



## Robert "Bob" Talbitzer

June 24, 1965 - July 13, 2020

Robert "Bob" Talbitzer, 55  
Kearney resident

Robert "Bob" Talbitzer, 55 of Kearney passed away Monday, July 13, 2020 at his home surrounded by family. Funeral services will be held 10:00 a.m. Saturday, July 18, 2020 at Kearney First Baptist Church with Pastor Sean Dougherty officiating and a reception following the funeral service at the church. A private burial ceremony will take place Saturday afternoon at Stanley Cemetery near Amherst. Visitation will be 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Friday evening at First Baptist Church. Masks are strongly encouraged.

Robert James Talbitzer was born June 24, 1965 in Omaha, Nebraska to Charles and Barbara (Lyle) Talbitzer. He received his education from North Bend High School, graduating with the class of 1983. Bob attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln where he earned his Bachelor's of Science degree in Education. He later received his Master's of Biology degree from the University of Nebraska-Kearney. On June 27, 1986, Bob was united in marriage to Roxanne Crabtree. To this union three children were blessed, Trenton LeRoy, Grahm Arch, and Lyndee Mae. The couple made their home in Kearney where Bob was a biology teacher and pole vault coach for Kearney High School.

Bob greatly enjoyed working with young students and athletes. During his tenure at Kearney High, Bob received many awards for his teaching and coaching. The list of honors and accolades include President of Nebraska Association of Teachers of Science (1993-1995), Tandy Technology Scholars Award (1998), Peter Kiewit Foundation Teacher Achievement Award (1998), Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching (1998), Track & Field Coaches Association Nebraska Coach of the Year (2014), Vernier and National Science Teachers Association Technology Award (2018) and Kearney High School Athletic Hall of Fame Assistant Boys Track and Field Coach (2019). In 2018, Bob was instrumental in receiving a grant from America's Farmers Rural Education Program for implementation of a biotechnology class at Kearney Senior High. After 29 years of teaching, Bob retired in October 2019.

He was an active member of the Kearney First Baptist Church. Bob served on various church committees, as well as teaching Sunday school. Bob enjoyed the outdoors, whether it be hunting, fishing, or hiking in the mountains. He was very active; riding his bike was a favorite pastime. He loved football and everything it entailed, he enjoyed watching his boys' play, refereeing with friends on Friday nights and cheering on the Huskers. He would tell you though that one of his greatest joys was teaching his three children. He loved his children and grandchildren dearly. At his core, Bob was about relationships with people; mentoring, teaching, encouraging, and loving others.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Roxanne of Kearney; children, Trenton (Sarah) Talbitzer of Kearney, Gram (Shay) Talbitzer of Denver, CO and Lyndee (Mitchell) Whalen of Lincoln; grandchildren, Jackson, Elise, Gwyneth and Heath Talbitzer; mother, Barbara Bird of Fremont; father, Charles (Sherry) Talbitzer of Malcolm; siblings, Cathy Bird, Melinda (Curtis) Miller, Lyle (Dana) Bird, Jenny (Chris) Smithberg, David (Sara) Bird, Barbie (Michael) Johnson, Lisa (Marcus) Schmidt, Jennifer (Jim) Vaughn, Tori (Greg)

Parde, Rachel (Jordan) Powell and several nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Bob was preceded in death by his father, LeRoy Bird, and grandparents.

Memorials are suggested to Kearney First Baptist Church, Kearney Public Schools Foundation, or Platte River Recovery Whooping Crane Memorial. Condolences may be shared online at [www.osrfh.com](http://www.osrfh.com). Services are entrusted to O'Brien Straatmann Redinger Funeral and Cremation Services.

# Cemetery Details

## Stanley Cemetery

Amherst, NE

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 17. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
3610 6th Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845

## Funeral Service

JUL 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
3610 6th Ave  
Kearney, NE 68845

# Tribute Wall



“ Robert "Bob" Talbitzer

January 28, 2023 at 08:01 AM



“ So saddened to hear of Bob's passing. My sincere and heartfelt condolences to the family. I knew him from my time in North Bend each summer as a young boy and teenager (I grew up in Portland, OR and am related to the Hamilton family in North Bend). We were the same age (11 days apart actually) and played ball and swam together. I always remember his smile, sense of humor, positive attitude and spirit.

Miss you Bob. Thanks for making the world a better place while you were here. Bless you.

Rob Williams

Rob Williams - August 01, 2020 at 08:29 PM



“ Susan & Bernie Fackler purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.



Susan & Bernie Fackler - July 20, 2020 at 03:37 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.



July 20, 2020 at 02:07 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.



July 18, 2020 at 12:57 PM



“ Jeff Isaacson purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.



Jeff Isaacson - July 17, 2020 at 03:25 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.



