



Robert (Bob) Hulen Gray

October 2, 1940 - February 12, 2023

Bob Gray, 82, of rural Holden passed away after a short illness Sunday, February 12, 2023, at the Western Missouri Medical Center at the same time the Eagles scored their first touchdown in Super Bowl LVII. Bob was born in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas on either October 2 (according to the doctor) or October 3, (according to his parents) in 1940. He was the third child of Burl and Juanita Jones Gray. His early childhood was spent in Arkansas where he often told tales of picking cotton with his parents and older sister. His father became a Southern Baptist Pastor and, as such, was called to Holden to serve at First Baptist Church in 1957. While in high school in Holden, Bob played football, basketball and baseball. He graduated from Holden High School in 1959.

In 1959 he married a classmate, Mary Ann Musser, and they resided in and around Holden for the remainder of his life. They became parents of 3 sons, Mark, Matt, and Mike, who recently retired from West Central Electric Coop. Bob's interests included hunting and fishing of all kinds and gardening. For him deer season was like Christmas is to young children. Besides processing his own game, he loved making summer sausage and jerky. His man cave (barn) is filled with mounted antlers with some outstanding sheds included. He tried his hand at growing many vegetable crops, some of which he had never heard of until seeing them in that year's seed catalogue. At the time of his death, he was already planning this year's planting.

Bob had worked at Bendix, Fisher body, poured concrete for several years

and ended at Environmental Specialists where he helped close out old and build new landfill cells in several locations in the United States. He retired in 2002.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years of the home; two sons, Matt, of Blainstown, and Mike, (Chelle) of Warrensburg. To his delight he is also survived by two granddaughters, Ruthie McConville (Dale) of Warrensburg and Tiffany Gray of Warrensburg. While many people don't have the blessing of knowing their great grandchildren, he is also survived by five, Caleb McConville, who graduated from Warrensburg in 2022, Porter McConville, a junior at WHS, Daisy McConville, a freshman at WHS, Charlotte (Charlie) Hunt a seventh grader at WMS and Suri Hunt, a fifth grader at Sterling. These children, granddaughters and great grandchildren were the delight of his life. He also is survived by his brother, Garry, Memphis, TN, and sisters Kay Martin, Clinton, MO and Nancy Kenniston Warsaw, MO.

Preceding Bob in death were his parents, an older brother who passed before Bob was born, his oldest son, Mark, and his older sister, JoAnne.

Services for Bob will be held Saturday, February 18, 2023, at Campbell-Cast Funeral Home. Visitation will be from 10-11 AM followed by a funeral service at 11 AM. Masonic services will precede the funeral. Pastor Tim Whitmore, assisted by Jim McDaniel, will conduct the service. Burial will be in the Holden Cemetery following services. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the Shriner's Hospitals for Children. Bob had a soft spot in his heart for children. Online condolences may be left at www.castfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home Inc. DBA:Campbell-Cast Funeral Home
407 South Pine Street
Holden, MO 64040
(816) 732-5531
stewartfamilyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://castfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

FEB 18. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Stewart Family Funeral Home Inc. DBA:Campbell-Cast Funeral Home
407 South Pine Street
Holden, MO 64040
(816) 732-5531
stewartfamilyfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://castfuneralhome.com/>

Interment

FEB 18. 12:00 PM - 12:15 PM (CT)

Holden Cemetery
West 10th Street
Holden, MO 64040

Tribute Wall



“ *Jim Garten lit a candle in memory of Robert (Bob) Hulen Gray*



Jim Garten - February 18, 2023 at 09:04 AM

BH

“ *Really a good guy! I remember when the Gray family arrived in Holden and Bob had a cast on one of his ankles. It was around halloween and a few of us were out "running" around. Nothing bad just having fun. Bob never missed a beat with that cast.*

Marty and I send our deepest condolences to Mary Ann and the entire family.

Bob and Marty Henry - February 15, 2023 at 01:54 PM

JT

Uncle Bob was one of the best men I've ever known. I think I always felt close to him because he and my mom looked so much alike. I fondly remember Uncle Bob, Mary Ann and the boys coming to Quincy in the summer... I have no idea how 5 kids and 4 adults fit in that small house! I'm so thankful that I was able to attend several fish fries in recent years and spend time with my "Gray" family. My condolences to everyone.

Judy Taylor - February 15, 2023 at 05:28 PM

KF

“ *Holding Bob and Mary Ann in the Light--thankful that they were together for so long and supported each other so fully. Bob came to HHS as a cool new guy in that 50's spirit. Who knew how much he and Mary Ann would contribute to the community? We are all fortunate to have known him and to keep knowing her. Rest in Peace. Kathy Tuepker Finks*

Kathy Finks - February 15, 2023 at 01:08 PM

NK

“ *Our family had so many memories of Bob and Mary, I think we went down to their house every weekend. We went ice skating on their pond, he pulled us on a sled behind the tractor he had made, 4th of Julys, Christmas and many many more days spent with them. My kids loved going there, I could go on forever. I am his youngest sister and miss him so much. He will always be in my hurting heart. I loved him so much. I am so glad he is not suffering now.*

Nancy Kenniston - February 14, 2023 at 11:23 PM

NK

“ *Nancy Kenniston lit a candle in memory of Robert (Bob) Hulen Gray*



Nancy Kenniston - February 14, 2023 at 11:23 PM

JV

“ *Julie Vandaveer lit a candle in memory of Robert (Bob) Hulen Gray*



Julie Vandaveer - February 14, 2023 at 07:51 PM

PM

“ *He was the best grandpa I will ever have. I killed many deer with him caught many crappie and bass with him, he will be missed.*

Porter McConville - February 14, 2023 at 07:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert (Bob) Hulen Gray.*



February 14, 2023 at 03:10 PM

KS

“ *Bob was my oldest brother. I always thought of him as caring, sweet and of course ornery. I love you dearly and will miss you always. God knew you were hurting and gave you peace. Your sister Kay*

Kay Martin, sister - February 14, 2023 at 02:50 PM