



Robert D. Bosau

November 28, 1946 - March 30, 2026

Robert D. Bosau, age 79, of Lake Forest, Illinois, passed away peacefully at home, on March 30, 2026.

A Midwest native, born on November 28, 1946, Bob held a bachelor's degree from Loras College and a master's degree from Loyola University. He served in the U.S. Army from 1969 to 1971 and was honorably discharged after serving a tour in Vietnam where he received several commendations and medals honoring his continuous heroism and valor. Bob joined the Chicago Tribune in 1971 as a personnel supervisor and advanced through various key leadership positions throughout Tribune Company, including President of Tribune Education, a position he held until his retirement in 1999. Throughout this time, Bob also served on several boards of directors. During his long career with Tribune, Bob was a friend, associate, mentor, and leader to many, known for his strong business acumen, work ethic, loyalty, and integrity.

While Bob had many professional accomplishments, he came from humble beginnings and remained a modest and unassuming person his entire life. He was an avid learner and reader, history and finance enthusiast, and a real gentleman, with a wonderful sense of humor.

Above all, Bob's greatest joy was family and his love for them was deep, enduring, and selfless. A true patriarch, he built a legacy of love, with his

family at the center. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, who delighted in every opportunity to get together. His hugs were legendary, his laugh was contagious, and he was always smiling. He expressed love not just in words, but in action, over and over again. His presence was a guiding light and his absence leaves a profound void. Having placed his faith in Jesus Christ, all who love Bob are comforted by knowing that Bob is now with Him in his eternal home.

Beloved husband of Rose for 56 years; loving father of Amy (Dave) Jennings, Mike (Keely) Bosau, Karen (Patrick) Feeney, Megan (Jon) Chappell and the late Kevin Braden; proud grandfather of Grace, Bella, Charlie, Connor, Jack, Ellie, Beau, Caroline, Bobby, Tommy, William, and Elizabeth; brother of Mary (Tom) Burke, brother-in-law of Mary Ann (the late Dennis) Rygiel, and the late Fr. Peter Heidenrich; many nieces and nephews; and very dear friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 6, 2026 at Christ Church of Lake Forest, 100 N. Waukegan Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045. Interment will be at Lake Forest Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Bob's honor to Christ Church (www.christchurchil.org/give) or the University of Chicago Medicine, Cancer Research (<http://ucmtribute.org/Robert-Bosau>).

Cemetery Details

Lake Forest Cemetery

1525 North Lake Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Service

APR 6. 10:00 AM (CT)

Christ Church
100 N. Waukegan Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045
(847) 234-1001

Tribute Wall

HM

“ I first met Bob in 1964 freshman year at Loras. I was always amazed at his work ethic he almost always had a job in town during the school year. His wonderful obituary describes him as I knew him. We have remained friends since college and talked occasionally along with Christmas cards, phone calls, events such as weddings and get-togethers in Chicago. Not frequently enough! Bob was a true gentleman and an amazing example of a caring family man and individual.
Georgia and I extend our deepest sympathies to his great family, Rose, the children and grandchildren. He will be greatly missed

Harry Mihm - April 07 at 03:01 PM

RM

“ Had it not been for Bob, my life would have taken a very different path.

In 1977, Bob interviewed me for a job in production at the Chicago Tribune. During that conversation, he said something that stayed with me: “Someday soon—not right now—we’re going to build a printing plant.” At the time, the Tribune was still printing in the depths of Tribune Tower, where the presses would shake the entire building each time they ran.

I ultimately declined that position, but told him, “If you ever do build that plant, I hope you’ll reach out. I’d love to be part of it.”

Two years later, Bob did exactly that. He tracked me down at another newspaper in Reno, Nevada, to tell me they were building what would become the world’s largest newspaper printing plant at the time, Freedom Center, and invited me to come help build it. He didn’t have to remember me—but he did.

That’s who Bob was—someone who paid attention, who remembered people, and who followed through.

That decision shaped the next 30 years of my life. What he set in motion didn’t just shape my life—it shaped the lives of my family and everyone connected to the work that followed.

I will always be grateful for that—and for him.

Rest in peace, Bob.

*Richard Malone
richard.h.malone@gmail.com*

Richard Malone - April 03 at 03:41 PM

TF

“ *The Diamantatos Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Robert D. Bosau.*



The Diamantatos Family - April 02 at 11:44 PM

TF

“ *The Diamantatos Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert D. Bosau.*

The Diamantatos Family - April 02 at 11:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert D. Bosau.*



April 02 at 11:50 AM

TF

“ *Tom & Mary Burke & Family purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Robert D. Bosau.*



Tom & Mary Burke & Family - April 01 at 10:28 PM

TF

“ Tom & Mary Burke & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert D. Bosau.

Tom & Mary Burke & Family - April 01 at 10:28 PM