



## Robert L. "Bob" Ruckriegel

July 18, 1935 - June 11, 2021

Robert Lee Clinton Ruckriegel, 85, of Jasper, IN, passed away on June 11th, 2021. He is survived by his wife Lovella of 65 years sons Al Ruckriegel (& husband David Adams) of Terre Haute, Indiana and Sid Ruckriegel (& Andrew Rand) of Peoria, Illinois.

Robert ("Bob" to many) was born on July 18th, 1935 in Jasper, Indiana to Clarence & Esther (Braun) Ruckriegel. He was the 3rd of four children – Alfred (& Lois) Ruckriegel, Dorothy (& Ira) McNeely , and Clarence Ruckriegel. Three step-sisters, Margie Kalb, Shirley Humbert, & Mary Lou Zehr, a step-brother John Schott, and step-father Ed Schott completed the family. While several have passed from our lives, they live forever in our hearts.

Bob attended the Ackerman one room schoolhouse before graduating from Jasper High School in 1953. He wed his high school sweetheart, Lovella Mary Sendelweck, in St. Paul's Church on September 13, 1956.

Seeing the need for a good 24 hour restaurant in their hometown, the Ruckriegels opened Jerry's Restaurant in 1964. With friend and business partner Dave Buehler, and the opening of this single location, a restaurant company was formed. It would eventually be known as BR Associates with hospitality units in 6 states (IN, KY, MI, IL, NY, FL). The company was built on the philosophy that a good cup of coffee and a genuine smile never goes out

of fashion. Weekends were filled with parades, local events, school fundraisers, and making sure the guest was always satisfied. In 1986, Bob Ruckriegel was recognized by the hospitality industry as the 6th largest multi-concept private restaurant group in the nation.

Following in their father's footsteps, Al and Sid started their own restaurant company operating over 50+ units. In 2014, while celebrating 50 years in the restaurant industry, the Ruckriegels combined both companies to form SERVUS. Today, SERVUS, Inc., a real estate holding company, still defines excellence.

Bob served on many boards including Dubois County Tourism Commission, German American Bancorp, Kentucky Wesleyan College, Northwoods Good Samaritan, Junior Achievement, Jasper Planning Commission, Long John Silver's Advisory, and Jerrico. He received the Ernst & Young 'Entrepreneur of the Year' as well as numerous 'Franchisee of the Year' awards. Bob was named a Distinguished JHS Alumnus and 'Good Citizen' by the Lincoln Heritage Boy Scouts. In 2015, he was an inaugural inductee to the Dubois County Business Hall of Fame. He was recognized as an 'Indiana Sagamore' and a 'Kentucky Colonel.' Bob would always say that every recognition he received was equally earned by his wife. While each held a special meaning for the couple, none probably more than receiving the 'Key to the City' of Jasper meant that they had left a positive impact on their hometown.

The Ruckriegel Family extends its gratitude to the staff of the Memorial Hospital in Jasper for the care and comfort you offered Bob and the entire family. Special thanks to Carol Meyer and Kristi Mehringer for their friendship during this time.

Visitation will be at Northside Becher-Kluesner Funeral Home on June 15th from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Funeral Services will be held at St. Paul's

Lutheran Church in Hayesville, Indiana on June 16th starting at 10:00 a.m. with visitation starting at 9. Entombment will be in Fairview Cemetery Mausoleum immediately following the funeral service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Dubois County Humane Society, Northwood Retirement Community, or St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery Mausoleum

1020 Kundek Street  
Jasper, IN 47546

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **15**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Becher & Kluesner Funeral Home - North  
3221 N. Newton Street  
Jasper, IN 47546  
(812) 482-4141  
email@becherkluesner.com

## Visitation

JUN **16**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
556 West Haysville Rd.  
Haysville, IN

## Service

JUN **16**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
556 West Haysville Rd.  
Haysville, IN



# Tribute Wall



“ *Robert L. "Bob" Ruckriegel*

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January 01, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ *So sorry for your loss, I worked at Jerry's back in the late 80's and early 90's and remember Bob and Lavella come in after church and helped cashiering and seating guests, Bob and Lavella always had a smile, prayers and hugs to Lavella and the boys.*

*Martha (Marti) Bauer- Woodward*

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**Martha Woodward** - June 15, 2021 at 12:57 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss. Bob was such an amazing guy and always had a wonderful smile, along with Lavella at his side. The family gave so much to so many and to their Community. My Deepest Sympathy for all. 🙏*

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**Carolyn McFarland Fuhs** - June 14, 2021 at 07:40 PM



“ *Bob was a great guy! The Hustace family send their sincere condolences.*

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**Cedric Hustace** - June 14, 2021 at 05:11 PM

LN

“ Lovella, Al and Sid,

*Pam and I are sorry for your loss. We are praying that you will be comforted and know that your family, friends and community all love you.*

*Levi and Pam Nigg*

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**Levi & Pam Nigg** - June 14, 2021 at 08:18 AM

GV

“ Lovella and family,

*Sending prayers of comfort to you at this time. We met Bob several times while we were in Jasper , what a kind generous man.*

*John (former Jasper Postmaster, and wife Gale Verostko  
Terre Haute,In*

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**Gale Verostko** - June 14, 2021 at 07:04 AM

JB

“ Prayers, Sympathy, to family & friends! 🙏

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**James Birkle** - June 13, 2021 at 12:16 PM

SH

“ You will be missed. But now you with grandma and dad and mom!!  
RIP!!! Proud to call you my uncle

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**Suzanne Ruckriegel Hogue** - June 12, 2021 at 11:14 PM

SH

“ *Suzanne Ruckriegel Hogue lit a candle in memory of Robert L. "Bob" Ruckriegel*



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**Suzanne Ruckriegel Hogue** - June 12, 2021 at 11:12 PM

BN

“ *RIP, my husband Bernie Nixon though a lot of Bob. Now there both in Heaven, Bernie passed away Feb 18,2021. Prayers to all*



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**Brenda Nixon** - June 12, 2021 at 02:36 PM

BS

*I am just learning about Bob's passing. He was a great man and was always very nice to me. I always enjoyed being around the Ruckreigel family. Praying for the entire family. The world lost a great man. Bill Sparks*

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**Bill Sparks** - July 25, 2021 at 09:10 PM