



## Robert "Bob" Clinton Battern

September 23, 1933 - April 15, 2020

Robert (Bob) Clinton Battern was born September 23, 1933, to Oral & Sarah Harriet (Roop) Battern in Le Mars, IA. Shortly after his birth the family moved to Storm Lake, IA. During WWII, the family moved to California where his father worked at the San Francisco shipyards. Robert (Bob) Clinton Battern was born September 23, 1933, to Oral & Sarah Harriet (Roop) Battern in Le Mars, IA. Shortly after his birth the family moved to Storm Lake, IA. During WWII, the family moved to California where his father worked at the San Francisco shipyards. Following the war, the family returned to Storm Lake where he graduated from high school. During his senior year he met Doris McNerney. They were married on February 8, 1953.

Bob was an entrepreneur, starting and working several businesses. He and his father owned a radio & TV repair shop in Storm Lake. He later began working for Fareway grocery stores, which moved him and his family around Iowa. In 1972 the family moved to Arnolds Park, where he eventually started Bob's Hardware Hank. After selling the store, he returned to the grocery business, working for Buy Rite in Milford, and managing one in Sibley. Later he purchased the Montgomery Ward's store in Milford. When Montgomery Wards closed all their stores, he and Doris moved to Missouri. There he started and owned several businesses, including a successful J.R. Watkins distributorship. As Watkins distributors, he and Doris won several trips, including one to Ireland the year they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Bob was an accomplished pianist and played virtually every day for his own enjoyment. Bob never really retired. Once he stopped working, he turned his energy towards building furniture for his family and volunteering. He was recognized by Mobility Worldwide for his work in constructing Personal Energy Transportation units. He built over 100 desks for children in Honduras and put together dozens of wooden sewing machine boxes that were shipped worldwide.

In 2018 he and Doris returned to Arnolds Park. Shortly after arriving his health began to deteriorate, and for the past year he fought several medical conditions. He died peacefully at home on April 15, 2020, surrounded by his family.

Bob is survived by his wife Doris, three daughters Minda Heidenreich (Barnes, WI), Kari (Rob) Lucke (Columbia, MO), Alisa Larson (Spirit Lake, IA), a son John (Julie) Battern (Arnolds Park, IA), 12 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, his sister, sons-in-law Tom Heidenreich and Duane Larson, and a granddaughter Jennifer Battern. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

# Tribute Wall

JA

“ Jackie lit a candle in memory of Robert "Bob" Clinton Battern



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**Jackie** - April 25, 2020 at 06:48 PM

JC

“ Jeff And Linda Christoffer lit a candle in memory of Robert "Bob" Clinton Battern



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**Jeff and Linda Christoffer** - April 21, 2020 at 06:03 PM

JT

“ IMinda, Doris and all. Please accept my deepest sympathies of Bob's death. I have such great memories of Bob.....and the whole family. Living at the "other end of the driveway" from you all....and spending so much time together...made possible so many fun times ... I was blessed by knowing the entire bunch of you and will lift you all up in prayer during this difficult time. Having lost both Mom and Dad over 10 yrs ago I know these times are difficult. May you find joy in memories and peace in the knowledge that Bob is once again playing that piano and smiling....who knows....maybe he and Mom are playing a duet. May God grant you all a measure of His Comfort and Peace as you adjust. Always know, Bobs never far away.....Jean (Tucker) Turner

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**Jean Tucker Turner** - April 20, 2020 at 05:31 PM

PJ

“ Paul and Joy purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Robert "Bob" Clinton Battern.



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**Paul and Joy** - April 19, 2020 at 05:51 PM

RF

“ Doris and family,  
I am so sorry about Bob. I did not realize you had moved back to the lakes area.  
Many memories of the 2 of you. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Ramona Williamson Frederick

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**Ramona Williamson Frederick** - April 18, 2020 at 04:29 PM

GP

“ To the family of Bob! Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family! May you be filled with pleasant memories of Bob!  
Greg and Kandyce Peton

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**Gregory Peton** - April 17, 2020 at 10:02 PM

NR

“ Nancy Rickman lit a candle in memory of Robert "Bob" Clinton Battern



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**Nancy Rickman** - April 17, 2020 at 01:38 PM

JW

“ *During the three years we lived in Arnolds Park, Bob was a true and faithful friend. What a fine man!*

*Gordon and Jan Watson*

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**Jan and Gordon Watson** - April 17, 2020 at 10:09 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Clinton Battern.*



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April 17, 2020 at 09:57 AM

JB

“ *Sending sympathy and love to my cousins and my Aunt Doris in the passing of my beloved Uncle Bob. I will miss his wry humor and kindness. - Jean Bystol, Peter and Liam*

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**Jean Bystol** - April 17, 2020 at 09:47 AM

TS

“ *I am so sorry and saddened to hear of Uncle Bob passing. I was very close to him and I always enjoyed our visits with mom and our reminiscing of the family and life in Storm Lake. I remember barely as a small child he hauled me around Storm lake in a 1946 Plymouth! I owe so much for all the memories I have of this wonderful man, and my deepest condolences to all my cousins and family members. Most Sincerely Tom schnirring.*

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**Thomas Schnirring** - April 16, 2020 at 09:09 PM

DF

“ I have great memories of your wonderful family, swimming at the lake with Lisa and Kari and riding horses at the Saddle Club Play Days. What I remember the most about Bob was the piano. Most days when I was at Lisa and Kari's house he would sit down at that piano and play. I just loved it. The song that sticks in my mind the most was Bad Bad Leroy Brown. I can still picture him playing it. I remember going in to the hardware store quite often. Your folks were so nice to me. My deepest sympathy to all of your family.



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**Diane Naab Fisher** - April 16, 2020 at 08:45 PM

LB

“ My deepest condolences to Doris and family. I enjoyed working with Bob and Doris at Buy Rite. Great people!

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**Linda Wahlman Ballah** - April 16, 2020 at 08:43 PM

SE

“ So sorry for your loss, we made so many visits to Bob and Doris's Hardware Hank over the years while you were in Arnolds Park. We also got an awesome black & white kitten from Bob and Doris. Our family's favorite pet ever! Bob was such a genuine and kind person! Thoughts are with you at this difficult time, Sharlene Houge Eckard

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**sharlene Eckard** - April 16, 2020 at 07:01 PM

JH

“ I feel honored to have known Bob & Doris. We had fun learning to play bridge and serving on committees together at Calvary in Arnold's Park. I remember Bob saying he didn't understand Watergate. I still I don't but he probably figured it out. I don't remember hearing him play the piano, however, he encouraged me & was the one we could call on when the organ needed repair. I am so sorry for your loss, Battern family

JoAnn Heerdt - April 16, 2020 at 02:53 PM

BC

“ We have great memories of Bob and Doris. We always enjoyed visiting with them at the Hardware Store. Bob was a caring and compassionate man. He will be missed.



Bill & Jackie Carpenter - April 16, 2020 at 01:13 PM

SH

“ Our sympathy to your entire family. - Lenny & Sandy Heerdt

Sandra Heerdt - April 16, 2020 at 12:46 PM

JM

“ John and Julie,  
Thinking and praying for you at this difficult time.  
Scott and Jan Mitchell

Jan Mitchell - April 16, 2020 at 12:23 PM