



## Robert C. "Bob" Worth

October 18, 1932 - August 10, 2019

Robert C. "Bob" Worth, 86, of St. Anne, passed away on Saturday, August 10, 2019 at his home. He was born on October 18, 1932 in Kankakee, the son of Clyde J. and Eleanor Burrell Worth. He was married to Genevieve "Jenni" Worth.

Bob was a 1950 graduate of Kankakee High School, where he was active in sports. He was a veteran of the United States Navy. Bob began his career as a nurseryman when he returned home from the service in 1956. Together with his brother, Phil, they built Kankakee Nursery into one of the largest wholesale nurseries in the Midwest. He remained active in the business for over 40 years and was a well known and respected advocate for the nursery industry. He was on the board of directors of the Illinois Nurserymen's Association, serving as president in 1986. Bob was a member of the Elks and the Kankakee Country Club. He was a former board member of the Kankakee Historical Society, Mound Grove Cemetery, and the Symphony Foundation. He was a member of Asbury United Methodist Church.

Bob is survived by his wife, Jenni Worth, of St. Anne; two sons and daughters-in-law, Richard and Teri Worth, of Kankakee and Steve and Donna Worth, of St. Anne; two daughters and sons-in-law, Barbara and Mike Schnell, of St. Anne and Mary and Dale Essington, of Clifton; thirteen grandchildren, John Worth, Lauren Worth, Charles Worth, Andrew Worth, Ellen Sinon (Michael),

Pete Worth, Nick Worth, Sally Worth, Tom Worth, Stephanie Beaton, Elizabeth Sperry (Brenton), Katie Menard, and Maggie Menard; one great grandchild, Neve Sinon; one sister, Mona Breunig, of Sunset Hills, MO; two sisters-in-law, Marilyn Worth, of Kankakee and Kathy Geist, of Madison, WI; several nieces and nephews; and special friends, the Tebo family.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Phillip; and one brother-in-law, Jack Breunig.

Visitation will be held from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm on Thursday, August 15, 2019 at Clancy-Gernon-Hertz Funeral Home in Kankakee. An additional visitation will be held from 9:30 am until the time of the 10:30 am funeral service on Friday, August 16, 2019 at Asbury United Methodist Church in Kankakee. Rev. Scott Henley will officiate the funeral service. Burial will follow at Mound Grove Cemetery in Kankakee.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Asbury United Methodist Church or the KCC Scholarship Fund.

# Cemetery Details

## Mound Grove Gardens Cemetery

1000 N. Greenwood  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-6726

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 15.** 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

## Visitation

**AUG 16.** 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Asbury United Methodist Church  
196 S. Harrison  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-4408  
<https://www.kasbury.org/>

## Funeral Service

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AUG **16**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Asbury United Methodist Church  
196 S. Harrison  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 933-4408  
<https://www.kasbury.org/>

# Tribute Wall

ML

“ My deepest sympathy to the entire Worth family. Robert was a great inspiration for me as a young contractor. He always had time to talk and answer my questions no matter how busy he was. I was fortunate enough to have seen him at the nursery after his retirement and he reminded me of my early days and especially when he , Steve & Richard came in on Thanksgiving weekend to load me for a very important client's job we were trying to finish.. Truly an inspiration to all that knew him.  
Matt Lipton

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**Mathew Lipton** - August 26, 2019 at 08:37 PM

JR

“ Our heartfelt condolences go out to Steve, Donna and the entire Worth family on the loss of Robert.

*Jan & John Rodgers*

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**Jan & John Rodgers** - August 24, 2019 at 06:51 PM

LT

“ Our condolences to Steve, Donna and all the Worth Family. Bob and Lisa Themer

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**Lisa Themer** - August 22, 2019 at 12:58 PM

JG

“ We met Bob & Jenni when playing tennis at the racquet club in Kankakee and always enjoyed their company. Bob always seemed to have a smile on his face, and why not? He raised a lovely family of other kind, friendly folks with keen senses of humor! I heard about his illness only recently and was saddened to hear about his passing when I finally read Wednesday’s paper today. My hugs go out to all of the family and I’m sorry I wasn’t there to provide them yesterday! May your wonderful memories help sustain you. Peace

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**Janet & Richard Glidden** - August 16, 2019 at 09:05 AM

LB

“ my thoughts and prayers are with the entire kanakee nursery family from fellow kanakean and nurseryman len blanchette

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**LENNY BLANCHETTE** - August 15, 2019 at 04:30 PM

TF

“ We all benefit from a life well lived. Our business has been blessed by the business ethic of Kankakee Nursery which is an ongoing reflection of the character and compassion of Bob. You have our sympathy for your loss and our hope for continued success in honor of a great man.

