



Robert "Bob" Phillips

September 24, 1947 - January 10, 2026

Robert "Bob" Phillips, 78, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri died Saturday, January 10, 2026 at his home, surrounded by family.

He was born September 24, 1947 in Malden, Missouri to Emily Sara Emerson Phillips.

He and Debbie Pollmann were married June 24, 1978 at Owensville, Missouri.

Bob was a 1965 graduate of Malden High School. He received an associate of arts degree from Williams Baptist College in Walnut Ridge, Arkansas in 1967 and a bachelor of science in education degree in 1970 from Arkansas State in Jonesboro where he was also very active in the TKE Beta Psi Chapter. He later received a certificate in Christian studies in 1996 from the Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He taught for one year in Malden and served as the freshmen football coach. He then began a 40 year career with Cameron Mutual Insurance Company with the majority of that time in claims risk management. He retired in 2012.

Bob had been a member of Kimbeland Country Club since 1986 and had been on the board of directors. He also volunteered at the Southeast Hospital Cancer Center. He was a member of First Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau

where he was a Sunday School Teacher, youth leader and deacon.

He liked to read and watch movies. He enjoyed golf and photography, and he loved to travel.

Survivors include his wife, Debbie Phillips of Cape Girardeau; son, Kent (Jamie) Phillips of Cape Girardeau; three cousins, Teri Lynn Kratzer of Foley, Alabama, Jeff Hampton of Copperas Cove, Texas and Jim Hampton of Dothan, Alabama.

He was preceded in death by his parents; uncle, Sheridan "Dutch" Emerson; two aunts, Imogene Emerson and Juanita Davis; and cousin, Peggy Jean Hampton.

Visitation will be 5:00 to 7:00 pm on Wednesday, January 14, 2026 at First Baptist Church of Cape Girardeau.

Funeral service will be at 11:00 am Thursday, January 15, 2026 at First Baptist Church of Cape Girardeau with the Rev. Wesley Tew officiating.

Memorial contributions may be given to First Baptist Church of Cape Girardeau, Southeast Missouri State University Athletics or TKE Beta Psi Alumni Association.

The family would like to thank the nurses at Mercy Hospital Southeast for their compassionate support and care of Bob during his stays.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **14**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Cape Girardeau
1289 Lexington Ave.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Service

JAN **15**. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Cape Girardeau
1289 Lexington Ave.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

TB

“ *Debbie and Kent: So sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Your family was so special to our parents, Tom and Jackie Boudinot. Tommy and Barbara Boudinot, and Melissa and Mike Faucett, and families. Please know you are in our prayers.*

Tom Boudinot - January 14 at 07:38 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Phillips.*



January 14 at 02:49 PM

TF

“ *The Shupert family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert "Bob" Phillips.*

The Shupert family - January 14 at 02:49 PM

SF

“ *Schulte Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert "Bob" Phillips.*



Schulte Family - January 13 at 12:03 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Phillips.



January 13 at 08:52 AM



“ The Kramer Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert "Bob" Phillips.

The Kramer Family - January 13 at 08:52 AM



“ Bob was a great man. He was kind and loved to chat. He will be missed by all. Prayers for the family.

Carol Weinrich - January 12 at 08:44 PM



“ His Fraternity Brothers! purchased the Sentiment s of Serenity Spray for the family of Robert "Bob" Phillips.



His Fraternity Brothers! - January 12 at 08:00 PM

JS

“ I have known Bob Phillips since I moved to Malden and I was a part of activities there like the Malden Green Wave football team and the Malden Elementary school! Later we all moved to Cape Girardeau and our lives stayed intertwined because we each knew where we could find a shoulder to cry on or someone to laugh with. Love you much!

Jane Cooper Stacy - January 12 at 06:08 PM

JS

Definitely a top shelf guy ! Lifelong friend! Good job my friend!

John Summers - January 12 at 07:11 PM

BH

Bob and I were on the KTCB little league team way back when. That lead to a life long friendship. We were roommates and both TKE Fraternity Brothers at Arkansas State University. What most people don't know about Bob was he was a great athlete. Football, basketball and baseball. If he would have had the opportunity to play golf at a much younger age he would have been proficient in that sport too. He had a great radio voice and was the MCEE at many of ASU events. Definitely one of a kind. Will miss you my friend, but you are in a new body and no more pain.
Bill Hampton

Bill Hampton - January 12 at 08:21 PM

JW

This is a wonderful photograph of Bob--I don't recall ever seeing him without a welcoming smile for all, even when he was suffering in some way. Bob and Debbie were the first friendly folks to welcome me to FBCCG about 9 years ago--I so appreciated that. May God hold your family close to His Heart because He already is holding you, Bob!

Janeann Ward - January 13 at 01:33 PM