



Robert Francis Hellen

February 15, 1946 - February 16, 2026

Robert F. Hellen (Bob)

2/15/46 - 2/16/26

Bob was born and raised in Hudson, Massachusetts. He graduated from Hudson Catholic High School and then was accepted at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts. Upon completing his Bachelor of Science degree, Bob enrolled at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York where he completed his PHD in Chemical Engineering. This was followed by a long career at 3M and Imation.

In 1987, Bob married Kathy and they established their home in Vадnais Heights. Bob was the consummate volunteer. This started with the St. Paul JC's and in 1991, Bob joined the Vадnais Heights Lions Club where he was secretary for 29 years. Bob also spent 20 years on the Planning Commission and several years on the Parks and Trails Commission in Vадnais Heights. He was also a volunteer tutor at the Vадnais Heights Elementary School. Bob was an active member of the St. Odilia Knights of Columbus and previously served on the Social Justice Ministry.

Bob is preceded in death by his parents, Donald and Ruth Hellen, his brother Richard, and sister Carol. He is survived by his wife Kathy, three nephews and two nieces, relatives, and many friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at the Church of St. Odilia on February 24, 2026 at 11am. Visitation will be at the church one hour before the Mass. Burial will be in Massachusetts.

Livestream available at:

https://youtube.com/live/QAli_dRgul8?feature=share

Memorials can be made to the Vадnais Heights Lions Club Foundation, the family, the St. Odilia Endowment Fund, or a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 24. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Odilia Catholic Church
3495 Victoria Street N.
Shoreview, MN 55126

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 24. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

St. Odilia Catholic Church
3495 Victoria Street N.
Shoreview, MN 55126

Reception

FEB 24. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (CT)

St. Odilia Catholic Church
3495 Victoria Street N.
Shoreview, MN 55126

Tribute Wall

FB

“ To the Hellen family, please accept my condolences for your loss. I had the pleasure of knowing and playing with Bob in the 3M Tennis league for many years and having a few beers at the "tartan tap" at the top of the hill following the game. When Bob transitioned to Imation, they did not allow the Imation employees to continue to be members of the 3M tennis league-we lost many good friends. He was a good tennis player and a nice man.

Some years ago, I was walking into the Walmart store in Vadnais Heights and the "Salvation Army" donation bucket was there and I made a donation, not paying attention to the couple who was manning the bucket. As I was walking out of the store, I heard "Fred Banholzer, is that you?". As I turned around here was Bob and he introduced me to Kathy. We talked for over an hour and I added his name to the 3M Retired Engineering list that I manage.

I talked to Bob a few months ago for about an hour and he mentioned to me that he had some health challenges going on. He has left his family to soon, may he RIP.

I have shared his obituary with some of the others that he would have played tennis within the league (in the last few months there have been 4 that have passed).

Thoughts and prayers for your loss.

Fred Banholzer, 3M Retired Sourcing Manger

Fred Banholzer - February 22 at 09:05 AM