



Dr. Robert Wayne Husband

May 21, 1931 - December 16, 2021

ADRIAN – Dr. Robert Wayne Husband, 90, of Adrian died Thursday morning, December 16, 2021 at Cambrian Assisted Living in Tecumseh.

He was born on May 21, 1931 in Hesperia, MI to Max and Frieda (Poe) Husband. Growing up in a house with five boys and one girl, you could guarantee there was always excitement going on. Bob had a thirst for knowledge and adventure throughout his life.

After graduating from high school, Bob attended the University of Michigan earning his bachelors in 1953, going on to serve his country in the United States Air Force from 1954-1958. Upon his discharge he went to Western Michigan University and earned his masters in 1960. Bob felt the pull again to serve and enlisted in the Michigan Air National Guard in 1962-1970. He finished his studies at Michigan State University where he received his PhD in Zoology in 1966. Bob spent his entire teaching career as a well-respected researcher and professor of biology at Adrian College.

Bob was a world-renowned entomologist, specializing in mites. During his career he authored over 150 research publications, discovered over 172 new genera and species of mites, attended conferences and presented, not only in the U.S., but in England, Germany, Italy, Australia and Japan. Bob was most proud of starting the human anatomy class at AC that allowed students to

study with cadavers, which helped advance their studies and knowledge as they prepared for the medical field. Bob was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Adrian for many years and a supporter of the Hope Center and Civitan of Lenawee.

Bob wasn't alone on his adventures, on May 14, 1955 Bob married Patricia S. Psalmonds in Kalamazoo, MI and they shared 60 years of building a family and traveling the world.

Bob is survived by his children, David (Cindy), Linda Psalmonds and Suzanne Husband; grandchildren, Ted Husband, Robert Husband, Crystal (Leonidas) Fiallos and Robert (Danielle) Rowland III; great-grandchildren, Jacob, MacKenzy, Damien, Amy and Robert IV; siblings, Pat Hoyt, Michael (Abby) Husband, Keith Husband and Tim (Martha) Husband. He was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Patricia; brother, Terry; brother-in-law, John Hoyt and sister-in-law, Suzanne Husband.

Funeral services for Bob will be on Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at 12 p.m. at Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian with Rev. Eric Stone officiating. The service will be live-streamed and accessible from Bob's tribute wall for 90 days. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until the time of the service. The family has requested masks be worn by all who attend.

Memorial contributions may be made to Civitan of Lenawee or the Hope Center. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **22**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Funeral Service

DEC **22**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home (Adrian)
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI 49221
(517) 263-1400
info@wagleyfuneralhome.com
<https://www.WagleyFuneralHome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service created a Webcast in memory of Dr. Robert Wayne Husband*



Wagley Funeral Home - December 21, 2021 at 11:17 AM

SH

A true inspiration! My Uncle Bob was a kind, caring and brilliant man!

Steven Hoyt - December 22, 2021 at 01:00 PM



“ *Dr. Robert Wayne Husband*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM

CF

“ *Dr Husband was a wonderful Professor. I had the honor of learning from him as a Biology Major at AC, (93-97); my Entomology Collection hangs proudly on display and I think of him fondly with every Insect I see, missed but never forgotten.
My condolences to Dr Husband's Family. ~ Caroline Baran Fleming*

Caroline Baran Fleming - January 17, 2022 at 10:22 AM

CF

“ *Caroline Baran Fleming lit a candle in memory of Dr. Robert Wayne Husband*



Caroline Baran Fleming - January 17, 2022 at 10:14 AM

AD

“ *I just learned of Dr. Husband's passing and I am so sorry for your loss. I was a biology student at Adrian College 1983-1987 and had the privilege of being a lab assistant to Dr. Husband. I learned so much from him. His smile warms my heart even now and his support was treasured as I became a pediatrician and then stay at home mom. We stayed in touch at Christmas and it was common for me to get a long letter in reply to my cards which are always late. He took so much time and care. I will miss hearing all his news, latest discoveries and encouragements. "Eternal rest grant unto Dr. Husband oh Lord and may Your perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen."*

Anne Majewski Dybing - January 10, 2022 at 10:12 PM



“ *Memorial Trees was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Wayne Husband.*

December 21, 2021 at 11:50 PM

TH

“The following was written by my brother Bob reflecting on a mission he was involved in at Christmas Island as a member of the Michigan Air National Guard. The mission was 'classified' for many years. As you may know, Bob was diagnosed with a serious cancer issue several years ago. At the time it was believed that the operation had resolved his cancer issue. However, it returned a few years ago and he has since been undergoing treatment. He addressed this issue with the support of his family and his own insurance and finances.. He tried, unsuccessfully, to get support from the Veteran's Administration (VA). He was not at all bitter about not receiving support for this or hearing aids he sorely needed. He took it in stride and continued to move forward. He was proud that he was part of a mission that allowed the U.S. to identify future bombs that might be exploded by other countries through the classification of the particles that he and his crew collected. I present this excerpt from a letter his daughter, Suzanne, encouraged him to write as part of a new application to the VA that, unfortunately, was not completed before his passing. He served our country well.

“A brief summary of my Air Force contact with radiation

After attending the aviation cadet program (1954-1955), I was assigned to James Connally Air Force Base to be a certified radar intercept officer and instructor. At that time were exposed regularly but minimally to radiation with no apparent ill effects.

I left active duty in 1958 but returned in 1962. I was a Michigan Air National Guard volunteer for active duty in the nuclear bomb dust mission at Christmas Island. We were told that we would be exposed to radiation as we flew through a nuclear bomb cloud, collecting bomb dust in our unpressurized B-57s. We were further informed that they recruited volunteers who planned to have no more children because of the potential damage from radiation. My wife and I had three wonderful children and had not planned on having any more.

