



John Robert "Bob" Gray

July 22, 1943 - February 25, 2025

John Robert Gray (Bob), age 81, passed away at his home in Cadillac, Michigan on February 25, 2025. He was born on July 22, 1943, in Merritt, Michigan to Bernard and Lucille (Wallington) Gray.

Bob is survived by his siblings, Bernard (Nancy) Gray, William Gray and Jackie Bair, Joe (Charline) Gray, Stuart (Carolyn) Gray, Susan (Barry) Lawrence, Becky (Paul) Gluch, Linda Gray and Greg Fyfe, Howard (Janet) Gray. Bob is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles and many good friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, ex-wife Beverly, his stillborn son, John Robert Gray, grandson Eric Bear, stepson Mick and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Bob is survived by a good family friend, Dave Cosgrove. A stepson, Tom Bear (JoAnn) and children, stepdaughter, Renee (Dave) Everett , granddaughter, Heather Cosgrove and great granddaughter, Karley Cosmenski, Dillion Everett, grandson, stepdaughter, Chris and Pat Schoenmak and Holly Suckey and children.

Bob graduated from Merritt High School in 1962 (in the top ten of his class!) After graduation, Bob was hired at General Motors in Flint, Michigan. He was inducted into the U.S. Army on May 16, 1967. During his tour of duty in the U.S. Army he was a Combat Engineer receiving a National Defense Service Medal, a Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two Campaign Stars, and two Overseas Service Bars. While serving in combat in

Vietnam, Bob was wounded on September 11, 1968, in Loc Ninn S. Vietnam. He is a recipient of the "PURPLE HEART" for his injuries. Bob proudly served his country and was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army in May of 1969. He then returned to his former employment at General Motors in Flint, Michigan, until 1973, at which time he changed careers.

He was employed as a Sawyer in the logging industry. He worked with his brother Bill in Gray Forest Products, Dave Stuck and then Gray Logging with his brother Joe until his retirement.

After retirement, you could always find Bob in his element, doing lawn care, gardening and yard work for many people. He had a passion for auctions, garage sales and looking for antiques, giving many treasures away to family and friends. He had a giving heart. Enjoying family functions were special for him. He loved his visits with his friend, Mike, on Thursday nights and his Friday night visits with his brother, Bill. In his younger days he enjoyed fishing and hunting with his family and good friends. Bob had many pets throughout the years, but his favorite was his rescue dog, Jimmy, a great companion. Bob's Memorial Service will be held on Friday, June 6 at 11:00 A.M. at Peterson Funeral and Cremation, 205 E. Cass St., Cadillac, MI 49601. In honor of Bob being a proud U.S. Army Veteran of the Vietnam War, Honor Guard Services, will follow, with a funeral procession to Aetna Township Cemetery, Missaukee County. The family invites you to join them in a luncheon following being served at the American Legion Hall, Jackson, Koster, Gray Post in Lake City, MI.

In lieu of flowers, we ask to please consider a donation to the DAV (www.mi-dav) (Disabled American Veterans) and or Michigan Sheriffs Association/Wexford County. (www.misherriff.org) An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services
205 East Cass Street
Cadillac, MI 49601

Tribute Wall

HS

“ I'll never forget the time you took me and grandma to Mackinaw. We went to a really cool zoo and ended up seeing a Kenny Rogers impersonator in concert. Then you took us to a lady's house who rescued animals. We had so much fun that day. That's just one of many memories I have of you. I love and miss you grandpa. I will think of you every time I light a purple candle (to honor your purple heart).



Holly Suchey - June 08, 2025 at 01:45 AM

JG

“ Joe & Traci Gray purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of John Robert "Bob" Gray.



Joe & Traci Gray - May 31, 2025 at 05:56 PM

LG

“ My brother Bob was 13 years older than I, but, he was the eldest of nine children and held us all together as solid as a rock. He was a very proud veteran and was honored to serve his country in the Vietnam War. I will miss dearly.
Linda Gray



Linda Gray - May 20, 2025 at 05:21 PM

PW

“ *Patty Wallington Wehner lit a candle in memory of John Robert "Bob" Gray*



Patty Wallington Wehner - May 18, 2025 at 02:43 PM

HG

“ *To my brother Bob, you are the oldest child, and I am the youngest of nine, so we have a few years between us. Some fond memories when I was younger, were of you coming home on weekends from Flint Motor Company. You would take me and my good neighbor buddy (Jim) fishing to the backwaters of Reedsburg dam. Over the years, even separated for many miles at times, a family bond lasts forever. You will be missed by many. Thank you for your service in the Vietnam war.*

Howard Gray - April 03, 2025 at 08:33 PM

BG

“ *My brother, Bob, was a proud Vietnam Veteran and on this special day "National Vietnam War Veterans Day" I extend a heartfelt "Thank you for your service" and to all Veterans "Thank you for your service." My brother, John, known by his Cadillac VA friends, appreciated all the healthcare treatment and friendships he made. "THANK YOU" for taking care our brother, John. I was able to spend more quality time with Bob the past year. I drove him to many of his health care appointments and more. Bob, you will be sadly missed, your sister, Becky and Family*

Becky Gluch - March 29, 2025 at 04:10 PM

DG

“ *My uncle Bob was a great person. I have wonderful memories when we would go to Cadillac to visit him. Rest in peace Uncle. You will forever be missed.*

Daniel Gray - March 12, 2025 at 03:13 PM

MI

“ *Rest in peace my dear old friend of many years. You will be remembered often and greatly missed. God bless. Mike*

Mike - March 08, 2025 at 08:44 AM

SH

“ *Bob was such a great friend to me and my family. He came to my kids open houses and sporting events. Bob was a hard worker who loved helping others. I will always cherish the beautiful vases that he brought me fresh flowers in at the Waterfront Restaurant several times a year! I'll miss you Bob ❤️*

Susan Hess - March 06, 2025 at 07:08 PM