



Robert E. Dolle

August 31, 1930 - November 21, 2021

Robert (Bob) Edwin Dolle, 91, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri passed away peacefully Sunday, November 21, 2021 at Saint Francis Medical Center with his family by his side.

He was born August 31, 1930 in Cape Girardeau to Luther and Flora Johnson Dolle and was a life-long resident here.

Bob developed an interest in music early, was self-taught and played entirely by ear. He started playing music professionally on the weekends at age 14 and has continued playing in the Cape Girardeau area in various dance bands and types of music to the present. By many, he was considered a Musician's Musician.

He and Virginia Ruth Seabaugh were married September 24, 1950 at the Lutheran Church in Sedgewickville, Missouri. They recently celebrated 71 wonderful years together.

Bob served in the United States Air Force and was honorably discharged.

His work history included employment at the Firestone store, local Falstaff distribution and truck freight deliveries with Tucker, Inman, and Elfrink Truck Lines where he retired from in 1993.

In 1963, he was a founding member of the Capaha Antique Car Club and served in various positions, including President. For over 60 years, he personally owned, restored, maintained, and showed six different vintage cars winning numerous trophies.

Also, over the last 60 years, Bob has been active in motor boating owning several over that time. Many family memories were made with vacations and weekends spent boating, water skiing and fishing.

In the early 70's, he became interested in Motorhomes and has owned various ones through the years. That led to his and Virginia's desire to travel including visits to all 50 states, Canada and Mexico, Caribbean cruises and various European destinations. They also spent 3 months annually of the last 27 years as "Winter Texans", which is where he was introduced to Western Swing music.

His talents and commitment to Western Swing music have earned him the honor of being elected into 4 Hall of Fames including ones in Texas, Washington, Oklahoma and California. In addition, he is the Regional Director for Missouri for the Western Swing Music Society. He and Virginia have also hosted a Western Swing Showcase for Missouri in Cape Girardeau for the last 16 years. His passion for this music and keeping it alive was demonstrated in his strong support of youth through the Western Swing scholarship program.

Bob was a member of the Elks Club, American Legion, SEMO District Fair Board, Redhawks Camping Club, and Mid-Mo Camping Club. He continues playing music regularly at the Veteran's and Nursing Homes, local dances, and as a guest artist at both the Cape Girardeau and Jackson Municipal Band summer concerts. Within his family and friends, he was known for his excellent down-home cooking.

In May of this year, he was honored by the City of Cape Girardeau with the Outstanding Promotion and Preservation Award of providing the art form of "Western Swing Music".

He was a member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Cape Girardeau.

The essence of Bob can be summarized as follows: grew up with modest means, exceptional commitment to his wife and family, hardworking, life-long learner, exceptional memory, outgoing personality, greeted you with a smile, positive approach, very particular to detail, continual desire for improvement, always available to help you, and serving God and his country.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia Dolle of Cape Girardeau; a son, Gary (Patti) Dolle of Saint Louis, Missouri; a daughter, Sherri (David) Owens of Bonita Springs, Florida; a sister, Ruth Ann (Robert) Rauscher of Phoenix, Arizona; Grandchildren, Kristopher (Kelly) Dolle of Imperial, Missouri, Rebecca (Steve) Solovic of Wildwood, Missouri, Caleb Owens of Saint Louis, Missouri, Clayton Owens of Saint Louis, Missouri; great grandchildren, Ella Dolle of Wildwood, Missouri, Luke Solovic, Avery Solovic, Jack Solovic of Wildwood, Benjamin Dolle of Imperial, Missouri, Dawson Owens of Saint Louis, Missouri.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, John Dolle; and sister, Dorothy Krueger Points.

Visitation will be at Ford and Sons Funeral Home on Mt. Auburn Road, Cape Girardeau, Missouri on Sunday, November 28, 2021 from 4 to 8 PM and on Monday, November 29, 2021 from 9 to 10 AM.

Funeral service will be at 10 AM at Ford and Sons Funeral Home with the Rev. John Dehne officiating and assisted by Vicar Tim Koehler.

