



Robert Willis Phillips

October 22, 1954 - June 18, 2026

Robert Willis “Big Bob” Phillips, a beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend passed away peacefully on June 18, 2026, at the age of 71. Born on October 22, 1954, in Jacksonville, IL Big Bob led a life full of dedication, hard work and love for his family and community.

Bob began working as a bus mechanic while still in High School, gaining skills and a work ethic that would define his career. His professional journey included roles as a construction laborer, positions at Alsey Brick Company, basement builder and mechanic at Godfrey Express. Rising through the ranks, he served as a shop supervisor at Nestle Trucking for 19 years in Dekalb, IL and contributed his expertise to Western Asphalt and Mason Family Farms. Throughout his working life, Bob was known for his unwavering commitment and mechanical pros.

Beyond his professional endeavors, Bob had a passion for restoring antique tractors and pulling his International H tractor, affectionately known as the “Nortonville Nuisance”. He spent countless hours in his shop, often with Gun Smoke playing in the background. He loved growing a garden and enjoyed sharing the produce with those he loved.

Bob was an active member of the community, involved with the Masonic Lodge and recently joining the Youngblood Baptist Church.

Preceded in death by his parents, Gwillia Phillips Carter, Russell and Monna Phillips and Grandparents Ira and Marie Phillips.

Bob's legacy lives on through his surviving family the love of his life, his devoted wife Becky Phillips of 53 years, daughters Rhonda Roodhouse (husband Kevin) and Robyn Schumaker (husband Rob), son Bob Phillips (wife Ashley) and cherished grandchildren: Nick, Kyle, Abby, Kaylee, Charley and Hank. He is also survived by his brother Rick Phillips and sisters Joan Staples, Carla Scroggins and Peggy Ballard.

Bob's family meant everything to him and he loved them more than life itself. His shop door was always open for visitors looking to share shop talk or reminisce about old memories. As we remember Big Bob, let us carry his spirit forward with the comforting words "It's not good bye; it's I'll see you later".

A visitation from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 24, 2026, with Masonic Rights at 6:00 p.m. followed by a memorial service at Daws Family Funeral Home in South Jacksonville, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to Scott County Nursing Home in Winchester, IL or Youngblood Baptist Church.

Big Bob's door may have closed, but his legacy filled with laughter, love and a bit of oil - remains wide open. Rest in peace Big Bob your troubles are over but your stories will live on forever!!!

Upcoming Events

Visitation

JUN 24. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Daws Family Funeral Home - Jacksonville
508 W. Vandalia
Jacksonville, IL 62650
(217) 243-0444
mackeydawsfuneralhome@yahoo.com

Masonic Service

JUN 24. 6:00 PM (CT)

Daws Family Funeral Home - Jacksonville
508 W. Vandalia
Jacksonville, IL 62650
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mackeydawsfuneralhome@yahoo.com

Memorial Service

JUN 24. 6:30 PM (CT)

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