



Dr. Robert W. Boley

July 6, 1923 - January 31, 2015

CHELSEA – Dr. Robert W. Boley, age 91, formerly of Adrian, passed away Saturday, January 31, 2015 at Chelsea Retirement Communities.

He was born July 6, 1923, in Normal, Illinois, to Arthur W. and Gail (Washburn) Boley. Bob grew up in Kewanee, Illinois in a loving family and cherished his Midwestern roots.

Bob was married to Emily McRae on August 26, 1950 at the Boston University's Marsh Chapel, and they were blessed with over 58 years together. Emily preceded him in death in 2009.

Dr. Boley attended Illinois State University prior to being drafted into the US Army in WWII. While in the Army, he served in the Pacific as an Amphibious Engineer and was training for the invasion of Japan. After the war, Bob graduated from Cornell College in Iowa and then attended seminary at Boston University School of Theology. He obtained a Doctor of Ministry from Hamma Theological Seminary.

As a United Methodist minister, Bob pastored churches in Assumption, Illinois and Champaign, Illinois before moving to Michigan. He served at Strathmore UMC, was founding pastor of Beverly Hills UMC, and Sr. Pastor of Redford UMC before becoming the senior pastor of the Adrian First United Methodist Church. His final appointment was as Sr. Pastor of Grosse Pointe UMC. Upon retirement, Dr. Boley returned to Adrian, serving at Adrian First United Methodist Church as Pastor Emeritus.

Bob loved his faith and the Church and believed in changing the world through

love, kindness and service - one person at a time. To use one of his own favorite phrases – Bob was “a gentleman and a scholar,” who had a great sense of humor and loved to sing.

He is survived by four children, Art (Roseanne) Boley of Farmington Hills; Rev. John (Diane) Boley of Kalamazoo; Sandy (James) Kitts of Flushing; and Bill Boley of Plymouth; nine grandchildren, Tomek (Hannah), Aldona, Veronika, Robert (Emma), Ian (Jessica), Hannah, Mary, Samuel and Jacinda; and three great grandchildren, Ivan, Jasper and William; and a sister, Martha Olin of Alexis, IL; and many nieces and nephews. He is also survived by his special friend, Mary McDonald, of Champaign, Illinois.

In addition to his wife, Emily, he was preceded in death by his siblings, Marjorie Piper and John Boley.

Funeral services will take place at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 7, 2015, at the Adrian First United Methodist Church with Revs. Drew Hart and Chris Brundage officiating. Friends may visit the family at Wagley Funeral Home on Friday, February 6, 2015, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Contributions in memory of Dr. Boley may be made to Adrian First United Methodist Church and Chelsea Retirement Communities. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHome.com.

Previous Events

Service

FEB 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
1245 West Maple Avenue
Adrian, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Dr. Robert W. Boley*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *Bob was such a sweet man, a true gentleman. I only heard he had died from Rev Spaw at our Charge Conference.*



Allison MacArthur-Ruesink - October 08, 2015 at 03:05 PM



“ *Sandy, I'm so sorry for the loss of your dear Father. I'm sorry this took me so long to write! You and your family will be in our prayers. Come to the next Adrian High 1976 reunion!*

Kevin Wagner

Kevin Wagner - May 27, 2015 at 02:09 PM



“ *Dave McRae purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. Robert W. Boley.*



Dave McRae - February 06, 2015 at 08:47 AM

MF

“ *Martha Boley Olin and the John and Julie Olin family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Dr. Robert W. Boley.*



Martha Boley Olin and the John and Julie Olin family -
February 05, 2015 at 05:37 PM

JD

“ *John D. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Dr. Robert W. Boley.*



John D. - February 05, 2015 at 02:25 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert W. Boley.*



February 04, 2015 at 02:25 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert W. Boley.*



February 04, 2015 at 12:43 PM

MZ

“ *Condolences to Sandy and family.
Mark Zaborney
classmate and bandmate
Emerson School, Detroit*

Mark Zaborney - February 03, 2015 at 10:24 PM



“ *Sacred Cross Bouquet was purchased for the
family of Dr. Robert W. Boley.*



February 03, 2015 at 09:35 AM