



Robert J. Blanchard

July 24, 1923 - August 13, 2009

Blanchard, Robert Joseph – son of Peter Manuel and Susie (Kohlmaier) Blanchard, was born July 24, 1923 in Okmulgee County, Okmulgee, Oklahoma. He died August 13, 2009

He graduated in 1941 from St. Anthony's High School in Okmulgee, where he played basketball and helped in the family feed store business. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps in 1941. On December 20, 1944, he married Army Nurse Lieutenant Frances Stella Gilfillan in San Antonio, Texas. Following honorable discharge from the Army in 1945, they lived in Vermont where their first three children were born. He worked for Fairbanks Morse as a machinist from 1945-1946, New England Telephone and Telegraph almost 15 years, and transferred to S.W. Bell Telephone in 1960. His fourth child was born in 1967. He retired July 1976 from S.W. Bell (after 30 years service in the Bell System) to care for his wife Frances. After Frances's death in 1985, following a long battle with multiple sclerosis, he married Katherine (Brixey) Zeier on March 3, 1993 at St. Anthony's Church in Okmulgee. Katherine died in August 1994 following a brief battle with lung cancer. His care and loving devotion to both wives through their illnesses should serve as an example to all. He is remembered for his contributions to the Okmulgee High School Band Boosters, the Boy Scouts, the M.S. Society, and Marian Academy. He was a member of the M.S. Society, St. Anthony's Catholic Church, Post 10 of the American Legion, the Okmulgee Cemetery Board, Telephone Pioneers, and

the Prairie Signals insulator collector's club. He collected telephone insulators and liked to hunt and fish. He was preceded in death by his parents: Peter M. and Susie (Kohlmaier) Blanchard; his brother, William P. "Bill" Blanchard of Okmulgee; his three sisters and their husbands: Helen Ann and Kenneth Biddle, Okmulgee, Julia Sue and Alvin Bollinger of New Orleans, Louisiana, and Margaret and Bill Veytovich of Okmulgee, his two wives: Frances and Katherine and numerous friends and old cronies. He is survived by his sons and their wives: Stephen R. and Virginia (Kohler) Blanchard of Salt Lake City, Utah; Peter and Shannon (Wilson) Blanchard of Okmulgee, Oklahoma; his daughters and their husbands: Kathy and Jim Youngblood of Catoosa, Oklahoma: and, Melinda S. and Don Crawford, of Moscow, Idaho: eight grandchildren: Amy, Sarah, Jack, Alexa, Allison, Bo, Bayler, and Ben; two great-grandchildren: Devin and Joshua; his dear cousin and traveling companion Theresa Andrina, five step-children, several step-grandchildren, and two step-great-grandchildren, and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

A Rosary will be held Monday at 7 pm in the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 515 S. Morton Ave., Okmulgee, Oklahoma on Tuesday, August 18, 2009 at 10:00 am. Viewing will be at the funeral home on Monday, 1-8 pm. The Celebrant will be Father Patrick McCool of St. Gregory's Monastery of Shawnee, Oklahoma. Pallbearers will be Larry Biddle, Jerry Curtis, Jerry Biddle, Raymond Godfrey, Pat Zeier and Jon Scherer. Honorary Pallbearers will be Loy Slaton, Charles Simon, Ken Biddle and Tommy Biddle. Memorial contributions are suggested to: The Oklahoma Chapter of the Multiple Sclerosis Society, 4606 E. 75th St., Ste. 103, Bldg. 7, Tulsa, OK 74136 or The Tulsa Rose Garden, Tulsa Garden Center, 2435 S. Peoria, Tulsa, OK 74114, St. Anthony's Church Altar Society, Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Arrangements are under the direction of the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee.

Previous Events

Service

AUG **18**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Saint Anthony Catholic Church
515 South Morton Avenue
Okmulgee, OK

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert J. Blanchard*

December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *I first met Mr. Blanchard in May 1999, at the inaugural meeting of the Prairie Signals insulator group in OKC. I was impressed with his generosity and positive demeanor. During visits with Bob and his cousin (Teresa, I believe), Bob regaled my wife and I with great telephone lineman stories going back to the 1940s and '50s in Vermont and Oklahoma. I feel fortunate, Mr. Blanchard (he'd be mad at me for not calling him "Bob"!), to have known you --- even if only for a short time. You are missed here on earth, but I am sure you are having a good time in heaven!*

Steve and Sarah Corfidi - May 17, 2018 at 10:58 PM



“ *My sisters and I were sadden to hear of Bob's passing. He was a friend of our Dad's and was very kind to all of us when he died. Our hearts grieve with you all. It is very hard to lose your Daddy. We do not understand this pain and loss, but we trust and have faith that God's way is perfect.
With my deepest sympathy.
Susie Thomson-Boyd###imported-begin##Susie Thomson-Boyd###imported-end##*

August 20, 2009 at 05:01 PM



“ Peter,
I'm so very sorry about the loss of your father. Paula notified me by email... Please know that I'll be sending you and your family lots of prayers in the days to come.

