



## Robert A. "Bob" Held

November 23, 1962 - July 23, 2023

Robert A. "Bob" Held, age 60 of Kankakee passed away Sunday, July 23, 2023 at his home. He was born November 23, 1962 in Chicago, the son of Thomas Held & Shirley (Abernathy) Brinkman. Robert married the love of his life and soulmate, Teresa Bonds on April 6, 1990 in Kankakee. They blended families and shared 33 beautiful years together.

Robert began his customer service career at Golden Bear in the mid 1980's where he was the manager. From there, he moved on to manage Monical's Pizza in Bradley. He spent several years as the District Manager of Denny's Restaurant before fulfilling his dream of owning a tavern, which he named "The Break Away" in Bradley.

Anyone who knew Robert knew that he lived for his family and friends. His staff was always considered as both. He loved conversation and helping others. He was well known for his mentorship, fatherly advice, and "Papa's wisdom".

Robert found joy in throwing the ball for his beloved dog, Gracie, and cuddling up to watch TV with her. He was a die-hard Chicago White Sox fan and enjoyed watching the Chicago Bears on Sunday's with his friends. He loved sports banter and hilarious bets. Time spent with his grandchildren always brought out his silly side and he loved being Papa.

Surviving are his wife, Teresa Held of Kankakee; one son, Jeromie Held (Estella Charles) of Watseka; one daughter, Krystal Keller (Austin McGuire) of Kankakee; one brother, Thomas Held Jr. of TX; ten grandchildren, Courtney

Held, Jacoby Held, Daxon Held, Rizzo Held, Jaiden Held, Brooklynn Gorenstein, Tessa Donnelly, Corbin McGuire, Maeleigh McGuire, and MacKenzie Keller; and his beloved dog, Gracie. Robert is preceded in death by his father; mother and stepfather, Shirley & Robert Brinkman; and two sons, Jace Held and Ryan Keller.

Robert's wishes were not to mourn him, but to celebrate the life he lived. Cremation rites have been accorded. A Celebration of Life will be held from 1 p.m. until the time of the memorial service at 2 p.m. on Sunday, August 13, 2023 at Break Away Tavern in Bradley.

Memorials may be made to the family wishes.

Arrangements by Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG 13. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Break Away Tavern  
864 W Broadway St.  
Bradley, IL 60915

## Memorial Service

AUG 13. 2:00 PM (CT)

Break Away Tavern  
864 W Broadway St.  
Bradley, IL 60915

# Tribute Wall

KT

“ I was great friends with Robert in grade school....St. Pauls in Kankakee in the early 70's....ha. As kids, we had really fun times. Pinball was big...Matt's Pizza. CYO basketball. Riding bikes forever. Late June, I saw his "leg" picture on facebook. That sparked a few messages back and forth. We remembered some of those crazy times...My last line to Robert - "No one believes me about our grade school fun stories". His calm, as usual response "That's ok, we know they're true". All the best to his family. We were all lucky to grab a small or big part of life with Robert Held. Kirk Teske.

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**Kirk Teske** - July 29, 2023 at 12:42 PM

JE

“ Julie Enright lit a candle in memory of Robert A. "Bob" Held



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**Julie Enright** - July 27, 2023 at 10:50 AM

JW

“ R.I.P. Robert sure going to miss you.



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**Joseph Wilkins** - July 27, 2023 at 09:10 AM

DW

“ Donna Witkoski lit a candle in memory of Robert A. "Bob" Held



Donna witkoski - July 26, 2023 at 11:03 PM

JD

“ We will always love and miss him!



Jamie DeVore - July 26, 2023 at 09:38 PM

MG

“ I remember when I was 15 & learning to drive, I would get on to Uncle Robert about driving on the line all the time. One time we were on our way to the campgrounds & I was nagging him again about driving down the center line so he pulled over & told me to drive! I looked at my Aunt Teresa like “is he serious?!” 😬 Turns out he was totally serious & made me drive the rest of the way. Talk about being nervous! 😬 I love you Uncle Robert! 🤔

Misty Greenlee - July 26, 2023 at 07:56 PM

JA

“ Janice lit a candle in memory of Robert A. "Bob" Held



Janice - July 26, 2023 at 03:58 PM