During the mission, we made passes through the top of the atomic clouds. The only protection at the time were lead vests. During one of the events, it was determined that we were too far up to get a good reading, so they had us drop lower and fly through the center of the cloud, which I remember as intensely hot. When we landed, as usual, we showered immediately and then were tested for radiation. The levels were so high that I had to shower and test three times before predetermined acceptable level of radiation was present on my body.

After the mission, I returned to Michigan and continued to serve the Air National Guard and Reserves until 1970. No tests or checks were done on the testing crew after the mission was over.”

Tim Husband - December 20, 2021 at 10:09 PM

HH

“ Uncle Bob was someone I greatly admired and is a good part of the reason I followed biology as a career. When I was in high school we had a talk at a family gathering and I found out he went to college with my biology teacher (a class I loved). There was some story about the two of them and a boa constrictor in a garage I can't quite remember, but I figured if the two of them had chosen biology as a career, it was a pretty good one to go for. Throughout my life, if I wanted to talk science it didn't matter how old I was, Uncle Bob was excited to have the conversation with me.

At a family gathering a few years ago, an impromptu concert started (as they often did around campfires in my childhood). My cousin Mandy was there with her kids who are all amazingly talented, Aunt Pat had her hammer dulcimer, Uncle John had his banjo, and Uncle Bob....pulled out HIS banjo! Evidently he had decided to learn how to play. I teased him about choosing such an "easy" instrument to learn, which brought soft laughter that always reminded me of my grandmother's giggles. Eventually the conversation turned to how I wanted to pursue my Master's degree, but was worried at my age, and with kids and a full time job, it might be impossible. He again gave me his soft chuckle and looked down at his banjo. Then he simply said, "If you really want to, you will find a way." Then a bee flew by and he was off to see if he could catch it.

I 'm close to finishing my Master's and it is hard, but I imagine learning banjo in your 80's was hard too. I loved getting his Christmas letters and random information on bee identification in the mail after I expressed an interest in learning how to identify them. He is, and always will be, a smile in my heart.

Heather Husband - December 20, 2021 at 05:38 PM

AC

“ Bob was a very nice person. I am honored to call him my friend. He taught me how wonderful the Symphony Orchestra Concerts are. I never imagined I would ever be interested in attending one. I now know I will likely attend more. We were neighbors for 17 years which is how my husband and I got to know Bob and Pat. We moved but years later we reconnected through Civitan. I will miss him.

Ann Chrysler

Ann Chrysler - December 20, 2021 at 03:51 PM



“ 64 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wagley Funeral Home - December 20, 2021 at 02:14 PM



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Wagley Funeral Home - December 20, 2021 at 12:55 PM

DG

“ Ann and I send sincere condolences on the passing of this highly respected friend. His life was well-lived.



David and Ann Guldin - December 20, 2021 at 09:29 AM

CW

“ I loved seeing Dr Husband at church and out on the trail. I would often pass him out on a walk and say hi— such a kind man! His commitment to staying fit was inspiring! I will truly miss seeing him on my walks or at the Centre.

Christy Mesaros Winckles - December 19, 2021 at 02:24 PM



“ I first met Bob at The Centre where we were both taking a Silver Sneakers class. I was surprised when he told me he was going to be turning ninety in May of this year; his mind was as sharp as a tack! We will all certainly miss his enthusiasm for life.

Exercise "classmate",

Donna

Donna Birdsall - December 19, 2021 at 01:54 PM

BM

“ I doubt I knew a kinder colleague at Adrian College. Down to Earth, scholarly, and yet always with a smile, if I ran into him, he would surprise me with a specific compliment on my work. He and Pat were generous and helpful to me when I was a new professor. I will carry his memory warmly in my heart.

Beth Myers - December 19, 2021 at 10:23 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Wayne Husband.*



December 18, 2021 at 03:16 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Dr. Robert Wayne Husband.

December 18, 2021 at 10:21 AM



“ *Bob was a gem of a guy....I got to know him well thru Silver Sneakers at the Centre...very determined to keep fit...I've probably known Bob for the past 5 years and I consider it a pleasant to call him my friend....I only knew him as "Bob". Not "Doctor". A sweet soul who left behind sweet memories! I will definitely miss you my friend!! 🥺🥺💔💔💔💔*
Kayleen Liedel

Kayleen Liedel - December 18, 2021 at 06:57 AM



“ *Bob will be missed. At family gatherings, young and old all would huddle close to listen to him share his knowledge and stories. His gentle kindness will never be forgotten. He was known in our family as a " National Treasure".*

Martha Husband - December 18, 2021 at 06:32 AM

SX

“ My deepest condolences to Dr. Robert Husband's family for their loss. He was a wonderful husband, father, scholar and professor who was my father Dr. K.S. Xavier's esteemed colleague at the Adrian College Biology Dept. for over 30 years. Dr. Husband will be sorely missed. We shared many family get to gethers with Bob and Pat Husband and their family growing up. May his soul Rest in Everlasting Peace.

Sally Xavier - December 17, 2021 at 02:25 PM

RH

He was a great man who I was privilaged to have met in Bandera at the home of his daughter Linda who shared many of her father's characteristics. He is now spending Christmas in Heaven with Jesus from where he sends to each a memory of his undying love and the service he has done for so many. May God carry each of you. Roberta Himebrook

Roberta Himebrook - December 17, 2021 at 07:28 PM

G.

Condolences to the family of Dr. Husband. I remember him, as he was my instructor in multiple classes during his first years at Adrian. A wonderful man and an enthusiastic instructor.

G.F.Payne - December 22, 2021 at 07:38 AM