



Robert "Bob" Story

June 24, 1941 - December 31, 2021

A legend left us on New Years' Eve. He served his country, helped his friends, and supported the community. He was an attentive husband and father to a wife, three daughters and a son, he helped all those around him, and somehow found time to build the best damn garage in town.

The irrepressible Robert A. Story drew his last breath on December 31, 2021, surrounded by family. He leaves a loving and devoted family and a legacy of service to friends and community. Most days Bob could be found at Story Brothers, Inc. building his business. He treated his employees as family, providing meals and sometimes his own homemade delicacies. He took a personal interest in his customers and gave them his utmost respect. He knew how to get things done.

Bob was an attentive and loving grandfather to his six grandchildren. He coached his grandsons to World Soapbox and Pinewood Derby finals. Fishing, swimming, earning scout badges, building legos, cookouts, driving lessons and general tomfoolery. (Properly motivated he could be convinced to moon a camera).

Bob was a generous man. No matter what the occasion, there was always an extra welcoming seat at the Story family dinner table. Bob loved a good party. He and Sandy and loved to travel. They travelled the world together. With Bob, all you needed was a tuxedo and a passport. An eternal optimist and racing enthusiast, Bob would greet any setback by quoting Richard Petty and saying "Don't worry, we'll get 'em next Sunday".

To all who knew him well, Bob was larger than life, and the essence of what he did and what he taught survives him and thrives.

Robert "Bob" Story, 80, of Kensington, husband of Sandra "Sandy" (Barillaro) Story, passed away peacefully Friday (December 31, 2021) at the Hospital of Central CT in New Britain. A native and former New Britain resident, son of the late Alexander and Mary (Karvoski) Story, Bob is a graduate of New Britain High School Class of 1959 and received a Bachelor's Degree in Business from The University of Hartford. Bob served in the US Army Reserve. He has lived in Kensington since 1967. He owned and operated Story Brothers Auto in New Britain since 1960. He was a member of St. Paul's Church in Kensington.

Besides his wife Sandy, he leaves a son, Emanuel "Manny" Story of Berlin; three daughters, Kristine Story; Laura Martin and her husband Jonathan; and Kathryn Spilka and her husband Dean, all of Berlin; six grandsons, Zachary, Andrew and Nicholas Martin; and Samuel, Jack and Robert Trent Spilka. He was predeceased by a sister, Lucille Michaud.

A Memorial Mass will be held Friday (January 7, 2022) 10 AM DIRECTLY at St. Paul's Church, 479 Alling Street, Kensington, CT 06037. Burial will follow in South Burying Ground, Berlin. Calling hours are Thursday 4 to 7 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. Donations may be made to St. Paul Church or to the American Stroke Association, PO Box 840692, Dallas, TX 75284-0692. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

South Burying Ground

163 Southington Rd.
Kensington, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hours

JAN 6. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home
45 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 225-6361
carlsonfh@aol.com
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 7. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul Church
485 Alling Street
CT 06037

Tribute Wall

MF

“*Kate & Dean, Sandy, Manny, Laura & Jonathan, Kris and all family: I am so sorry for the loss of Bob. He was a great man who was loved by so many. I will think of him when I hear the song, Oh Danny Boy. Please know you are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.* 🙏



Mrachek Family - January 31, 2022 at 07:08 PM

HP

“*He was gruff but kind. My car was being serviced and there were no more seats available so he invited me to sit behind the counter.. Almost put me to work too! He will sorely be missed in our community. My sincere prayers and condolences to the family.*

Helen Pawlak - January 18, 2022 at 09:14 PM

BK

“*Manny: My sincere condolences to you and family on the passing of your father. Enjoyed many years of playing against him in the member/Guest at Shuttle Meadow. May he Rest In Peace. Brendan*

Brendan Kennedy - January 06, 2022 at 09:05 AM

RP

“*Kris,
I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My sincerest condolences to you and your family, you remain in my thoughts.
Richard Perry*

Richard Perry - January 05, 2022 at 04:05 PM

MP

“ Hard to believe next time I go for service he won't be there to greet me. He was a pillar of our community, respect, revered, and will always be remembered. RIP Bob 🕊️🕊️ Maria

Maria Pietrantuono - January 04, 2022 at 10:51 PM

BB

“ Condolences... Bob was a straight shooter and that's what I liked about him....Brian Bannister

Brian Bannister - January 04, 2022 at 06:50 PM

RK

“ Bob and I would always wisecrack to each other every time we'd meet. The last time was at the NBHS 80th birthday party a few months ago. He was a funny guy to be around and his sense of humor will be missed.

Rich Kosinski

Richard H. Kosinski - January 04, 2022 at 06:41 PM

RM

“ One gets to meet a lot of people if one lives long enough (I am 82 years old), but Bob Story was by far the most genuinely helpful person I have ever known. He not only bent over backwards to take personal care of me as a professional customer, but also provided physical and emotional support through various infirmities. Considerate, thoughtful, and supremely generous, he genuinely cared for everyone he encountered and was always willing to provide financial support (often anonymously) to those he felt to be in need.

One did not need to be in his physical presence to benefit from his optimism, enthusiasm, dependability, and cheerfulness. Simply knowing he was around and readily available to help was a strong enough source of comfort and reassurance.

Bob will be greatly missed by everyone who had the good fortune to have him enter into their lives.

Robert A. Gryboski, MD

January 4, 2022

Robert A. Gryboski, MD - January 04, 2022 at 03:20 PM

CC

“ To the wonderful Story family I am so sorry for your loss, Bob loved his family deeply will missed as left his legacy in New Britain.