Burial will be at Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery in Cape Girardeau with full military honors.

In lieu of flowers, Memorial contributions may be given to the Western Swing Music Society of the Southwest Scholarship Memorial at P.O. Box 916, Jacksboro, Texas 76458 or St. Andrew Lutheran Church, Cape Girardeau, Missouri.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com.

Ford and Sons Funeral Home - Mt. Auburn is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1909
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 28. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Visitation

NOV 29. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Service

NOV 29. 10:00 AM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

DD

“ We were so sorry to learn of Bob's passing. We were parked next to you at the Rally in Monroe City, MO, near Hannibal. Enjoyed a short visit with you and Bob's playing.

Dale & Judy Daniel, Mid-Mo Wanderlust Klub

Dale & Judy Daniel - December 01, 2021 at 12:55 PM

TK

“ I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Gary, I will keep your family in my prayers. It's never easy to lose a parent. He was a special guy.

Larry and Tammie Lincoln Koenig

Tammie Lincoln Koenig - November 30, 2021 at 08:34 PM

DB

“ So very sorry to hear of Bob' s passing. We will miss him so very much. We have been coming to the Rio Grande Valley for almost 25 years and have looked forward to Bob' s music every year. Also his smile and wonderful personality. Both him and Virginia will be greatly missed. ❤️❤️❤️ *Dick & Ginny Bidwell*

Dick & Ginny Bidwell - November 29, 2021 at 01:22 PM

BB

“ Fondly remembering Bob's patience at my first attempt at water skiing. Gary had invited me to spend the weekend at the lake and you all made me feel at home.

Blessings to you as you celebrate his legacy.

Bob Bohnsack

Bob Bohnsack - November 28, 2021 at 09:03 PM

RS

“ I'll never forget the JOY Bob gave to so many playing music. I truly believe he received as much pleasure playing as we received by music.

Anytime my wife, Donna, and I were dancing to his music, he would ALWAYS play "Skaters Waltz" for us. I'll never forget how special he always made us feel. So MANY memories of him on the air on KWKZ with Cuzin Carl and the times I was honored to talk with him on C-106.

He truly was a Country Gentleman and I know in my heart Bob Dolle earned a seat on the EXPRESS ELEVATOR to HEAVEN!

Rick Sinclair - November 28, 2021 at 12:16 PM

DS

“ Oh my goodness, this is such a loss for our community. For me personally I loved Bob and Virginia both. They were special people and you never saw one without the other. Bob or Virginia one would always call and let us know when he was going to be playing locally. Bob would always play our favorite “ Skaters Waltz”. He knew we loved it and sometimes he would play it twice in one night for Rick and I. We would waltz every time he played it. I think that I shall never hear that again until I cross those heavenly gates and Bob is playing in that great western swing band in the sky. Bob we will miss you so much. Happy trails to you until we meet again. ❤️

Donna Sinclair - November 28, 2021 at 09:04 AM

DS

“ Oh my gosh this is such a loss for our community for so many reasons. But for me personally Bob and Virginia were special people. You never saw one without the other. They were a true couple and we love them both. Bob would always let Rick and I know when he was playing music locally and he would always play our favorite “ SKATERS WALTZ” No one played it like you Bob. Most times he would do it twice in one night for us because he knew we loved it so much. I don't think I shall ever hear that again at least not the way you did it Bob until I get to heaven and you will be playing in that great swing band in the sky. You will be missed dear friend. Happy trails to you. ❤️

Donna Sinclair - November 28, 2021 at 08:55 AM

GJ

“ We never had the pleasure of meeting Bob in person but he was not a stranger because of our fond relationship with Bob's son Gary. Through Gary, we could see Bob's love and fatherly leadership. The heavenly band just got a lot better! Lord's blessings to the family!

