

## Robert Ahring



Robert Ahring, 92, died August 5, 2021. A visitation with family receiving friends will be from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at Strode Funeral Home. A memorial service will follow at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 11, 2021, at the First Baptist Church in Perkins, Oklahoma, with the Reverend Albert May officiating. Interment will be at Sunset Memorial Gardens, south of Stillwater. Strode Funeral Home in Stillwater, Oklahoma is in charge of the arrangements.

Robert M. Ahring, PhD, was born in Lincoln, Kansas, October 4, 1928 to Frank and Jennie (Morrison) Ahring; his parents were divorced in 1930. He lived most of his life in Oklahoma graduating from Central High School in Oklahoma City but spent his summers working with his father who farmed south of Lincoln, Kansas. Robert (Bob) married Janice Marie Shelton on August 30, 1951 in Oklahoma City. She preceded him in death on March 5, 1997, after 46 years of marriage. He met Barbara G. Tarlton at the First Baptist Church of Perkins, Oklahoma. They were married September 4, 1999. Barbara preceded him in death, February 29, 2017.

Robert served in the United States military from 1946 – 1948. He began attending college in the fall of 1948 and became a lifelong agronomist earning a BS degree in Soil Science from Oklahoma A&M, a master's degree from Oklahoma State University in forages and a PhD degree in Agronomy from the University of Nebraska.

Early in his career, he was an Assistant Professor and Superintendent of forage research at the El Reno, Oklahoma Livestock Research Station. Later he returned to Stillwater and Oklahoma State University, where he held an academic title of Associate Professor and member of the graduate faculty, and a research agronomist with the United States Department of Agriculture, Agriculture Research Service. From Stillwater, Bob moved north of Perkins, Oklahoma in 1986 and retired in 1987.

Bob enjoyed his family, leading a Cub Scout Troop and was active in Boy Scouts. He coached his sons' teams in Little League Baseball and Basketball. He coached for a total of 13 years. His hobbies included coin collecting, fishing and gardening (growing exotic wildflowers and ornamental grasses).

Bob was preceded in death by his parents and stepmother, his youngest sister Mary Byrd, both his wives and his beloved daughter Marcia Luker.

Survivors include: His sisters, LaVerna Wagoner of Hutchinson, Kansas, Delma Jean Williamson and husband Lee of Wichita Falls, Texas; His brother James L. Byrd of Norman, Oklahoma; His sons Robert F. and wife Mardi Ahring of North Dallas, Texas; Steve and wife Carolyn Ahring of Girard, Kansas; Jeff and wife Veronica Ahring of Sandia Park, New Mexico; Son-in-law George Luker of Hamilton, Texas; Grandchildren Debra Rickner and husband Kevin of Chandler, Oklahoma; Jennifer Howard and husband Jason of Agra, Oklahoma; Trevor Ahring and wife Trisha of Garden City,

Kansas; Samuel Ahring of Kansas City, Missouri; Jeff Ahring and wife Bonnie of Flower Mound, Texas; Jolinda Hutson-Jones and husband Dennis of Longview, Texas; Parker Ahring and wife Andrea of Sandia Park, New Mexico; Shayphane Ahring and wife Cathy of Sandia Park, New Mexico; Mandy Ahring and Gage Ahring of Sandia Park, New Mexico. He had 13 great grandchildren and four great, great grandchildren.

Bob belonged to the Hanner-Sharp American Legion Post 129 Stillwater.