

Robert M. Olszewski Sr.

July 24, 1941 - March 26, 2015

Robert M. Olszewski, Sr. of Kankakee died Thursday, March 26, 2015, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was 73.

Olszewski was born on July 24, 1941, to Peter C. and Emily Vengrin Olszewski on the South Side of Chicago.

He graduated from Kelly High School, Woodrow Wilson Junior College, Mundelein University and Roosevelt University, where he earned a master's degree in business administration.

He married Susan (Toby) Reid at St. Rita of Cascia Roman Catholic Church in Chicago on Dec. 2, 1961. They have six children, five of whom were born at Little Company of Mary Hospital, in Evergreen Park, Ill., and the sixth at St. Mary's Hospital in Kankakee.

He is survived by his wife, children and grandchildren: Robert M. Jr. and children Zachary, Hillary and Emily; Susan A. and Thomas Kinard and son Julian of Blue Island, Ill.; Jonathan M. and Taryn (Irps) of Clifton and children Tyler, Reid and Abigail; Matthew M. and Patricia (Wheeler) and children Matthew and Alyssa of Kankakee; Katherine and John Robbins, of Manteno, and children Lucas, Joshua and Mia; and Brendan and Denise (Renckens) of Orono, Minn., and children Grady and Madeline.

He is also survived by his brother and sister-in-law, James S. and Mary (Addeo) Olszewski, of Elmwood Park, and nephews James (Bonnie), Peter (Sarah) and Philip (Annette) Olszewski.

He was preceded in death by his parents, grandson Maxwell Robbins and

niece Terri Olszewski.

Olszewski's career spanned more than 30 years and included working a chemist in research and development for several paint technology companies including Mobil Chemical in Kankakee, which he joined in 1968 when he and the family moved to Kankakee from Hometown, Ill.

He retired from Arvin Roll Coater, where he was a vice-president of research and development, in 1999.

In 1982, Olszewski and his wife purchased the Bourbonnais Herald, a weekly newspaper, where his wife served as editor and publisher. The paper is managed by his son, Jon. In 1984, they purchased The Beverly Review, a weekly newspaper in the 19th Ward of Chicago managed by his children Robert, Susan and Katherine.

An avid collector in his retirement, he operated a booth in the Manteno Antique Mall. He loved his family, coffee, golfing and fishing.

Visitation will be held Wednesday, April 1, from 4 to 8 p.m., at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home, 1480 W. Court St., in Kankakee. A Funeral Mass will be held Thursday, April 2, at 10 a.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Kankakee. Memorials may be made to St. Patrick Church or Bradley Bourbonnais Rotary Club.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

APR 1. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kankakee - Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home
1480 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-1214
cgfuneral@gmail.com

Memorial Mass

APR 2. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church
428 S. Indiana
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-6716

Tribute Wall

RH

“ *Sorry for your loss*



Richard Hardaway - April 04, 2015 at 12:45 AM

SR

“ *Bob was a great guy. He, Toby, and family, continue to run the best newspaper in Kankakee! My deepest sympathy to Toby and Family. May God bless and comfort you all.*

Steve Randazzo and Family

Steve Randazzo - April 01, 2015 at 12:24 PM

BT

“ *Saddened to here of Bob's passing. I learned a few new words and phases from him during Indy golf trips. He had the ugliest rain suit I ever saw. Remember the good times. Bill Tammen*

Bill Tammen - April 01, 2015 at 11:40 AM



“ At Matt and Tricia Olszewski about 8 or 9 years ago for the boat races. Bob and Toby arrive and Bob asks me, does your daughter Adrienne work at Mikes corner Shell. I acknowledged that indeed she did, she was about 17 years old at the time, and Bob was distributing the Herald that day to the local businesses. He said and I quote
 " I didn't want to say hey, remember me, coming from a 60 some year old paper boy"
 I laugh out loud, and by myself I might add every time I think of Bob telling that story

Doug Morgan

Doug Morgan - April 01, 2015 at 10:51 AM



“ Sympathy - Heart Expressions was purchased for the family of Robert M. Olszewski Sr..



April 01, 2015 at 09:45 AM



“ Jeff Satterwhite lit a candle in memory of Robert M. Olszewski Sr.



Jeff Satterwhite - April 01, 2015 at 09:37 AM

GP

“ Dear Toby and family,
Our deepest sympathy in your loss of Bob. He
always was such a wonderful man. Our
prayers are with you during this difficult time.
Gary and Rose Marie Piatt



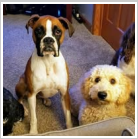
Gary @ Rose marie Piatt - March 31, 2015 at 07:50 PM

KC

“ Katie Chigaros-Martinez lit a candle in
memory of Robert M. Olszewski Sr.