Our heart and prayers go out to you!

Cathy & Rodney Czarnecki

Cathy Czarnecki - January 04, 2022 at 10:15 AM

CM

“ So sorry to hear of Bob's passing! He was such an important part of our family early on and truly made a difference in so many ways! Such fond cherished memories of fun times at your house and on the lake, singing songs together (Mike & Sandy's favorite performances were Queen songs especially "Don't Stop Me Now"), going dancing, Whaler games, parties, waterskiing or cruising on the boat, movies, games, jokes and other fun times together! Such an amazing, compassionate and generous man, husband, father and friend. I'm sure Mike and John are already golfing with Bob in heaven! Sending love, faith, hugs, and cherished memories from Carol, Jason, Ryan and Dan Marut

Carol Marut - January 03, 2022 at 11:01 PM

JB

“ Dear Bob, It was a distinct pleasure to know you all the years of junior and senior high, and to visit at all the high school reunions. To your family, I'm so sorry for your loss. Bob was really one of the good guys, and he will be sorely missed. I see in his smiling photo his easygoing nature, and his love of life.
Rest In peace, friend.
Jan (Naples) Baker

Jan Baker - January 03, 2022 at 10:37 PM

CB

“ To the Story Family,
Our deepest sympathy on the loss of your husband/father, I can still picture Bob at SMCC enjoying a round of golf and hanging out on the patio. He will be deeply missed by the entire community.
Sincerely,
Kevin and Chris Bruemmer

Christine Bruemmer - January 03, 2022 at 07:06 PM

WB

“ As you can guess, I was absolutely shocked to hear about Bob and that he passed away. He and I talked a few times over the past few weeks, with him always saying that he was feeling better. Obviously, something very unexpected occurred.

While I've lost a great friend, I can just imagine the effect his passing will have on all of your lives. May God bless all of you during this most difficult time.

Walter Blogoslowski

Walter Blogoslowski - January 03, 2022 at 03:20 PM

TD

“ To the Story family:
Knowing Bob and the Story family made my life better. A kind man who adored his family. Greatly loved, greatly missed. May God hold you all in the Palm of His Hand.

Tom Dowd

Tom Dowd - January 03, 2022 at 12:45 PM

RI

“ Got my 1st job as a gas pumper with Bob and my dear long deceased friend AL Korzinski worked for Bob for many years. We not only got our starts there but our love for muscle cars. Seems like a lifetime ago

Richardrosiak@yahoo.com - January 03, 2022 at 08:22 AM

PA

“ I only went to Story Bros. a few times a year almost exclusively for oil changes, yet Bob remembered the car I drove (which was nothing special either). It impressed me given how infrequently I was there and how many faces he saw a day.

Also, I say "infrequently" because one of the few times I came in for serious repairs, Bob told me word for word "these repairs wouldn't be worth the money because your car is on life support and you're better off buying another". I took his advice and sold the old car (disclosing all the things Bob told me were wrong with it) and bought myself a much newer car. At this point this was three years ago and it still hasn't required any repairs. He could have taken my money, made repairs he knew were just delaying the inevitable, and had me coming back for new repairs for different problems in the future, none the wiser. Instead he was completely honest with me even at the cost of thousands of dollars. I've told this story any time I recommended this place or when talking about car shops in general, because you'd be hard-pressed to find an owner of a car shop that is willing to forgo all that and be a truly good person.

It's too bad I only knew him from these kind of customer-owner interactions, but they told me all I needed to know about the kind of man that he was. Rest in peace.

Patrick - January 02, 2022 at 09:34 PM

KF

“ Seems like forever ago growing up across the street from you guys. Your dad was always a kind soul, from letting the kids in the neighborhood ride your go-carts, to driving us to school, to helping anyone who needed it. So sorry for your loss, and everyone's loss.

Keith Filewicz - January 02, 2022 at 03:08 PM

RP

“ Our sincere condolences to Sandy and your entire family , Bob was a fine and generous man may he RIP always 🙏🙏
Roger Perno and family

Roger Perno - January 02, 2022 at 02:53 PM

LP

“ Bob can now fix all the cars in heaven May he Rest I. Peace

Louise A Mercadante St Paul Parish - January 02, 2022 at 02:32 PM

KB

“ Sandy, Manny, Kris, Laura, Kate & families. My thoughts & prayers are with all of you at this time. Bob was truly a great man. Whenever our cars needed body work the place we'd take them is Story Bros Inc. Should our cars need work in the future we will continue to bring them to Story Bros Inc.

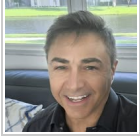
Kris Bresch - January 02, 2022 at 12:43 PM



“ The Great Cookie Crate Combo was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Story.



January 02, 2022 at 12:17 PM



“ *To the Story family:*

What a great loss this is. I spoke fondly of Bob many times over the years telling people who didn't know him of how I know a man who is extremely generous, caring and full of love for anybody in his presence. He has contributed to society in powerful ways and I will always remember him as a true angel and gift from God.

I wish the family comfort in this very sad time.

Lou Sapia

Lou Sapia - January 02, 2022 at 12:13 PM

KS

“ *Sandy, Manny, Kate, Laurie and Kris- I am so sorry for your loss. I have always been fond of Bob. I remember him taking me for a ride in his convertible. As you may know, my parents didn't travel at all. The trip they took with Sandy and Bob to visit Uncle Sam and Aunt Elsie many many years ago was something they talked about for years. They both thought a lot of all of you as well. He was a fun, kind man.*

With love, Kim Marcantonio (Skonieczny)

Kim Skonieczny - January 02, 2022 at 09:48 AM