



Robert J. Murphy

November 16, 1932 - February 15, 2025

Robert J. Murphy, Sr., 92, of Lake Wesauking, Wysox Township, Bradford County, died on February 15, 2025, at Guthrie Towanda Memorial Hospital Skilled Nursing. He was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania on November 16, 1932, the son of the late John F. Murphy and Mary Calpin Murphy.

Bob married Ann Marie Grindel of Scranton on August 24, 1963; Ann survives him. He is also survived by his son, Robert J. Murphy, Jr. of Lake Wesauking; his daughter, Laura M. Brann and her husband, the Honorable Matthew W. Brann, of Williamsport; and his grandsons, John M. Brann and Peter N. Brann of Williamsport. Additionally, he is survived by a beloved niece, Kim Rokita Willey of Lewisburg and her family.

Bob was predeceased by his parents, his sisters and their husbands, Joan Patricia Hoban (Paul) and Marguerite Mary Rokita (John).

Bob graduated from Scranton Central High School in 1950; the University of Scranton (cum laude) in 1954, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history; and from Georgetown University Law School in 1957. He was admitted to the Bar of Pennsylvania in 1958 and commenced his legal practice in Scranton where he remained until 1963 when he relocated to Towanda and joined the law firm of Bennett and Davis, subsequently, Bennett, Davis & Murphy. He practiced law until his retirement in December of 1994 with attorneys Frank Niemiec, Mark Smith, and Scott Pellingier.

Bob was active in the professional, business, political, and civil affairs of his adopted community. He was a member and past president of the Bradford

County Bar Association, the Lackawanna County Bar Association, the Towanda Area Jaycees, Towanda Lions Club, the Towanda Elks Club, Monroeton Gun Club, an early member of the Bridge Street Rod and Gun Club, the Bradford County Republican Committee, and the Towanda chapter of the Knights of Columbus, attaining 4th degree membership. Bob also was a director of Citizens & Northern Bank, the Bradford Sullivan Counties Red Cross, the Clarks Summit State Hospital, and the Bradford County Museum. Bob and Ann were avid travelers, touring much of the United States, particularly its national parks, as well as frequent trips to Europe and Canada, and a fondly remembered trip throughout South America.

Bob was an avid reader of history, science, biographies, current and foreign affairs. He was a man of great wit and insight and a terrific storyteller. He would tell his family and friends of the events that educated him, humbled him, and molded his life.

Bob was a devout Roman Catholic and an active member of Saints Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church, 106 Third Street, Towanda. It is from this church that a Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday, February 22, 2025, at 11:00 am with the Rev. Jose Joseph Kuriappilly as the main celebrant. The family will receive friends Friday, February 21, 2025, from 4:00 - 6:00 pm at the Maryott Bowen Funeral Home, 217 York Avenue, Towanda, Pa. In lieu of flowers the family suggests contributions be made to Saints Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church.

Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting www.bowenfuneralhomes.com.

Cemetery Details

Saints Peter and Paul Cemetery

James Street
North Towanda Township, PA 18848

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 21. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Maryott-Bowen Funeral Home
217 York Ave.
Towanda, PA 18848
(570) 265-2272
info@bowenfuneralhomes.com

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Saints Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church
Third Street
Towanda, PA 18848

Tribute Wall

VL

“ *The Murphy Family,
Our sympathy for your loss of Bob. We considered Bob (and Ann) to be good friends and we always looked forward to the events where we would see them. Bob was always very supportive of things we were involved with and I had a great respect for him, the guidance and wisdom he gave. We only found out about Bob passing the night of the Lincoln Day Dinner and were quite shocked. Our prayers are with all of you. Bob will be greatly missed by all his friends and relatives.*
Vic & Deb Lawson

Victor S Lawson - March 02, 2025 at 12:42 AM

BU

“ *Dear Ann, Robert, and Laura,
My sincerest sympathy for your loss of Bob. I think he and Ed will enjoy some hunting stories together. He was a very special man who will be missed by many. I have fond memories of times we spent together as couples and families. My prayers are with you.*



Barbara Ulatowski - February 22, 2025 at 02:55 PM

TA

“ *To Ann, Robert, and Laura,
I send your family love and prayers at this sad time. Bob was a good man and made a difference in his life. It was a privilege to know him. I pray that you will find comfort and peace in the days ahead.*

Tom Abell - February 22, 2025 at 10:10 AM

EB

“ Mr. Murphy and my dad were good friends. So good that when my father was diagnosed with cancer Mr Murphy told him to clear his calendar, He had made an appointment at Sloan Kettering for later that day and they drove to NYC together. I know we were forever grateful.

When I earned my Eagle Scout award Mr. Murphy gave me a pocket knife that I have to this day.

My condolences to his family. I am sure he will be missed by all the people that were impacted by his friendship.

Ed Barrett Jr.

Ed Barrett - February 19, 2025 at 05:36 PM

JH

“ Dear Ann and Family. I am so sad to learn of Bob's passing. Such a great guy and friend he has been. Please accept my sincere condolences and know that you are in my prayers at this difficult time. May God Bless.

Joyce Hinkson - February 19, 2025 at 02:05 PM