



Robert A. Bach Sr.

July 26, 1933 - January 2, 2026

Robert A. Bach, Sr., 92, of Bradenton, FL, formerly of East Peoria, peacefully passed away with his family by his side, on Friday, January 2, 2026, at his home. He was born in Newton, IA on July 26, 1933, to Carl and Erma (Roesler) Bach. He married Judith Gould on June 15, 1957, in Creve Coeur; she preceded him in death on July 5, 2014.

He was also preceded in death by his siblings, Margaret “Peg” Banfleth, Caroline Smith, Carl Bach; nephews, Greg Will, Kenneth Bach, and Thomas Bach; and his son-in-law, Kevin Brummitt.

He is survived by his children, Robert A., Jr. (Lynn) Bach of and Jane A. Bach-Brummitt, both of East Peoria; grandchildren, Trina (Court) Oakes and Robin Bach, both of Washington and Jason (Courtney) Bach-Randolph of Port Charlotte, FL; and great grandchildren, Sydney, Jaxson, Ella, Sommer, Brooklynn, Travis, Charlie Mae, and Palmer.

After graduating from EPCHS in 1951, Robert spent two years in the Army from 1953 to 1955. He was a proud member of the International Union of Operating Engineers for 69 years, where he held roles such as apprenticeship coordinator and business agent. He developed and constructed the Navy Pier marina in East Peoria, subsequently selling it to the East Peoria Boat Club. He then created and built another harbor/marina in East Peoria, currently owned by the East Peoria Boat Club, which recently organized a major fundraising event known as the Polar Plunge. The harbor was officially designated by the Army Corps of Engineers as the R.A. Bach Boat Basin.

Robert played a key role in collaborating with William Rutherford on the establishment of Wildlife Prairie Park, as well as contributing to numerous infrastructure projects, including roads and buildings throughout Illinois.

A dedicated member of the Ancient Free & Accepted Masons of Illinois Hilton Lodge #1143 for 50 years, Robert achieved the rank of Master Mason. He was also a member of Abbas Grotto for 51 years and sat on the Supreme Council for Grottoes International.

The family will receive friends from 2–3 p.m. on Friday, February 6, 2026, at Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services in East Peoria, with a Masonic Service at 3 p.m. Family and friends are invited to join a celebration of Robert's life at the East Peoria Boat Club at 4 p.m. Private burial will be at Fondulac Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be made to Dogs Inc. (www.dogsinc.com or mail to 4210 77th Street East, Palmetto, FL, 34221) or Wounded Warrior Project. Online condolences may be left at www.GaryDeitersFH.com.

Cemetery Details

Fondulac Cemetery

1985 E. Washington Street
East Peoria, IL

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

FEB 6. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria
444 E. Washington Street
East Peoria, IL 61611

Memorial Service

FEB 6. 3:00 PM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria
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Tribute Wall

KS

“ Sending condolences to the Bach family. (((Hugs))) to you all. I remember the Boat Club days, very great famILY memories. I had no idea your Dad was so involved in the other boat club and Wildlife Prairie Park. Our fathers must have ran into each other so much after the "Old Boat Club" with their careers in the same field. Also, my dad built Duck houses and bird houses for the park.
Love the Sloan family

Kathleen Sloan-Spearman - June 24 at 12:00 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear about your loss. Bob Bach was a big part of my life. My favorite memory was at the old boat club. I would finish bartending for the evening and slowly clean the bar and listen to music. Bob would come down and put wood on the fire. We then would get in interesting conversations. I have great memories with all of you. My thoughts and prayers are with you all

Stacey Yerby - January 20 at 02:27 PM

JB

Thank you Stacey! So sweet!

Jane Bach-Brummitt - February 03 at 04:30 PM

BM

Robbie and Lynn, I won't be able to attend the services. Please feel confident that I share your grief. Bob was a good man a ND a brother Mason. RIP Big Bob. The Millers

Bill Miller - February 04 at 08:14 PM

JB

“ Jane, I am so sorry for your loss. I hope you can look back on all the precious moments you spent with your dad and find peace in knowing that you shared many special memories that will live forever in your heart. May God walk with you and your family during this difficult time.

Jenny Brown

Jenny Brown - January 16 at 04:52 PM

JB

Thank you! 🙏

Jane Bach-Brummitt - January 17 at 09:56 PM