



Robert Lewis Schultz

May 29, 1935 - July 10, 2019

Robert Lewis Schultz, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend went to his heavenly home on July 10, 2019. Robert was born in Detroit to William and Eva (Nehring) Schultz who were immigrants from a German-Moravian village near Warsaw. He was baptized and confirmed in the faith at Grace Lutheran Church, Highland Park, Michigan. Robert graduated from Detroit Lutheran High School in 1953 and from Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska, in 1950. He earned a Master of Arts degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University in 1975.

On August 2, 1958, Robert married Gail Reinschmidt, his college sweetheart, at Trinity Lutheran Church, Yale, South Dakota. He began his teaching ministry at Zion Lutheran, Detroit, where he taught middle and upper grades, served as youth director, and, later as principal. Robert served as principal and teacher at Hosanna-Tabor, Redford, from 1968 to 1987, and most recently at Trinity Lutheran, Traverse City, for a total of forty years in the teaching ministry of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod.

Robert served the Michigan District of LCMS as a member of the Board of Directors, Youth Board, School Committee Chairman, Director of School Mission Programs, and he was treasurer of the Detroit High School Association.

Lutheran education was Robert's calling, taking joy in sharing the Christian faith with students and their families. He had the heart of a true and dedicated teacher, kind and caring, always encouraging and positive. His love for children, enthusiasm for learning, and concern for families made him an effective administrator.

Robert found enjoyment singing in high school and church choirs, teaching adult Bible classes, working on Boy Scout committees, taking courses at Northwest Michigan College, rock collecting, hunting and fishing. As a science teacher, he maintained a lifelong interest in many fields, especially botany, geology, and archaeology. Robert had the opportunity for world travel hosted by his brother-in-law.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife, Gail, son Matthew and his wife Catharine O'Connell of Jacksonville, Illinois; daughter Heidi and her husband Roger Dowidait of Canton; grandchildren Victor and Ruth Schultz; brothers-in-law George Reinschmidt of Plano, Texas, and Howard Reinschmidt (Connie) of Rochester, Minnesota; sister-in-law Janis Andol of Yale, South Dakota; and many dear nieces and nephews. Robert was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Arthur and Harvey.

Visitation with Robert's family will take place from 6 until 8 p.m. Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at The Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home. The service to celebrate Robert's life will begin at 1:00 PM Thursday, July 18, 2019 at Trinity Lutheran Church, 1003 S. Maple, Traverse City with Pastor Michael Goers officiating. Inurnment will take place at Glen Eden Memorial Park In Livonia.

For a more lasting memorial, the family has asked that Robert be remembered through memorial donations to Trinity Lutheran School, 1003 S. Maple St., Traverse City, MI 49684, Zion Lutheran Church, 4305 N.Military Road, Detroit, MI 48210 or Hosanna-Tabor Lutheran Church, 9600 Leverne, Redford Township, MI 48239.

Cemetery

Events

Glen Eden Memorial Park JUL
35667 West 8 Mile Road
Livonia, MI, 48152

17

Visitation for Family and Friends 06:00PM - 08:00PM

Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

JUL
18

Funeral Service 01:00PM

Trinity Lutheran Church
1003 S. Maple, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



“ I had the pleasure of attending Trinity Lutheran Elementary School from 3rd – 6th grade, graduating in 1994. During this time Mr. Schultz wore many hats including but not limited to: principal, science teacher, and gym teacher. I remember Mr. Schultz as incredibly caring, but demanding at the same time. He demanded respect and our best efforts at all times, but in a way that wasn't authoritarian. A simple proclamation to the class of “We don't need this folks.” was enough to let us know we needed to settle down. From my time with Mr. Schultz, I could tell that he also had a humorous side to him, but I assume it didn't come out very often at school since he needed to maintain a certain level of composure with us students. From coming to school one day wearing a ball cap with a fake ponytail out the back to creating a ‘manmade cloud’ in the classroom by creating such pressure between his fist and mouth that a) a small cloud actually formed, and b) we all thought he was going to pass out during the process – you never knew exactly what was going to happen, but you knew it would keep your attention.

Even with all of the great school facility memories, my favorite memory of Mr. Schultz was during a class trip to Beaver Island. We were in 5th or 6th grade and were enjoying a night sitting on logs around a campfire outside of our cabins. There was only a small group of students at the fire, creating a close and comfortable environment. Adult chaperones, students, and teachers were sharing funny jokes and stories so I decided to share a joke of my own. Being that Mr. Schultz was both a man of faith and our science teacher, I felt my joke was particularly relevant. I started, “Mr. Schultz, do you know what the stretchiest thing in the world is?” With a puzzled look on his face he answered, “No, I don't.” “Well Mr. Schultz,” I continued. “Skin is the stretchiest thing in the world. Do you know how I know that?” He wasn't sure where I was going, but let me continue. “You see, I was reading the Bible last week and read that Moses tied his ass to a tree and walked to town. So skin must be the stretchiest thing in the world.” What happened next none of us were prepared for. Mr. Schultz let out such a powerful laugh (the loudest sound I ever heard from him) that he fell off the log he was sitting on. With tears of laughter in his eyes he climbed back to his seat and thanked me for the information. We enjoyed the rest of the evening by the fire, but never shared a laugh quite the same.

Mr. Schultz was an amazing man who had such an impact on so many people. He'll always be remembered by me as a person who brought out the best in people and at times could find some humor along the way.

