



## Robert Hanke

May 31, 1926 - January 11, 2009

ADRIAN – Robert “Bob” Hanke, age 82 of Adrian, passed away Sunday, January 11, 2009 at Herrick Manor in Tecumseh.

He was born in Adrian May 31, 1926, the oldest child of Fredrick and Blanche (Vogel) Hanke. Bob attended St. John’s Lutheran School. He graduated from Adrian High School with the Class of 1944. He then studied agriculture at Michigan State University.

On June 13, 1953, Bob married Grace Gruenwald in Detroit. Grace, who celebrated 55 years of marriage with Bob last June, survives.

Bob loved farming, and worked the farm where he was raised. In 1944 he received the State Farmer Award. He also worked for the Agriculture Stabilization Committee for many years, retiring in 1993.

Bob was a faithful member of St. John’s Lutheran Church. Over the years he served in many capacities including secretary of St. John’s Lutheran Fraternities of America Brotherhood, treasurer and president of the Jr. and Sr. Walther League, church trustee, member of the school board and PTL, as well as serving on the church’s cemetery committee. Bob was also a member of the Adrian Township Board of Review.

In addition to his wife, Bob is survived by his children, John Hanke of Redondo Beach, CA; Kathleen (William) Unverfehrt of Newton, NC; Lynne Hanke of Adrian; Mark (Janis) Hanke of Acworth, GA; and Natalee (James) Hallsted of Clearwater, FL; seven grandchildren; two great grandchildren; and two sisters, Phyllis (Norman) Sieler of Petersburg, MI; and Barbara (Hubert) Holtz of Ottawa Lake, MI.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

The funeral service for Bob will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, January 16, 2009 at St. John's Lutheran Church with Rev. Joel Sarrault officiating. Burial will follow at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery. Friends may visit the family at Wagley Funeral Home on Thursday from 2 to 8 p.m. You may sign the register book or send condolences to the family at [www.wagleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.wagleyfuneralhome.com). Contributions in memory of Bob may be made to St. John's Lutheran Church, Daybreak or Herrick Manor. Envelopes are available at Wagley Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **15**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service  
1501 W. Maumee St.  
Adrian, MI

## Service

JAN **16**. 2:30 PM (ET)

St. John's Lutheran Church  
3448 North Adrian Highway  
Adrian, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Hanke*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *I often think of the days on Academy Road and your family comes to mind. I was saddened to hear of your loss of Bob. He was always smiling and such a hard worker. I remember the pony he kept for us for a while. Such a good neighbor, as you all were.*

*Joyce Hendi  
daughter of Everett and Mildred Baker###imported-begin###Joyce Baker Hendi and Susan Baker Andrews###imported-end###*

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January 17, 2009 at 11:43 AM



“ *Grace and family, Such a rich history with stories from my dad about Bobs' mother and dad to the boyish picture of Bob in my parents wedding photos. The bonfire's at your farm and all the memories at school and church. Grace, may I compliment you on the family feel at the funeral dinner. I love the outspoken way about you that puts everyone at ease and makes everyone feel included. Bless you and your family and hope to hear how you are traveling and taking care of yourself as richly as you took care of Bob.###imported-begin###Rebecca Roberts###imported-end###*

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January 17, 2009 at 11:21 AM



“ My sympathy to the family of Mr. Hanke and especially to Kathy. I have not seen you since the 1970's, but my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time.##imported-begin##L. Joanne Hamden Kramer##imported-end##

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January 15, 2009 at 07:49 AM



“ Dear Mrs Hanke, You have our deepest sympathy in the loss of your husband. Russ says he used to Golf with Bob. Do you remember when our girls graduated from Madison and you came to the house and caught me mopping my kitchen floor? Natalee and our Karen graduated together. God bless you in the days ahead. Sincerely, Russ and Margie Kintner##imported-begin##Russell and Marjorie Kintner##imported-end##

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January 14, 2009 at 08:17 PM



“ Grace, I want to express my sympathy to you and the family. You have been a wonderful caregiver now take care of yourself as well. Love to all of you, Beverly Clement##imported-begin##Beverly Clement##imported-end##

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January 14, 2009 at 01:42 PM



“ Mrs. Hanke I am so sorry to hear about your loss. My mom just called to let me know she had heard that Mr. Hanke had passed away. I told her that it had been kind of weird because I kept thinking of the two of you more over the last month or so. You are both ever present in my memories of St. Johns. I can still see Mr. Hanke's smiling face and feel his gentle nature as I climbed the stairs to the bus. I pray that you find comfort in knowing that he is in a wonderful place and will welcome all of us when it is our time to join him.

Love,

Tracie Klinger###imported-begin##Tracie Klinger###imported-end##

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January 13, 2009 at 07:04 PM



“ Dear Grace and Family,

So sorry to hear of Bob's passing. It was so nice to meet you several years ago at the farm in Adrian. You and Bob were so gracious, and I enjoyed sharing family/genealogy information with you both.

Would like contact with family to share more family discoveries.

May the Lord be with you and your family at this time.

Linda Ossler-Smith

[gillin5@ticon.net](mailto:gillin5@ticon.net)###imported-begin##Linda Ossler Smith###imported-end##

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January 13, 2009 at 06:49 PM



“ Grace, I can imagine Rick and Bob running, jumping, and praising God together. I'm sure Rick was waiting for him when he entered heaven. God Bless you Grace. Love, Marcia Crocetto and daughters###imported-begin###Mrs. Richard (Marcia) Crocetto###imported-end##

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January 13, 2009 at 05:31 PM



“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you. Grace your care for Bob was a blessing and a witness to all of those near you. The Lord's blessings to you.

Harold and Nancy###imported-begin###Harold and Nancy Reed###imported-end##

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January 12, 2009 at 04:48 PM