



Robert F. Dillahay

December 22, 1946 - December 24, 2025

Robert "Bob" F. Dillahay of Uniontown, Missouri, went to his heavenly home on December 24, 2025. He was born on December 22, 1946, to Frank and Margaret (Smith) Dillahay in St. Louis, Missouri, and was baptized in Berkeley, Missouri.

On August 11, 1973, Bob married the love of his life, Kathleen (Frentzel) Dillahay, at Grace Lutheran Church in Uniontown, Missouri. They were blessed with 52 years of marriage. Bob was the kindest, most caring husband anyone could imagine. He happily chauffeured Kathy on treasure-hunting trips, patiently endured her shenanigans, helped with cooking, and never wanted to be a bother to anyone. He truly enjoyed meeting new people and sharing stories, especially during their trips to Gulf Shores, where he made friends everywhere he went. Together, Bob and Kathy built a life rooted in family, faith, friendship, laughter, and hard work.

Bob and Kathy were blessed with three sons: Todd (Nikki), Kent (Terina), and Eric, who was called to his heavenly home in 1994. You would never meet a daddy who loved his sons more than Bob did. He spent countless hours fixing up cars with the boys, shaking his head when something got torn up, and proudly teaching them his mechanical skills. He supported his family in every way, from watching *The Dukes of Hazzard* with a tray of bologna to share while Kathy pursued her education, to buying shoes for the boys that cost more than the Scout he drove. A part of Bob's heart left this world with the loss of his "little bear," Eric.

Bob was the proudest "Pawpaw" to his two granddaughters, Mackenzie and Brielle Dillahay, who were the absolute joy of his life. His grand girls were his everything, and they would drop anything to help their Papa, just as he took every opportunity to spoil them. In 2004, Bob's tough exterior melted away with the birth of his first "Bambino," Mackenzie. Though he looked like a biker, becoming Pawpaw revealed the soft, devoted grandfather he was meant to be. Mackenzie could get a "yes" from him with just a smile, and many of her after-school hours were spent with Grandpa at the mechanic shop, always ending the week with an allowance for doing absolutely nothing. In 2014, his second "Bambino," Brielle, was born, and they became instant best friends. Bob spoiled her rotten, sharing creative projects, painting, giggling, and sneaking snacks together.

Bob was a proud Vietnam Army veteran who served his country honorably until being wounded in combat. He received the Purple Heart for his service and was a member of VFW Post 4282, the American Legion Post, AMVETS Post #94 and Military Order of Purple Heart Chapter where he was Junior Vice President Commander. Bob also served on the VFW Post #4282 Funeral Military Honors Team for many years.

A lifelong car and motorcycle enthusiast, Bob appreciated both beauty and junk, often seeing potential where others did not. If something was broken, Bob could fix it. As an original owner of Vintage Automotive, he built a respected and reputable shop known for his mechanical skill, honesty, and dependability. The shop was also a popular gathering place for friends, filled with conversation and lifelong camaraderie. He proudly passed his mechanical knowledge down to his sons Todd and Kent, who were never shy about asking for his advice.

Bob was a member of the Hiway Rodders Car Club in Perryville and hosted some of the club's early meetings in his basement "man cave," where lifelong friendships were formed. His 1948 Chevy was his pride and joy-so much so that he even took Kathy and the '48 to a car show in Tulsa on their honeymoon. When he could no longer drive the Chevy, his new love became

his Harley trike, on which he and Kathy enjoyed many poker runs together. Later, his adventures continued in his 1963 Thunderbird Convertible, loading up his wheelchair and heading out with a smile.

Bob also loved hunting with many different friends and spending time outdoors. In 2015, Bob became an amputee, but it never slowed him down. He continued to show up for all of his granddaughters' special moments and events. While his adventures with Kathy changed, they never stopped.

Motorcycle rides were replaced with weekends camping in their motorhome, visiting friends and family, taste-testing moonshine, or cruising to car shows—always together, always making memories.

Bob will be remembered for his generous heart, steady hands, unwavering love for his family, and the quiet way he showed up for the people he loved. His legacy lives on in his family, his friends, and every engine that still runs because of him.

Visitation will be from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Sunday, December 28, 2025 at Ford & Young Funeral Home in Perryville with a VFW wake service at 6:00 pm. Visitation will continue from 8:00 am to 10:00 am Monday, December 29, 2025 at Grace Lutheran Church in Uniontown.

