



Robert Anthony Lonsway

April 21, 1936 - December 3, 2019

ADRIAN- Robert Anthony Lonsway, age 83 of Adrian, went to meet his Lord on Tuesday, December 03, 2019.

He was born on April 21, 1936 in Jackson, Michigan, the son of Roscoe J. and Wilhelmina (Burg) Lonsway. Bob graduated from Catholic Central High School in 1954. Following graduation Bob worked for a number of years at the A & P Store in Adrian, and later had a motor route with the Detroit Free Press.

His interest in genealogy spanned his adult life and a long-standing dream was fulfilled when a French-Canadian research group traced one of his lines to Charlemagne. He belonged to several genealogical societies and also had an interest in aquarium fish, orchids and cooking.

Bob was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church since 1952, when his family moved to Adrian from Chelsea, Michigan; he also sang in the church choir for many years.

He is survived by his sister, Mary Collins of Adrian, and her eight children, Michelle Grassman, Timothy, Jeanine Peterman, Theodore, Amy Collins-Kilar, Betsy Doyle, David and Deanna and their families; great nieces and nephews, Anna, Emma, Jenny, Tracy, Mike, Josh, Cassie, Kayla, Lauren, Sara, Jeffrey, Andy, Dustin, Breanna, Emily, Nia, Elin, Ethan and Drew; great great nieces and nephews Layne, Cade, Claire, Alaina, Nick, Ruby, Iris, Cora and Calvin; and step great niece and nephews, Jacob , Josh, Courtney and Peyton. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, Alpheus and Mary (Schiffer) Lonsway, John Louis and Mary Ann (Hare) Burg; and a

niece, Pamela, who died in infancy, a little angel who was stillborn, and a great nephew, Seth Peterman.

At Bob's request, cremation has taken place. A graveside service will be held on Friday, December 27, 2019, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Joseph Cemetery, Adrian. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Vincent De Paul Society.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian. Online condolences and memories may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC 27. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Joseph Cemetery
1029 Oakwood Road
Adrian, MI 49221

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Anthony Lonsway*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *I am a distant cousin of Robert's and had worked with Robert over the past couple of years on genealogy. He was brilliant! His recall of facts and intricate details was remarkable. I have copies of his Reau-Derosier-Lonsway(Bronsard dit Langevin) genealogy. We had been working on it and I hope to be able to get it printed in the next few months. His work needs to be preserved for all. Mary Lonsway Weichel-hrnweichel@aol.com*

Mary Weichel - December 09, 2019 at 11:57 AM

EP

“ I had to pleasure of meeting Bob Lonsway at the Genealogical Society of Monroe County when I was 14 years old. I remember how I was asked to tell a little bit about myself and I explained I was French-Canadian, Polish, German, and a few other ethnicities. After the meeting he came up to me exclaiming how he was French-Canadian too and wondered if we could be related!

In many ways, he became a grandfather-like figure to me. His love of life was contagious and I had so much fun talking to him about genealogy, cooking, and our mutual French-Canadian heritage. He always made me laugh when he talked about his orchids or put the phone up to his indoor waterfall so I could listen. When I graduated high school he attended my graduation party and we stayed in contact even when I moved away for college.

He was very much a night owl and we would talk late in the evening about what was going on. He always had advice for me and would comment about a particularly delicious dinner he had made or had ordered in from his favorite Chinese restaurant. We both also loved traveling and we would talk about all the adventures I wanted to have and about his travels to France when he was younger. I thought he was so brave to have traveled alone onboard a ship!

I will greatly miss these conversations and his wisdom. If there is anything I can do please let me know. If you have any information about his funeral service please let me know so I can pass the information along to GSMC members. He has a great number of friends who would like to attend and remember his life. Thank you.

*Sincerely,
Emily Phillips*



Emily Phillips - December 07, 2019 at 06:09 PM