Eric Peterson - July 18, 2019 at 11:36 AM



“ Uncle Bob was an outstanding person. He personified what it means to be a good Christian, a good family man, and just all around great person. Our sympathies go out to Aunt Gail, and cousins Matthew and Heidi, and their families. There will be a great homecoming in heaven with all of Uncle Bob’s friends and relatives. God’s peace be with you.
Doug & Mary Walz

Doug Walz - July 18, 2019 at 08:54 AM



“ Bob was such a great person. He always made you want to help with the school because he was always so involved himself. I will always have such great memories of the fun we had at Hosanna Tabor.

Kathleen Butler - July 16, 2019 at 07:50 PM



“ Uncle Bob will always have a special place in my heart. If he and my dad had not been friends in high school, my parents probably never would have met each other. He was a kind, gracious intelligent man who will be missed by many.

Ellen Heise - July 16, 2019 at 07:43 AM



“ Bob was a wonderful man and great principal and mentor at Hosanna Tabor. May he Rest In Peace.

Edward Bruinsma - July 15, 2019 at 07:40 PM



“ Bob came to Hosanna – Tabor Lutheran School for my eight grade year. It was a year of transition for my class and over the year we began to appreciate his love for us students and later (maybe years later) the discipline and control he brought to our classroom. We were all blessed to have him as our teacher. He was a wonderful and cherished colleague of my father and he and Gail were great friends of my parents even long after they all had left Hosanna – Tabor. Hosanna – Tabor was truly blessed by his service and dedication. I pray for God’s comfort for Gail and his family during this time grief.

Jim Pranschke - July 15, 2019 at 09:24 AM



“ Mr Schultz was my teacher at Hosanna-Tabor and was outstanding. He was truly a fine Christian man and educator and we are all the better for having him as our instructor in our elementary years. Rest In Peace with our Savior in heaven.

Craig Engel - July 14, 2019 at 07:54 PM



“ Robert has now heard the Lord's summons, "Come, you who are blessed of My Father; inherit the Kingdom prepared for you..." He has heard the Lord's pronouncement, "Well done, good and faithful servant..." The comfort and power of our Lord's promise be to Gail and family: "Because I live, you shall live also!" I, too, remember the years of having Robert as teacher and principal at Hosanna-Tabor. His dedication, knowledge, discipline, and faithfulness in his church and school life are remembered and will be remembered by many of his fellow saints among students, fellow teachers, and church members!

Rev. Martin Moehring - July 14, 2019 at 04:22 PM



“ Well said Rev. brought tears to my eyes, if anyone was to see his glory it certainly is Mr. Schultz...class of '84

Robyn - August 23, 2019 at 02:15 PM



“ I spent my first year of teaching working with Bob and the team at Hosanna-Tabor in Detroit back in 1980-81. He was a great model for a young teacher starting out and had assembled a wonderful staff. God's peace to Gail and the family as you say good-bye for now. SDG! Gregg Pinick

Gregg Pinick - July 14, 2019 at 01:22 PM



“ Robert Schultz was both my eighth grade teacher at hosanna-tabor and my principal. I was very blessed to have him as a teacher. He was a wonderful example to all his students of what a Christian should strive to be like. Rest now in peace Mr. Schultz in the presence of our Savior.

Britt Reinertson Jester - July 14, 2019 at 09:12 AM



“ I knew Bob since his years at Zion in Detroit. He taught my three children and I was his school secretary a couple of those years. We were sad to see him leave, but still had a connection at Hosanna-Tabor as my cousin Rosemary Reschke became his secretary.

Jean Wrenbeck - July 14, 2019 at 04:59 AM



“ Still remember the evening Bob came over to our for an informal meeting with my dad to discuss becoming Principal at Hosanna Tabor. Bob was a blessing to that school and church for many years. Little did I know that a few years later he would bust me skipping out of school early(last period was recess) so I would sometimes hop on my bike and head down Lucerne towards W. Chicago to avoid riding past his office window. One day there he was sitting in his car waiting. That was the end of early outs.

Paul Pranschke - July 14, 2019 at 01:46 AM



“ I was so blessed to have Robert Schultz while a student at Hosanna Tabor and a member of the adult choir with him. His dedication to the Lord's work was very evident in his classroom and in all that he did. Prayers of peace and comfort to Gail, family, and friends.

Karen Moehring Biskupski

Karen Moehring Biskupski - July 13, 2019 at 09:33 PM



“ We are truly indebted to Bob Schultz. His obituary expressed so much of how we feel about him. He went above and beyond to help our family while our boys attended Trinity Lutheran School. We will never forget him nor will we forget the wonderful years at Trinity Lutheran.

Giorgio, Laurie, Tyson, and Christian Vozza

Laurie Vozza - July 13, 2019 at 07:12 PM



“ Mr. Schultz was my 8th grade teacher at Hosanna-Tabor. He was always firm, always kind, and utterly dedicated to the education and well-being of his students. When I accepted a call to teach at Hosanna-Tabor many years later, I was sad to learn that I would not be able to be on staff with him as he told me he was leaving Hosanna-Tabor. I treasure the memories of my time at HT as a student and especially of my 8th-grade year, being shepherded by such a wonderful man. Well done, good and faithful servant! Rejoicing through the tears for a life well lived and a ministry that was a blessing to so many. May God's comfort and strength be with the entire Schultz family.

Amy Milz - July 12, 2019 at 07:14 PM