

Bob loved cars, following sports, and especially enjoyed playing golf. His family and friends will fondly remember his devotion to education, community service, and the deep love he had for his family, especially his grandsons who fondly referred to him as "Pop."

Bob is survived by his loving wife, Sherry of Ames; daughters Susan (Tim) Hansen of Nevada, IA, Jill Witowski of Glenview, IL, and Amy (Chad) Rotert of Bettendorf, IA; and stepdaughters Teresa (Brian) Michel of Lincoln, NE, and Stacy (Jay) Jelkin of Omaha, NE. He was a proud grandfather to

Zach (fiancée Abby) Hansen, Tyler Hansen, Tre De Lio, Jake Rotert, Dilan (Bridget) Michel, and Jordan Jelkin, and a great-grandfather to Mabel Michel. He is also survived by his sisters, Louise Heromin, Lorraine Zarlinski, and Karen Day and sister-in-law Barb Witowski.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Francis, and Joseph; and brothers-in-law, Dan Day and Peter Heromin.

Private family graveside services will be held on Saturday, April 26, at Roland Cemetery followed by a gathering of family and friends at Adams & Soderstrum Funeral Home in Ames from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. to remember and celebrate Bob's life.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that memorials be directed in Bob's memory to a special endowment of the Mary Greeley Medical Center Foundation that supports the Israel Family Hospice House.

Adams Soderstrum Funeral Home has been entrusted with arrangements and online condolences may be left for the family at www.adamssoderstrum.com.

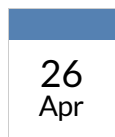
Cemetery



ROLAND CEMETERY

59168 130th St.,
Roland, IA 50236

Events



GATHERING OF FRIENDS

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Adams Funeral Home
& Cremation Service
502 Douglas Avenue,
Ames, IA 50010

Tribute Wall

P

PC Simpson

God bless you, Mr Witowski!!! Rest in peace ☹️ 1970/71 Carroll HS. Every time I drive in snow brings memories of your teaching & how to handle the car in a skid. That memory is always accompanied by your laughter & humorous insights about life. Your heart was in your work and your memory still lives on..... thank you! Patricia Darveau Simpson

B

Brad Edwards

Coach Bob was always the first on to the field to shake my hand after a touchdown. In basketball, he was always the first to tell me good game. I always looked forward to seeing coach because he was always upbeat and positive. When I had a bad game, he would talk to me about the importance of struggle and failure. Coach Bob helped not only me, he was the KEY to hundreds of young kids. He will be missed but never forgotten. Coach Bob and my father Ted are up in heaven showing some kid how to shoot a basketball and they are making the lesson fun! Thanks coach Bob for making a huge difference in my life!

D

Dennis Lappe

Sorry to hear about the loss of Robert. At Carroll high school, he was a great drivers education teacher and football coach.

J

Joan and Jim Kramer

To all family and Bob's wife condolences and we are very sorry for your loss. I was employed by Chad and Amy Rotert watching their son Jake in their home and have met all their family in someway or other. Bob was always very kind and friendly.



"Material_candle_navy_thumbnail"
was lit in memory of Robert Anthony Witowski

❤️ [Light a candle](#)

Show your support by giving a symbol of remembrance

L

Lorraine zarlinski

So many great memories with my brother Bob...can you believe he taught me how to jitterbug....I will miss his phone calls ,especially the last one and the facetime...RIP...I loved you then, I love you now and I will always love you!!!

P

Penny Davis

We are so sorry for your loss. Bob (and Sheri) are so special to our family! Loved seeing Bob at the Iowa State Fair supporting our Gilbert students. You will be so missed! The Davis Family . Jon and Penny, Elizabeth, Adam & Eric



W

Wendy Perry

Dear Bob, You always asked how I was doing, how school was going, and how my kids were doing --- even when you weren't feeling the best or were encountering a medical issue. I always looked forward to seeing you and I will miss our chats. Fly with the angels, Bob. I will see you on the other side someday.

K

Karen Day

RIP my brother. Will miss our phone calls. I will cherish our last call on Sunday. Love you.💕

P

Paul and Sue Olsakovsky

Rest in peace, Uncle Bob

A

A Memorial Tree was planted for Robert Anthony Witowski

We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Soderstrum Funeral Home - Story City