*Tom Frain*

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**Tom Frain** - August 15, 2019 at 09:42 AM

CM

“ Seeing the picture of Bob in his nursery office brought back a flood of memories from my time at Kankakee. We lost a good one. Sorry for your loss. Chuck Myers

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**Chuck Myers** - August 15, 2019 at 07:08 AM

KJ

“ our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time **SALLY AND KEN JAFFE**

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**KEN JAFFE** - August 14, 2019 at 08:44 PM



“ *Deepest Heartfelt sympathy  
Find peace & strength that Grandpa Worth believed....the promises  
of eternal LIFE!!*

*Much respect*

*John O. Heil*

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**John Heil** - August 14, 2019 at 05:59 PM

LB

“ *I remember babysitting for your children long ago and also had the honor of using our youngest daughter in my wedding as my flower girl. Rest In Peace Mr. Worth, and my sympathy goes to your family.*

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**Laurie (smith) Burke** - August 14, 2019 at 04:14 PM

LW

“ *3 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Lauren Worth** - August 14, 2019 at 03:38 PM

AW

“ My heart goes out to all of the Worths. I'm so sorry for your loss and sending love. - Amie Whitemore

Amie Whitemore - August 14, 2019 at 03:15 PM

BW

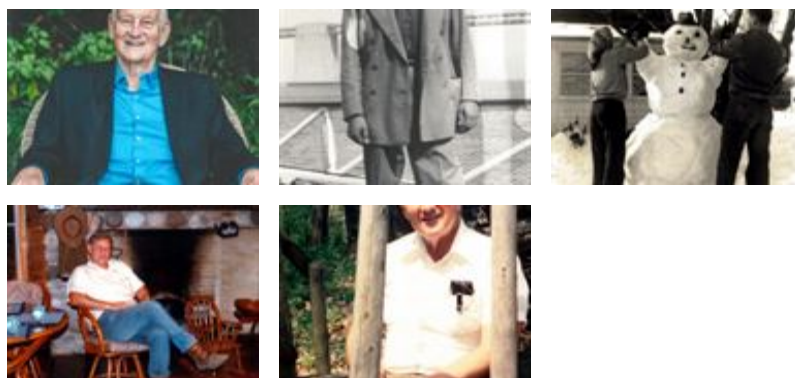
“ In 1980, Bob Worth became a mentor to me and a friend. He took a young college Horticulture student under his wing and kindly taught me many lifetime skills. Later, he allowed our young company to come to Kankakee Nursery and assist in digging product for him. He was always a father figure to me and his thoughtfulness has remained engraved on my heart for all my life. I am so grateful to him for taking the time to help me. I will miss him.

Bruce White  
(Harvest Tree Company)

Bruce White - August 14, 2019 at 02:30 PM



“ 61 files added to the album Life Tributes



Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes - August 14, 2019 at 12:36 PM

CI

“ *The forever " Bud Man " !! God bless the Worth family and friends .*

cind\_searles@yahoo.com - August 13, 2019 at 06:57 PM

LC

“ *He will be a great loss, so sorry for your loss*

Laurie Barnhart Cook - August 13, 2019 at 04:21 PM

LC

“ *Laurie Barnhart Cook lit a candle in memory of Robert C. "Bob" Worth*



Laurie Barnhart Cook - August 13, 2019 at 04:20 PM

JF

“ *My deepest condolences to the Worth family. I've known Mr. Worth since the 60's. He was a successful business man for many years in our area. His family was the most important part of his life. I was blessed to have been a friend of his children for many years. They are his biggest legacy. His generosity was endless. I remember going to many, many U of I football & basketball games, numerous Cub's games. He will be missed by many people. God bless you sir... 🙏*

Jeff Fortin - August 13, 2019 at 09:18 AM

RM

“ God brought home another warrior and our community has to manage another loss of a kind and gentle man. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family and many friends. May the memories shared bring more laughter than tears as the years pass by and keep him close to your hearts. Rest in peace Mr. Worth.

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**Rose and Gary Mitchell** - August 13, 2019 at 09:14 AM

MH

“ A fond memory I shared with Bob was the day we drove to Streator, IL, my hometown, and did some ancestry research at the local cemeteries. He had relatives buried there and wanted to find their headstones, etc. I had contacted the Historical Society there, and told them what he information Bob was seeking, and they were prepared with old directories to share, as well as a map of the cemetery. We had a fun day searching the "archives" of the museum, and then going on the scavenger hunt for gravesites. We had lots of laughter along the way, thanks to Bob's great sense of humor!

*I also remember some of the great costumes he came up with for Halloween parties, and his wonderful ability to "stay in character" and fool everyone most of the evening!*

*He was a wonderful example of how to live life with much humor!  
Prayers are in my heart for his wonderful family.*

*Marsha Hill*

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**Marsha Hill** - August 12, 2019 at 09:25 PM

SS

“ *Our deepest sympathy on your loss. Bob was a wonderful person! Loved his laugh and smile. Loved his sense of humor and his compassion. We looked forward to the visits when my folks were here from AZ. We got together in many different places. Dad and Bob loved to share stories over a couple of alcoholic beverages! His memory is now a treasure!*  
*Love and hugs and prayers in your time of sorrow.*  
*Ray and Sue*

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**Sue Schnell** - August 12, 2019 at 05:23 PM