

**Bob** May 21, 1941 - May 14, 2024

Robert (Bob) Lynn May, 82, passed away unexpectedly, but peacefully, in his sleep last week at home in Muncie.

He was born on May 21, 1941 to Robert L. and Edna (Kellam) May and grew up in Rush County, Indiana.

After graduating from Rushville High School, Bob served in the U.S. Navy, as his father had. His main shipboard role was as a Morse Code operator; after he left the service, he continued to practice this skill from a dedicated room in his home brimming with ham radio equipment, log books, and maps. Bob remained close with his Navy buddies, and attending their annual Navy reunion in Boston was a highlight of his year.

Bob went into teaching after his military service. He earned his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Ball State University, then enjoyed a 34-year career as a Special Education teacher for the Muncie Community Schools. Bob will be remembered for his dedication to nurturing his students' abilities, confidence, and opportunities.

Beyond the classroom, Bob was a champion for special-needs individuals across the state. He played an intrinsic role with Indiana Special Olympics, for which he was personally presented with a medal of commendation by Eunice Kennedy Shriver, founder of Special Olympics.

In his retirement, he often spent the winter in Florida, relishing the warm weather and outdoor pursuits such as fishing and golf. Bob's other interests included photography, travel, and socializing with his wide network of friends.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Clara Gwen.

He is survived by his daughter Carolyn, and by several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

He will be laid to rest in a private burial at East Hill Cemetery in Rushville. At a later date, a memorial service incorporating military funeral honors will be held.

Memorial contributions in Bob's memory may be made to Delaware County Special Olympics P.O. Box 176, Muncie, IN 47308, or to National Navy Seal Museum, 3300 N Highway A1A, North Hutchinson Island, Fort Pierce, FL 34949; www.navysealmuseum.org/support.

Online condolences may be directed to the family at www.meeksmortuary.com.

## Cemetery



704 IN-44, Rushville, IN 46173

## **Tribute Wall**



## Robert F Pagnotto, RM3 USS Boston CAG1

ROBERT (BOBBY) MAY RM2 1963 -1964 BOBBY, YOU FAILED TO MAKE YOUR BATTLE STATION DURING GENERAL QUARTERS. A JOB WELL DONE FELLOW NAVY VETERAN. AMERICA THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE TO YOUR COUNTRY IN THE DEFENSE OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY. THE USS BOSTON-CAG1 HAS TURNED INTO THE WIND PREPARING FOR YOUR FINAL DEPARTURE. TAPS IS ABOUT TO SOUND ENDING A SUCCESSFUL CAREER AS A NATION'S DEFENDER. SMOOTH SAILING FELLOW SHIPMATE