Gary and Debbie Juhl - November 27, 2021 at 09:01 PM

JR

“ Bob was so supportive and instructional in helping me learn to play without music. Will miss my big brother terribly, but have wonderful memories. Hugs, sweet Virginia. Love, Jill Rohrback

Jill Rohrback - November 27, 2021 at 08:02 PM

LD

“ SO Sorry for loss Virginia!
Bob will be Missed by ALL at Texas Trails!
Love, Prayers and Hugs.
Vern & Laretta

Laretta Deacons - November 27, 2021 at 01:40 PM

RP

“ Virginia and family, you are in our prayers because we know what a large role Bob played in your lives. We are sorry for your loss. Bob was a wonderful man and always seemed happy. You can't ask for more than that. His talent was beyond compare. We loved going to the swing festival and seeing you both every year. May God bless you with comfort and peace during this difficult time.

Jim and Rhonda Pender

Rhonda Pender - November 27, 2021 at 09:05 AM

BS

“ Texas Trails will deeply miss Bob and his wife, Virginia. RIP dear friend.

Barbara schuhmacher - November 26, 2021 at 11:37 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Robert E. Dolle.*



November 26, 2021 at 04:16 PM



“ *Lefty, Mike, Curt, & Dan purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert E. Dolle.*



Lefty, Mike, Curt, & Dan - November 26, 2021 at 03:34 PM



“ *The Missey's, Shines & Kremer's purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Robert E. Dolle.*



The Missey's, Shines & Kremer's - November 25, 2021 at 09:26 PM



“ *Lacey & Patti purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Robert E. Dolle.*



Lacey & Patti - November 25, 2021 at 12:48 PM

TB

“ So very sorry for your loss! You're in our thoughts and prayers!
Lacey & Patti

Troy Lacey Bernard - November 25, 2021 at 12:44 PM

WS

“ WSMSS purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of Robert E. Dolle.



WSMSS - November 24, 2021 at 05:01 PM

MF

“ Condolences Virginia in the loss of your love
one Bob.



Mary Seabaugh Francis - November 24, 2021 at 04:30 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of
Robert E. Dolle.



November 24, 2021 at 11:44 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Robert E. Dolle.*



November 24, 2021 at 11:29 AM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert E. Dolle.*



November 24, 2021 at 10:06 AM



“ *Your EWS Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert E. Dolle.*



Your EWS Family - November 23, 2021 at 05:55 PM

GK

“ I truly enjoyed the 20 plus years of being a member of Bob's Band. We strived to perfect our music and Bob made sure that we succeeded. He had many talents but few musicians had the communication skills and ability to organize like Bob. He knew countless people in the Western Swing Family. He was fortunate to have loyal, loving Virginia by his side in all his endeavors. Yes, to have known and worked with Bob will be chalked up as some of my best memories.

Gene King, Vocalist and Guitarist.

Gene King - November 23, 2021 at 04:44 PM

RA

I met Bob and Virginia Dolle when my wife and I would visit my folks in south Texas in the Rio Grande Valley starting in the early 90's to the present. Bob was a great musical mentor for me and just the greatest guy you'd want to know. I played my trombone on all fourteen of his Bob Wills Shows in the 'Valley' and enjoyed every minute of them. Bob was always willing to unload his electric piano anywhere and have a musical jam session making music. Once he and Virginia visited Marilyn's and my house in the DC suburbs and we had a session in our driveway along with fellow musicians Del Puschert, Jerry Butler and others. I have Bob and Virginia to thank for nominating me and my being accepted into the Southwest Western Swing Hall of Fame last July.

I'll miss Bob a lot. They don't come any better than Bob.

*Red Arwood
Gallatin, TN*

Red Arwood - November 23, 2021 at 07:19 PM



Virginia and family so sorry for your loss he will be missed

Tim Beussink - November 24, 2021 at 10:26 AM

CV

Bob was always happy and welcomed you with a smile. We enjoyed so many fun times with Virginia and Bob. He will be remembered for the wonderful music he shared with everyone

Gene and Carolyn Vandeven

The Villages, FL

Carolyn Vandeven - November 26, 2021 at 07:37 PM