Funeral Service will be at 10:00 am Monday, December 29, 2025 at Grace Lutheran Church in Uniontown with Rev. Ted Andrada officiating.

Burial will be at Grace Lutheran Cemetery in Uniontown.

Military honors will be provided by VFW Post #4282 and the Delta Team.

Memorial contributions may be given to Perry County Veterans Museum, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or Options for Women.

Online condolences may be made at www.fordandyoungfuneralhome.com.

Ford & Young Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Grace Lutheran Cemetery

Uniontown, MO 63783

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 28. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Young Funeral Home
110 S West Street
Perryville, MO 63775

Visitation

DEC 29. 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Lutheran Church
53 Grace Ln.
Uniontown, MO

Funeral Service

DEC 29. 10:00 AM (CT)

Grace Lutheran Church
53 Grace Ln.
Uniontown, MO

Tribute Wall

BH

“ Our deepest sympathies to Kathy, Kent and the entire family. He is going to be missed by everyone who knew him.

Brant and Kathy Hall - December 31, 2025 at 07:11 AM

LF

“ May God grant you His peace and comfort. Prayers for strength.
Love, Luella

Luella Franke - December 29, 2025 at 10:00 AM

DT

“ David and Connie Toney purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Robert F. Dillahay.



David and Connie Toney - December 28, 2025 at 01:55 PM

DT

“ David and Connie Toney planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert F. Dillahay.

David and Connie Toney - December 28, 2025 at 01:55 PM

CD

“ Kathy, you have our deepest sympathy, may God give you peace and comfort.

carol dreyer - December 28, 2025 at 09:15 AM

TL

“ My deepest sympathy to all of you. When I had worked at West End Tavern back in the day, Bob would stop by a few times here and there share a beer, laughter and many stories. When he came in, he had a way of capturing everyone's attention with his soft, yet loud voice and stories. He talked so much about you, his wife Kathleen, I felt like I knew you through these moments. You can tell how much he loved you by his stories, his concerns for you as well as being so proud of you becoming a teacher. It was always wonderful to see a person that looked like a badass be such a softy with a gentle soul. He shall be missed. Truly, God got an Amazing Angel.

Tammy Leimbach

Tammy Leimbach - December 28, 2025 at 04:20 AM

DR

“ So very sorry for all the Dillahay family for your great loss. Bob was such a good and kind man. I don't know how many time one of my many teenagers rolled into his shop with a vehicle issue that needed attention. I knew he was a good family man that would definitely do his best to fix the problem. He always had a darn good price for his fix it jobs. And I believe he cared about the vehicle owner as much as he did the vehicle. Such a good man!

Debbie Richardet - December 27, 2025 at 09:16 PM

TB

“ Sending my deepest condolences to the Dillahay family. He was a great man with a great family. Prayers for comfort for all.

Tasha B - December 27, 2025 at 08:06 PM

VK

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Bob was a wonderful man and even better friend.

Sincerely,

Nelson Kirn, Veronica Kirn and Marty Ray

Veronica Kirn - December 27, 2025 at 07:47 PM

DR

“ I met Bob back in the middle 1990s, I had taken my car to the shop where I met Bob and his worker Scott Jones. Who soon became my brother in law. Bob always tried his best to help anyone he could. I frequently went to his shop for car maintenance and just for conversation. He always had a story to tell or a memory to share. I know u will be greatly missed because ur personality was so infectious. Prayers for ur family and may u rest in peace.

Dawn Hotp Reid - December 27, 2025 at 02:31 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Robert F. Dillahay.



December 27, 2025 at 12:36 PM

LM

“ Love, Jerry and Kathy Mehrle planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert F. Dillahay.

Love, Jerry and Kathy Mehrle - December 27, 2025 at 12:36 PM

JK

“ Rest easy Bulldog,us Berkeley Boys got it. 🙏🙏

jim kendall - December 27, 2025 at 11:30 AM

CP

“ May the family find comfort in Bobs peace.

carol and dave prouhet - December 27, 2025 at 08:53 AM

CR

“ Bob will be greatly missed at Perry County Military History Museum. He was a dedicated docent who shared his time and his father's military memorabilia with us. RIP

Carlene Rauh - December 26, 2025 at 07:02 PM

FA

“ My sincere condolences to all of the Dillahay Family. May he rest in peace in the arms of Our Lord. My late husband knew him and spoke of him many times and at one time he also had a 48 Chevy. May your precious memories of Bob give you comfort in the days ahead.



Faye Amschler - December 26, 2025 at 04:52 PM