



## Robert W. Burley

December 6, 2025

Robert “Bob” W Burley, 80, of Huntington, passed away at 10:43 am Saturday, December 6, 2025, at Parkview Regional Hospital in Fort Wayne, IN.

Bob was born on June 9, 1945, in Huntington, IN, the son of Robert Burley and Rosemary (Cannon) Burley. He graduated from Union Township High School with the class of 1964 and proudly enlisted in the United States Air Force. Bob was stationed overseas in Okinawa and Vietnam during the Vietnam War. After four years, he was honorably discharged. In the Air Force Bob was proud to achieve the status of E-4 Sergeant NCO rank. In his role Bob supervised a crew responsible for the maintenance, repair and safe operation of C-130 airplanes used in the Blind Bat Missions. He took his role seriously having the authority to red tag planes and halt missions, an act no rank of military officer could override. Blind Bat missions involved the release of massive flairs to light up the night sky to reveal enemy movements especially along the Ho Chi Minh Trail. This allowed fighter jets to attack targets and disrupt supply lines, a vital but dangerous operation that saw a great amount of casualty. During these missions Bob was exposed to large amounts of Agent Orange, which impacted his health significantly over the years; this sacrifice was recognized by the Veterans Administration in the bittersweet designation of priority 1, 100% service-disabled veteran.

Bob was a member of the American Legion Post #85 and V.F.W. Post #2689 both of Huntington. After 39 years of loyal service, Bob retired from Manns

## Heating and Cooling.

An avid outdoorsman, Bob spent countless hours exploring the beauty that surrounded him. His favorite pastime was fishing on the lake, where the quietness of water and the thrill of the catch brought him peace and excitement. He also took great pleasure in feeding the birds, especially the vibrant red cardinals that frequented his yard. Renowned as a jack of all trades, Bob possessed a remarkable ability to fix or rebuild almost anything. Woodworking was more than just a hobby for Bob—it was a passion that showcased his attention to detail and love of craftsmanship. Whether it was a minor repair or an ambitious build, such as constructing his own garage, Bob's work was meticulous and enduring. He never could sit idle. Even in retirement and as a disabled Veteran, he found joy in tinkering and fixing things. Taking on small projects kept his mind active and his hands busy. Bob even found delight in raising his flock of 30-40 chickens. His determination and curiosity inspired those around him, showing that you can keep learning and growing no matter your age or challenges.

Bob was a dedicated family man who deeply adored his grandchildren. He cherished spending time with them, particularly while attending their softball games, choir performances, 4-H activities, and dance recitals. Bob took immense pride in supporting their endeavors and valued the memories they created together.

Survivors include his Son, Jason "Rob" Burley of North Manchester, IN; Daughter, Melanie (Ken) Meyers of Huntington, IN; Grandson, Grant; Three Granddaughters, Katherine, Toriana, Tiana; Two Sisters, Darlene (Jay) Haney of Roanoke, IN, Judy (Elzo) Rogers of San Diego, CA; and a Previous Spouse/ Friend, Sharon Burley of Roanoke, IN. He is preceded in death by his Father, Robert E Burley, Mother, Rosemary Burley, and Sister, Nancy Haneline.

Visitation will be from 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Sunday, December 14, 2025, at Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN. Funeral services will follow at 2:00 pm Sunday, December 14, 2025, at Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary with Chaplain Brandon W. Kuhn officiating. Burial will be in Pilgrims Rest Cemetery in Huntington. Military Honors will be rendered by the VFW Post 2689 Honor Guard.

Preferred memorials to the VFW Post 2689 Honor Guard, in care of Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN, 46750.

Please sign the online guest book at [www.baileylove.com](http://www.baileylove.com).

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary is honored to serve the family of Robert "Bob" W Burley.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 14. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary  
35 West Park Drive  
Huntington, IN 46750  
(260) 356-1710  
wecare@baileylove.com  
<https://www.baileylove.com>

## Service

DEC 14. 2:00 PM (ET)

Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary  
35 West Park Drive  
Huntington, IN 46750  
(260) 356-1710  
wecare@baileylove.com  
<https://www.baileylove.com>

## Burial

DEC 14 (ET)

Pilgrims Rest Cemetery  
4945 N. Jefferson St  
Huntington, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary has created this video tribute in memory of Robert.* ”



**Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary** - December 12, 2025 at 09:23 AM

CS

*So sorry for the passing of Bob. He was a great guy. He was a family member but down the line. Didn't know he had agent orange as does my brother (from Vietnam). Loved seeing the photos of Bob's whole family. Condolences go out to all.*

**Carol Schoeff** - December 14, 2025 at 08:34 AM

EF

“ *Elzo & Judy Rogers and Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Robert W. Burley.* ”



**Elzo & Judy Rogers and Family** - December 11, 2025 at 05:55 PM

MM

“ *I will miss and love you forever Dad.* ”



**Melanie Meyers** - December 09, 2025 at 08:05 PM