Katie Chigaros-Martinez - March 31, 2015 at 06:31 PM



“ Toby and Family I will not be able to make it
to the services. Just know you are all in my
thoughts and prayers. I am sure my Dad is
taking him to all the best heavenly golf courses



Charles Chinski - March 31, 2015 at 06:14 PM

DH

“ To Matt, Toby and family, We are so sorry for your loss. Please
accept our sincere sympathy. Our prayers and love go out to you.
Dave and Bernie Hansing

David Hansing - March 31, 2015 at 04:03 PM

LL

“ *What a thing. What a thing. I am heartbroken, Toby. So sorry. I will see you Wednesday evening. There is one less light in this world. peace,
loretta*

loretta line - March 31, 2015 at 09:45 AM

RH

“ *Dear Bobby & Family:*

So sorry to hear about the loss of your father...our sympathy to you and your family.

Randy Lori Hoekstra - March 30, 2015 at 04:08 PM

WD

“ *We are sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.*

Wayne and Julie Dunham



Wayne Dunham - March 30, 2015 at 12:54 PM



“ *2 files added to the album New Album Name*



Bob Olszewski - March 30, 2015 at 11:09 AM

KR

“ *Toby and Matt and family.... Duane and I send our sympathy to all of you. We are so sorry for your loss. Kathy Roy*

Kathy Roy - March 29, 2015 at 10:45 PM

MC

“ *Michael Cote lit a candle in memory of Robert M. Olszewski Sr.*



michael cote - March 29, 2015 at 10:19 PM

BB

“ *Toby and family, please accept my deepest sympathies on your loss. Bob will be greatly missed. Brenda Brault (former Jaffe employee)*

Brenda Brault - March 29, 2015 at 05:24 PM

JP

“ *Dear Toby and Family of Bob, may God bless you and comfort you celebrate Bob's life. Warmest regards, Jim Piekarczyk, County Engineer (Retired)*

Jim Piekarczyk - March 29, 2015 at 12:44 PM

JB

“ *You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Janine and Barry Baron*

janine baron - March 29, 2015 at 11:53 AM

DH

“ We are saddened to hear of Bob's passing. While we haven't been with Bob and Toby in many years, there are so many happy memories that live on in our hearts. Laughing with Bob and Toby was an everyday occurrence for several election campaigns. Toby, our thoughts and prayers are with you and your entire family.

Dan & Robin Havens

Dan Havens - March 29, 2015 at 09:11 AM

SS

“ So very sorry for your loss

Sherye Shreffler - March 28, 2015 at 09:16 PM

LM

“ *Laura June Maycen lit a candle in memory of Robert M. Olszewski Sr.*

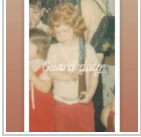


Laura June Maycen - March 28, 2015 at 06:58 PM

TG

*Toby and family.
It is with a heavy heart that I write this. Too many years and miles have passed, but I will always remember Bob.
As cousins growing up we spent many great times together and those are the times I wish to remember him by.
Thoughts and prayers to the entire family*

Tom Guca - March 29, 2015 at 07:51 PM



“ Cheryl Chinski lit a candle in memory of Robert M. Olszewski Sr.



Cheryl Chinski - March 28, 2015 at 04:02 PM



A good part of my childhood involved the Olszewski family - I will always be grateful for the help the whole Olszewski family gave in forming the person I have become. I will also be eternally grateful for their introducing me to the culinary wonders of a "Taco" made by hand, still love a good taco and always think of the Olszewski family and my very first taco.

Cheryl Chinski - March 28, 2015 at 04:11 PM

LM

My deepest sympathies to you all. I will keep your family in my prayers.

Laura June Maycen

Laura June Maycen - March 28, 2015 at 07:03 PM

BC

“ Bonita Chinski lit a candle in memory of Robert M. Olszewski Sr.



Bonita Chinski - March 28, 2015 at 04:01 PM

CM

“ *Deepest sympathy to Toby and family. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Cathie (Bergan) & Clarence Miedema



Cathie (Bergan) Miedema - March 28, 2015 at 01:59 PM

MK

“ *Bob and I share the same birth date and there were years in there where he and Toby and Dan and I visited some 'interesting' places to eat and celebrate! (Some Dan and I would have never discovered were it not for Bob and Toby!) Rest in peace Bob....*

Mary Ann Kirsch - March 28, 2015 at 12:50 PM

KH

“ *we are not destined to live forever on this earth - but we have the ability to live forever in your heart. Bob was gracious enough to leave me some great memories that I can carry with me forever and for that I am eternally grateful.*

Toby, I am still in Florida and cannot be there, but I know the girls will be. I am so sorry for your loss but I know that he and Rita will be doing "egg knockers" when they see each other.....peace, Ken H.

kenneth head - March 28, 2015 at 11:25 AM



“ *Mrs. Fields Nibblers® Sympathy Basket was purchased for the family of Robert M. Olszewski Sr..*



March 28, 2015 at 11:00 AM

VB

“ Zach..Hillary. and Emilys Papa..your smiling face and gentle ways will be missed by so many..you are now at peace..

Val Bennett - March 28, 2015 at 08:20 AM

MO

“ So sorry to learn of Bob's passing . Such a good man whose life was cut short by that damn cancer. May he now be enjoying eternal life. We are in Fl now so unable to be with you for the wake and Mass.

Be assured that we will be with you in spirit! Madelyn& Pat O'Brien

Madelyn. O'Brien - March 27, 2015 at 03:54 PM