



Robert L. Tolan

March 3, 1940 - April 12, 2020

Robert L. Tolan, 80, of Beecher, passed away Sunday April 12, 2020 at Vibra Hospital in Crown Point, IN.

He was born March 3, 1940 in Chicago, the son of Walter and Margaret (Austgen) Tolan.

Robert is survived by his wife; Ruth(Bakhaus) Tolan, 2 sons, Martin Tolan of Beecher and Peter (Fiance Melissa Link) Tolan of Chicago Heights, 2 sisters, Martha Gatlin of St John, IN and Margaret (John) Macjanet of Lake Daeca, IN., and a grandson Mason Tolan

.

He is proceeded in death by his parents and an infant son Thomas.

Robert enjoyed gardening, mowing grass, music, and nascar.

Visitation will be at Hack-Jensen Funeral Home on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 from 1pm till 3pm. A private family service will be held. Because of restrictions due to the Corona Virus only 10 people will go in at a time. We will have plenty of staff outside to help explain the procedure.

Memorials may be made to the wishes of the family.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **15**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Hack Funeral Home

753 Hodges St.

P.O. Box 535

Beecher, IL 60401

(708) 946-2161

hackfuneral@yahoo.com

<https://www.hackfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

TP

“*Bob Tolan was a huge influence in my young and impressionable life in high school. As my 10th grade English teacher at Merrillville HS, (I believe his first year of teaching) Bob introduced me to literature and writers who were not on the 10th grade curriculum. He was closer to his students than his fellow teachers, and we felt he was a friend and well as a mentor. He was cool! Riding to work on a huge Triumph motorcycle, at 6’8” he looked like a cowboy riding in on a horse. At the 1966 Homecoming football game halftime show, he dressed as Batman and asked me to be Robin. We rode onto the football field on his cycle like superhero’s! Things like this built up self esteem in an otherwise less than confident 15 year old. He was approachable to all students and kept us in his confidence, always lifting us up. I wish I had kept up with him throughout my adult life to continue the friendship he showed me as a teacher. I never met his wife and kids (he was single when I knew him). But I’d like to extend my condolences to you and wanted to share with you some of my memories of Bob.*

Tony Patellis - February 17, 2022 at 09:09 AM

CF

“*Even though I’m a year late seeing Mr. Tolan’s obituary, I’d like to share my memory of him. I was a freshman in his first hour English class in 1967 at Merrillville High School. He rode a motorcycle to school, many times arriving late to class or soaking wet or both. He balked at the admin and by doing so, gave many of us courage to go our own way in life, without rules. That year, as part of the curriculum, we read ‘Exodus’ by Leon Uris. The book and our class discussions made a profound statement that I’ve always remembered.*
Thank you, Mr. Tolan.

Charlotte Friedlund - April 13, 2021 at 11:45 AM

MS

“ Sorry to hear about your loss.

Mark Spitzig - April 16, 2020 at 11:11 AM

TD

“ Bob was a great man.. He treated me like a man when I was a boy at Gallagher.. Always showed me respect and always had a joke to throw at me. He got me into trains, and I will never forget him... One of the best people I ever known.. RIP Bob... Till we meet again..

Tony Dattulo - April 15, 2020 at 10:48 PM

SD

“ I was very sad to learn of Bob's passing. Ruthie, my thoughts are with you.

Sue Dawson - April 15, 2020 at 09:42 PM

PA

“ I'm sorry for your loss Ruth and family. Bob was a great guy and cook! Everybody loved him at the Pig Roasts he will be missed.

Paul/Dee Spitzig

paul - April 15, 2020 at 08:48 PM

DP

“ Ruth and family...
I am so very sorry to hear this news. Bob was a great friend to my Dad and Donna and to me as well.
He was a great man. My sincere sympathies to you all
Hugs and prayers,
Diane (Vidimos) Pickens

Diane Pickens - April 15, 2020 at 06:24 PM

CS

“ *My sympathy to you Ruth and your family. Sending prayers.*

Claudia Stedt - April 15, 2020 at 05:02 PM

KS

“ *Karen Seitz lit a candle in memory of Robert L. Tolan*



Karen Seitz - April 15, 2020 at 01:58 PM

KS

Ruth, Dennis and I are so very sorry to hear about Bob. We thought the world of him. We are so sorry.

Karen Seitz - April 15, 2020 at 01:58 PM

CG

“ *Ruth,
My condolences for your loss what a great man.
“Big Bob” was a big influence on me when when I started full time at
Gallagher in 1985. He showed by example to be fair, do things well
and stand up for what’s right. And always have time for friends. 35
years later I’m still using his lessons.
Peace to your family.
Charlie Gallagher*

Charlie Gallagher - April 15, 2020 at 11:08 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert L. Tolan.*



April 15, 2020 at 10:08 AM



“ *May the grace of God be with you and hold you gently in His Hands
May your journey forward be enriched by the magnificent souls who
have passed before you, just like you have done here, for those you
leave behind.
Love you more, Marthann*

marthann gatlin - April 14, 2020 at 11:05 PM



“ *So many years, so many memories. Can't even begin to list them.
We were friends for 50+ years -- a lifetime. He was a big part of our
lives. He will be missed. Love to the family from Tom and Diane*

Tom and Diane - April 14, 2020 at 10:44 PM



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Robert L. Tolan.*



April 14, 2020 at 09:33 PM

SR

“ I am so sorry to hear this. My thoughts and prayers are with the whole family. I will always cherish the 4th of July memories we shared! 🙏. Rest in Peace Big Bob!
❤️ Shelly, Carl, and Emily Ryan

Shelly Ryan - April 14, 2020 at 08:45 PM

WT

“ Ruth my sincere condolences to you and your family. I will always remember and truly miss Bob he was a dear friend of mine Wayne Truetner

wayne truetner - April 14, 2020 at 08:34 PM

MZ

“ Dear Ruth, Marty and Peter, We will all miss Bob who was truly one of a kind. We have many happy family memories over many years especially how he loved to eat in younger years and work in the yard with his garden. Rest in peace. Love you all, John & Mary

Mary Zanichelli - April 14, 2020 at 07:41 PM

KD

“ Ruth, My deepest sympathy. His lawn and garden always looked so nice when you lived in Kentland. He took great pride in it. Good bless. Kim Donohue

kim donohue - April 14, 2020 at 04:19 PM

DC

“ rUTH, sO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.

Debbie Cann - April 14, 2020 at 04:10 PM



“ *Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Robert L. Tolan.*



April 14, 2020 at 03:14 PM



“ *Ruth, thinking of you and wishing you peace and comfort.*

Diane Beebe - April 14, 2020 at 02:19 PM



“ *I'm so sorry for your loss. He was a good friend to Ernie when everyone hung out at Wayne's. Such a gentleman and a gentle man! I loved talking with him. He'll be missed by all who knew him. Prayers, Tawny*

Tawny Lattz - April 14, 2020 at 01:50 PM



Ruth prayers go out to you and your family. May God grant you much peace at this time. Rely on your faith, family and friends.

Sandy Selock Lorts - April 14, 2020 at 03:33 PM



“ *Ruth, Marty and Peter: Carl and I send our deepest sympathies and our love your way. Hopefully he is enjoying a beer with Dad and they are talking about old times. Please let us know if we can do anything to help. With love to you from Carl and Ruthann.*

Ruthann Tamosaitis - April 14, 2020 at 12:32 PM

CH

“ *Ruth and Family, I always thought of him as a gentle giant. Sorry to hear of his passing,*

Cheryl Hartill - April 14, 2020 at 12:15 PM