July 17, 2020 at 08:29 AM



“ *Heart's Companion Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.*



---

July 16, 2020 at 09:57 PM



“ *Monica Powell purchased the Sweet Solace Spray for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.*



---

**Monica Powell** - July 16, 2020 at 06:26 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.*



---

July 16, 2020 at 05:31 PM



“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. We are praying for your family in this tough time. -Christina, Shawn and Logan Eutsler*

---

**Christina Eutsler** - July 16, 2020 at 04:02 PM



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



---

July 16, 2020 at 11:12 AM



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



---

July 16, 2020 at 11:05 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.*



---

July 15, 2020 at 11:14 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert "Bob" Talbitzer.*



---

July 15, 2020 at 10:29 PM

DC

“ Bob was a Great Christian and Family Man that will be missed by many, including us from the NBC Class of 83. My sympathy to all the family, as Bob was too young to have left us this soon, but also to have accomplished so much in his life. I always enjoyed the rare occasions that our paths crossed, and the times I got to hear about the family thru Trenton or my father-in-law (Roger Anderson- First Baptist Church family). So Bob I'll look for you in heaven when I get there, and who knows maybe you won't be coaching? Back to running that 800, Rest Well, I'll miss you.  
Dennis & Lisa Clapper

---

Dennis Clapper - July 15, 2020 at 06:28 PM

AH

“ So sorry for your loss. I was one of Bob's high school teachers. I hold many memories of his cheerful outlook on life and his sense of humor. His time on this earth was too short, but what a blessing he was to all he met. Condolences to your family.

---

Ann (Phelps) Halladay - July 15, 2020 at 05:20 PM

BU

“ Roxanne and Family  
The girls and I were so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Our prayers to your family.  
Brenda, Emma, Maggie Urbanek

---

Brenda Urbanek - July 15, 2020 at 04:23 PM

LW

“ 3 files added to the album Bob Talbitzer



Lyndee Whalen - July 15, 2020 at 02:05 PM

LW

“ 3 files added to the album Bob Talbitzer



Lyndee Whalen - July 15, 2020 at 02:00 PM

SS

“ Just wanted to let you know you we are thinking of you all. All three of your children babysat our kids when we lived in Kearney and I got to know Roxanne through our work teaching.

*Sending thoughts and prayers to your entire family.*

*John, Sarah, Brett, Katie & Maggie Swanson*

sarah swanson - July 15, 2020 at 12:51 PM

JD

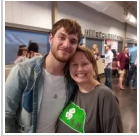
*It's been many years Bob but I have so many good memories from high school. My favorite memories are your smile and crazy laugh. Sad day to hear of your passing. Sending thoughts and prayers to your entire family. Rest in Peace 💔*  
*Jenny (Albert) Dickey*

Jennifer Dickey - July 16, 2020 at 01:20 AM

JB

“ Our deepest sympathy to all of you. Bob was a true man of God and showed that to everyone he came in contact with. Our sons John and Shane loved him. May God lift you up at this hard time and in the future.

-----  
**Jack, Janelle, John and Shane Beatty** - July 15, 2020 at 09:47 AM



“ I had Mr. Talbitzer as a 10th grade biology teacher. He allowed me the opportunity to learn more about science. Mr. Talbitzer, hew as a legend for me, he was a role model. Rest in peace Mr. T!!!  
-Alli

-----  
**Allison Meyers** - July 15, 2020 at 09:13 AM

MU

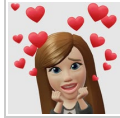
“ I worked with Bob for over 25 years at Kearney High School. He was a good man and a good teacher! There will be many of his students who will be sad to hear of his passing. He has a wonderful family and I had the privilege of teaching his kids in my physics class. I have been retired for 3 years and really miss hearing his laugh across the science office at the old Kearney High School!  
Rest well, Bob!

-----  
**Mark Urwiller** - July 14, 2020 at 12:58 PM

DP

“ So sorry for your loss. He was a very kind guy and know he will be missed.

-----  
**Dean and Pat Pennington** - July 14, 2020 at 08:52 AM



*My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. Bob was such a funny man, full of love and light and laughter! You could tell that he loved his work, he loved his family and he loved life. Heaven gained a very special man indeed! I wish you peace.*

**Vicky Urwiller** - July 16, 2020 at 10:42 AM

KN

*Roxanne, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Keith and Beverly Nuttelman*

**Keith and Beverly Nuttelman** - July 17, 2020 at 06:21 PM

DF

*Our daughters had him for a teacher and you could tell he was not only an outstanding teacher but also a wonderful caring person. He had a sense of humor and related well with his students. So sad to lose him so early. Our thought and prayers are with your family. He was a special teacher and coach, he will be missed. Rest in Peace.*

**Dennis and LaVonne Fries** - July 17, 2020 at 10:52 PM

DS

*Bob was a dynamic leader for the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Science during a time of growth and change for the organization. He was president the year I presented at NATS for the first time. Being of the same generation, he was an example of a peer who led the way, and I eventually followed him as President of NATS and recipient of the Peter Kiewit Foundation and Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching.*

*May his enthusiasm and caring continue to inspire his colleagues, students and family members to do the same for others.*

**Dan Sitzman** - July 24, 2020 at 02:07 PM