



Robert Anthony Bruch

November 17, 1927 - September 3, 2019

Robert Anthony (Bob) Bruch, age 91 and a lifelong resident of Bluefield, West Virginia, was peacefully welcomed into the loving arms of his Heavenly Father on September 3rd, 2019. Son of the late William J Bruch and Eva Kilcoyne Bruch, Bob passed from this world in the home he was born in after a short illness. His wife of nearly 65 years, Mary T. Bruch, remained by his side during his journey.

Bob was a life-long member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church and retired from the Norfolk Southern Railroad with 44 years of service on the Pocahontas Division. He served in the US Army in 1946 at the end of World War II and enlisted in the US Naval Reserve in 1947, where he served in surface, aviation, and Seabee units in Bluefield, Roanoke, and Norfolk VA. Bob advanced through the enlisted ranks, was selected for Warrant Officer, and retired after 33 years as a Chief Warrant Officer 4 (CW4). He continued service as a West Virginia Blue and Gold Officer for the US Naval Academy located in Annapolis, Maryland, mentoring young service members in their military career paths. Bob was a Beaver High School graduate (class of 1946) and continued his education at Concord College (University), Athens, West Virginia, graduating in 1951. He was a life-member of the Knights of Columbus (4th degree), a member of American Legion Riley-Vest Post #9, a life member of Bluefield Elks Lodge 619, and was an Eagle Scout.

A quiet, hard working and dependable man of faith, he served as a model for his Family and is survived by his wife Mary T. Bruch, and children Robert Allen

Bruch (Kae) of Roanoke, Virginia, Anthony Lee Bruch (Cynthia) of Mandeville, Louisiana, and Katherine Ann Bruch (Leanna) of Bedford, Virginia, grandchildren Ryan Austin Bruch (Bridgette), Jacob Spencer Bruch, Jonathan Corey Bruch and Haley Katherine Bruch, great-grandson Reid Austin Bruch, and sister-in-law Gail Bruch of Richmond, Virginia. He was preceded in death by his brothers Dr William M. Bruch and wife Sarah of Richmond, Virginia, John Donald Bruch of Richmond, Virginia, and sister Christine Schneider and husband COL Edwin A. Schneider, (USAF) of Honolulu, Hawaii. A special thanks is extended to the caring team at Amedisys Hospice and to the wonderful caregivers who became part of the Family. A brief visitation will be held at 1 pm Friday September 6 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, followed by a 2 pm Catholic Mass. Burial will take place at Roselawn Memorial Gardens, Princeton, West Virginia following the Mass.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Sacred Heart Church of Bluefield, West Virginia, the Bluefield Rescue Squad, or the Wade Center of Bluefield, West Virginia.

Those wishing to share memories or condolence messages with the family may do by visiting www.MercerFuneralHome.com Mercer Funeral Home is serving the family of Mr Robert Bruch.

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery

Princeton, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 6. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
1003 Wyoming Street
Bluefield, WV 24701

Mass

SEP 6. 2:00 PM (ET)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
1003 Wyoming Street
Bluefield, WV 24701

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Anthony Bruch*

October 05, 2023 at 06:08 PM



“ *I got to know Mr Bruch at Goodykoontz Drug Store it was always a pressure seeing him and his wife. No matter where I ran in to him he was always so friendly.....God Bless*

Pamela Murphy - September 10, 2019 at 03:16 PM



“ *Sorry to hear of the passing of Bob. He was a good man and a good friend. My prayers are with Mary and their children Bob, Andy and Kathy. They were wonderful neighbors and friends. I grew up with the kids and my Mary Beth taught with Mary for many years at Wade School. I recently saw Mary at Dr. Robert Taylor's office. I love you all.*

*James Stephen Leedy
Bluefield, Virginia
wm8m@yahoo.com*

Jim Leedy - September 06, 2019 at 10:35 AM

CM

“ I have known this family for 50 years. I have been part of our church family for almost as long, too. Growing up with their children and seeing Mr. and Mrs. Bruch so devoted to each other was such an inspiration. I will always remember the kindness of this family when Louis was shot in Afghanistan,. especially from Katherine. I will hold your family in prayers during this difficult time. Peace to all. An American hero laid to rest and heavenly rewards now claimed by this kind and gentle man. RIP Sir.!

Cindy Romano McGraw - September 06, 2019 at 08:03 AM



“ May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,

May your memories of Robert Anthony Bruch, give you peace,
comfort and strength...

Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete.
I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You
will not be forgotten.
My thoughts
and prayers to the family of

US Army/ Navy Veteran, Robert Anthony Bruch, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - September 06, 2019 at 05:55 AM

TW

“ *Teresa White lit a candle in memory of Robert Anthony Bruch*



Teresa White - September 05, 2019 at 08:42 PM



“ *Mary,
I send my deepest condolences to you and the family. Your husband and you have been in my family's life for all of mjne and your husband and my Dad were childhood buddies. My late husband always referred to Bob as his sailor brother. I have a video of you two dancing in the middle of Bland Street during the Fall Festival that we organized and you both were having a grand time. I'm sure he's already waiting for your next dance in heaven. Love to you all, and once again my deepest condolences. Love, Teresa Braithwaite*

Teresa Braithwaite - September 04, 2019 at 10:01 PM

AJ

“ *Mrs. Bruch...I am so sorry for the loss of your husband. I remember him from church. He was so interested in how people were doing. He always seemed to have a smile on his face and tons of patience. Many thoughts and prayers for you and your family in the coming days and weeks. Cherish your memories...
Alva (Cassidy) Jones
Sumter, SC*

Alva Jones - September 04, 2019 at 07:40 PM

LB

“ I’m so sad to read about Mr. Bruch passing. He was always a friendly and caring gentleman; always interested in how you were doing and wishing people well. He always had a warm “Hello” and smile whenever I saw him. My Dad always remarked how much he enjoyed chatting with Mr. Bruch and enjoyed being in the American Legion with him. He was definitely one of the Greatest Generation. Prayers and God’s peace to his family and friends. Love, Lindsey Grubb Barilla

Lindsey Grubb Barilla - September 04, 2019 at 06:20 PM