Darla Thompson
ACS Ambassador###imported-begin###Darla Thompson###imported-end##

August 19, 2009 at 03:04 PM



“ With much love and admiration from your ornery niece who drives with her foot in the carburetor!###imported-begin###Diane Gilfillan###imported-end##

August 18, 2009 at 10:17 PM



“ My sincere sympathy to the family...especially Peter. Jeneane Campbell###imported-begin###Jeneane Campbell###imported-end##

August 17, 2009 at 06:53 PM



“ Kathy, Malenda, Pete and families,
We are all going to miss him a lot. I've been thinking about what a great time he will have now that he is back with MaMa and PaPa and Mom and Dad Biddle, Aunt Sue and Uncle Al Bollinger, Aunt Margie and Uncle Bill Veytovich, Uncle Bill Blanchard and the rest of his family in Heaven.###imported-begin###Ken & Deanna Biddle###imported-end##

August 16, 2009 at 09:52 PM



“ To Bob's loved ones: We first met your Dad in 2005 when he, Tom and Charlie came to support us at our Dad, Harry L. Thomson funeral. He generously shared with enthusiasm funny stories of their friendship. We were immediately drawn to his genuine gentle personality. A special man.
May your memories carry you thru this sadness.
We just know that there is one heck of a reunion going on in heaven.##imported-begin##Bill and Barbara (Thomson) Worbington##imported-end##

August 15, 2009 at 06:24 PM



“ Mr. Bob was a great friend of my father, Harry L. Thomson. Dad passed in 2005 and Bob came to dad's service to comfort our family and share boyhood stories, it was priceless...now they can share stories together in heaven..We miss our dad everyday and we feel your loss.##imported-begin##Debra Thomson-Smith##imported-end##

August 15, 2009 at 02:48 PM



“ Bob was very special to us and we will truly miss him. He loved to hear and tell a good joke. He and Harold loved to see who could tell the best and funniest joke. We will miss his keen sense of humor and wonderful laugh. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers always. Love, Harold & Karen##imported-begin##Harold & Karen Hunt##imported-end##

August 14, 2009 at 10:05 PM



“ *What a dear friend Bob was to both of us. He and James had many fun times together working for SBC. We will surely miss visiting with him in Okmulgee and his phone calls.##imported-begin##James and Lila Bell##imported-end##*

August 14, 2009 at 09:53 PM



“ *Dear Blanchard Family:*

Your Dad was a special person. He was so good to let Jim and I fish at his ponds. We always had a good time there in Okmulgee as we always stopped to visit him before we came back to Jenks. He liked to hear that I caught the most or bigger fish than Jim. He will be missed!##imported-begin##Jackie Olzawski##imported-end##

August 14, 2009 at 09:53 PM



“ *We will be thinking of all Bob's family and friends. We enjoyed knowing Bob for several years and enjoyed his knowledge of Antique Insulators. We of the "Prarie Signal Insulators Club" will miss him intensely.##imported-begin##Clarence & Jean Koch - Perry, Oklahoma##imported-end##*

August 14, 2009 at 05:00 PM



“ *Peter: I am so sorry for your loss. You and your family have been and will continue to be in my prayers. Our faith assures us we will meet our loved ones again.*

1 Thessalonians 4:17

Traci Thompson##imported-begin##Traci Thompson##imported-end##

August 14, 2009 at 03:31 PM



“ Yes I will agree that you had a wonderful Dad....He was the definition of a true Dad....and he will be missed greatly. My love to the family, it is truly hard to lose a parent.##imported-begin##Jeanne (Baker) Heath##imported-end##

August 14, 2009 at 01:07 PM



“ My sincere condolences to Bobs family. He was a customer of ours for many years. Will miss him so much. I called him a grouchy old man and he would only laugh, of course I was only joking with him and he knew it.Lots of times he would bark right back but all in jest.Kids you were blessed to have such a wonderful dad.##imported-begin##Mary Hayden##imported-end##

August 14, 2009 at 11:51 AM



“ Bob was a very special man and I feel blessed to have called him "friend". My parents and I went to spend time with him a few weeks ago and he was so entertaining. He told fun and animated stories from the past. What a beautiful memory!

Bob will be a special angel watching over us!##imported-begin##Susan Olzawski Barrett##imported-end##

August 13, 2009 at 10:28 PM



“ Bob was a much loved and special friend. He will be missed.##imported-begin##Tom and Lois Olzawski##imported-end##

August 13, 2009 at 08:08 PM