



Dr. Robert W. Wright

May 13, 1943 - October 17, 2021

Dr. Robert W. Wright

Retired Professor from Olivet Nazarene University

Dr. Robert W. Wright, Jr 78 of Bourbonnais, passed away Sunday, October 17, 2021 at The Citadel Nursing Home in Bourbonnais. He was born May 13, 1943 in Indianapolis, IN to Robert W. Wright, Sr. and Martha Roberta (Glavind) Wright while his father was in medical school at Indiana University, Indianapolis. Robert married Marylon Thornton on August 17, 1968 at the College Church of the Nazarene, Bourbonnais. Marylon's father, the Rev. Clarence W. Thornton, officiated their wedding.

Robert grew up in Los Angeles, CA graduating from Los Angeles Pacific High School in June 1961. He graduated from the Los Angeles Pacific College, Los Angeles in June of 1965. He enrolled for the 1965-66 School year for graduate school at the University of California, Berkeley. He then returned home to Los Angeles where he began his doctoral program at the University of California, UCLA. He finished his doctoral program, June 1970 earning his Ph.D. With Distinction in Physiology.

Soon after receiving his Ph.D he had the privilege of presenting a scholarly paper from his doctoral research at a symposium at Oxford University, Oxford, England.

The Wrights moved to Bourbonnais in 1970 where Robert began his teaching career at Olivet Nazarene College, now University, in Bourbonnais teaching

Anatomy and Physiology and upper division courses. He taught 41 years at Olivet, 38 full-time years then 3 years as part-time following retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Marylon; his brother Richard (Kathy) of Jonesborough, TN; two nieces, Amanda Wright Golyshko (Phillip), their daughter, Mira and Bethany Wright Greiner (Jared), their daughters, Madeleine, Abigail, Lillian and Anneliese of Westminster, CO; and one nephew, Ricky (Richard II) of Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

He was preceded in death by his parents; identical twin sisters shortly after birth; brother, Dr. David Wright; and sister, Kathleen Ann, aged 13.

Visitation will be held from 12 p.m. until the time of the 1 p.m. funeral service on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at the College Church of the Nazarene in Bourbonnais. Dr. Mark Quanstrom, Dr. LaVerne Blowers, and Rev Richard Wright, via video, will officiate the funeral service. The service will be livestreamed via collegechurch.org.

Inurnment will be at the Columbarium at Olivet Nazarene University at a later date.

Memorials may be made to the Rev. Clarence and Georgia Thornton Scholarship fund at Olivet Nazarene University, Bourbonnais, IL

Robert was a faithful member of College Church of the Nazarene and a devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home of Bourbonnais is handling the funeral arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Olivet Colombarium

1 University Ave.
Bourbonnais, IL 60914

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 4. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

College Church of the Nazarene
200 University Ave.
Bourbonnais, IL
(815) 933-7749
<http://www.collegechurch.org/>

Funeral Service

NOV 4. 1:00 PM (CT)

College Church of the Nazarene
200 University Ave.
Bourbonnais, IL
(815) 933-7749
<http://www.collegechurch.org/>

Tribute Wall

WV

“*Bob Wright was my favorite professor at Olivet. He taught Physiology and Anatomy & Physiology that later guided me into a medical career to continue the study of the wonders of God's most fascinating creation: the human body. He instilled the desire to learn & share the love he had for the physiological and anatomical miracles of cellular function, organ systems, and our own human bodies. He oversaw two of us dissecting the first human anatomical specimen at Olivet in 1970 as we were his lab assistants in anatomy and physiology for the first nursing students at ONC. Ever since, he has remained a lifelong friend, along with Marylon (who has also been a friend of my wife Sharon), and we have enjoyed many life events over the past 50+ yrs. We knew of his love for Christ as his Savior, and his many devoted years to Olivet. We will miss you friend! Well done, good and faithful servant!*
Wayne and Sharon VonSeggen, North Carolina

Wayne & Sharon VonSeggen - November 03, 2021 at 09:37 PM

RD

“*We are saddened to learn of Bob's passing. Our friendship with him goes back to our days at Los Angeles Pacific College. He holds a special place in our lives, not only was he a friend, but he was best man in our wedding. We will remember him in many positive ways but most of all we will remember his smile and his infectious laugh. We were honored and blessed to have known Bob and will cherish the many memories. Our thoughts and prayers are with Marylon at this time and we pray for God's peace and guidance.*
Lovingly,
George & Robin Damrill
Brunswick, Georgia

Robin Damrill - November 02, 2021 at 03:14 PM

MP

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with Marylon in the loss of beloved Bob, which is our loss too, as cousin and colleague in Christian higher education.

Dr. Bill and Mary Packard and Flora Packard

Mary Packard - November 02, 2021 at 09:41 AM

MK

“ Bob was affectionately known as “Dr. Bob” to his 1978 A&P class (any allusion to the Muppet's Dr. Bob was purely coincidental). He taught us with passion and integrity. Dr. Bob expected our best work. He was kind to me and provided a listening ear, a kind heart, and a challenge to be my best. Over the years he became a friend and mentor to me and my wife. He was that to so many students at ONU. Robert Wright made a difference in my life and I will truly miss him.

Mark & Vangie Kruszynski

Mark Kruszynski - November 02, 2021 at 09:08 AM

TH

“ Our friendship with Bob and Marylon goes back many years. We knew Marylon in our teens and then met Bob when they were married. We have stayed in touch all these years and shared in so many wonderful fun times. When we both retired we bought homes in Florida and were able to still get together. We will always remember Bob as a kind compassionate person. He loved his students at Olivet and our daughter Laura had the privilege of having Bob as her Anatomy professor. We know he had a great influence in having many of his students enter the medical field. We are so thankful for the hope we have in Jesus that we will be reunited one day in the soon coming future!

Tom and Sharon Hoppe

Tom Hoppe - November 01, 2021 at 03:01 PM