



## Robert "Bob" Nicholls

December 31, 1936 - April 23, 2021

Robert "Bob" Nicholls, age 84, of Sault Ste. Marie passed away unexpectedly on April 23, 2021, at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids, MI.

Bob was born in Sault Ste. Marie on December 31, 1936, and graduated from Sault High School with the class of 1956. He served in the U.S. Army as a member of the National Shooting Team during that service. Bob sailed on the great lakes for 10 years. He later worked for Western Electric before becoming a Hydro-electric Plant Operator for the Army Corps of Engineers. Bob retired in 1996 and dedicated his time to the 1st United Presbyterian Church and the Elks Lodge #552. He was Elk of the year in 2001-2002.

Bob enjoyed woodworking, including making furniture and scaled replicas of Great Lakes freighters. He also enjoyed scuba diving and daily coffee with friends. He was a founding member of the Great Lake Shipwreck Historical Society.

Bob is survived by his wife of 55 years: Carla (Beamish) Nicholls, whom he married on June 26, 1965, at the 1st United Presbyterian Church; two sons: Kent and Alan (Juliet); a sister: Harriet Clow and many nieces and nephews.

Bob was preceded in death by his mother: Evelyn (Sayles) Nicholls; and two sisters: Elaine Blaga and Ruth Trombley.

Visitation will be on May 4, 2021, at 10:00 am at the 1st United Presbyterian Church in Sault Ste. Marie, MI. A memorial service will begin at 12 noon at the church with Rev. Mark Gabbard officiating. Burial will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens at 3:00 pm on the same day. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be left to the 1st United Presbyterian Church.

# Tribute Wall

NB

“ *carla and family your in our thoughts and prayers  
pat norb bennin*

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**NORBERT BENNIN** - May 16, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ *Carla I am so sad for you. Bob was a wonderful wonderful man. I loved him dearly along with everyone else. Not a mean bone in his body. He was a gift from God I will be praying for you. We know we will see him again in heaven. Bob and Dave are enjoying each other's company now. Roxanna*

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**Roxanna Strickland Livermore** - May 04, 2021 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *I met Bob in 2014 when he brought some relatives to tour the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum at Whitefish Point. Bob expressed how pleased he was to see how nicely the museum and surrounding buildings had been preserved and how the shipwreck stories were shared. He told me that it was beyond his wildest dreams of what he thought when he helped as an original member of the founding team. I told him he should be proud of what he helped create. We had a number of lively conversations since then about hunches he had on some ships we were attempting to find. We greatly appreciate Bob's leadership as a founder and send our sympathy to his family. May he rest in peace.*

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**Terry Begnoche** - May 04, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RJ

“ Dear Carla and family, I was so sorry to learn of Bob's passing so suddenly. Tom called me so we were sad together. I hope to make the service tomorrow but if I am unable please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. I have my freighter on the shelf in my apartment at West Pier. Forever will remind me of one of the nicest people I have ever known. Also have the hymnal in my mother's memory that he rescued after the church fire. With sympathy, Ruthie

Ruth Johnston-Pike - May 03, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ I am very sad to learn of Bob's passing. I knew Bob socially. I bowled and golfed in leagues with Bob for many years. Conversations with Bob were always pleasant, and he was always - always - a gentleman. My condolences to Bob's family and friends.

Jerry Stephens - April 29, 2021 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ The sudden loss of my sweet, loving and jovial uncle has been a hard injury to bear. I know his deep-rooted love of community is part of what drew me to move to Sault Ste. Marie for a few years. I couldn't have asked for a better mentor in my formative years and a force that pushed me to my best self by embodying all that is good in human nature. I'm honored that he was my family. My fervent and sincere prayers of comfort, strength and love during this mourning for my Aunt Carla, cousins Kent and Alan and all my family.



Tammy Thompson - April 28, 2021 at 12:00 AM

HL

“ So sorry, my condolences to his whole family.  
I knew Bob from working at the Corp.  
Always had a great story to share and a big smile. RIP my friend.

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**Henry Lowes** - April 27, 2021 at 12:00 AM