



Robert Edwin Crain

October 18, 1939 - March 7, 2026

Robert Edwin Crain, 86, was a lifetime resident of Greenbrier before passing to heaven on March 7th following a brief illness. A memorial service will be held at First Baptist Church in Greenbrier on Wednesday, March 11 at 2pm with visitation following until 5pm.

Robert (Bob) was born in 1939 to Lillian and Clyde Crain; he was the second born of five children and the oldest son. He was preceded in death by his parents, his siblings (Barbara Crain, Carolyn Haynes, Charlotte Dunnivant and Sam Crain) and his beloved grandson, Jonathan Crain.

Bob learned from an early age to love Jesus and others deeply. Caring about people and helping where he could was the pattern of his life.

He went on mission trips, taught children's Sunday School, coached Little League, organized class reunions, delivered meals, built things and always enjoyed a good banana pudding.

While he wasn't one to laugh out loud, he did have a perpetual smile and twinkle in his eye as he greeted you warmly, pulled your leg or made a witty observation.

Bob made and gathered friends his whole life. He talked easily, asked questions and was genuinely interested in connecting with others. He was a quiet leader, a problem solver and an encourager, especially with his family; each with whom he shared a special unique bond that was their very own. He will be remembered fondly by so many as he stayed connected to classmates, co-workers, neighbors, kids he taught and coached, relatives and church

members.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 64 years, Diane Briley Crain, and their three children: Donna (Gary) Heflin, Gregg (Jill) Crain, and Bill (Ana) Crain.

His legacy includes grandchildren Zach (Jessica) Claus, Russ Heflin, Taylor (John) Brown, Lara Heflin, Justin Crain, Gabrielle Crain, Briley Crain, eight great-grandchildren, and many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Daily Bread Ministry of Greenbrier First Baptist Church where Bob was an active member for 75 years.

Tribute Wall

PS

“ I had lived in Greenbrier all my life (1939) until I left for college in 1957. When I returned to Greenbrier after I had graduated and got married I could not find a job because of my draft status. Bob’s dad, Mr. Clyde hired me to work in his Exxon Station. Bob and I renewed our friendship during the past 20 years. We tried to keep up with any high school classmates who passed away and made sure they received a “Brick” planted in the garden area of the Historical Association and Museum. I will make sure Bob has one planted in his honor. Best wishes to the remaining family. Praying for peace during this difficult time.

Pat Shannon - March 16 at 04:14 PM

JH

“ We moved to Greenbrier 32 years ago. Soon after we joined Greenbrier First Baptist. My husband worked away as a merchant mariner and on a 28 day gone/14 days home rotation didn’t have much time at home or opportunity to make friends. Bob took an interest in my husband and his job and they seemed to look for each other at any church gathering. Like many I’m sure , Bob called him “my buddy” and always asked about my husband even when he was away working. I had the blessing to serve Meals on Wheels alongside Bob for a while. He was the example of a true Christian. After my husband retired the two would meet occasionally for breakfast. We were blessed to both hug his neck at Christmas Eve service. He will always be remembered in our household. Prayers to the whole family. He was a good man. - The Holloways.



Jim -and Angie Holloway - March 16 at 03:52 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert Edwin Crain.

March 11 at 11:24 AM



“ Our family had the privilege to meet Bob and his wife Diane at the facility where our mother, Bessie Bryant receives care. Bob and Diane are very kind and have been a ray of sunshine when we would visit our Mom. The words written about Bob really encompassed our thoughts exactly.
Our prayers are with the family.
Love and God Bless,
The Bessie Bryant Family 🙏

Joanna - March 10 at 04:08 PM



“ The Ruby & Leonard Wilson Girls purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Robert Edwin Crain.



The Ruby & Leonard Wilson Girls - March 10 at 11:57 AM



“ The Ruby & Leonard Wilson Girls planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Edwin Crain.

The Ruby & Leonard Wilson Girls - March 10 at 11:57 AM

SW

“ Steve and I are so sad to hear this news of Bob's passing. We both thought so much of him. Our love and prayers to the family at this tremendous loss. RIP Bob Crain. You will definitely be missed.....

Steve (Yank) & Shirley Witham - March 09 at 09:51 PM

WM

During our life in Greenbrier, Bob coached my boys in Little League and then when his boys were in high school my husband coaches his boys in basketball, but during the last year our lives have become much closer as Bob would come to the Arbors to be with Diane and encourage her to eat, as I would be there along with my family to support Tommy. We all loved Mr. Bob as my daughter and sons, along with our grandchildren loved seeing him and talking to him. Tommy looked forward to Bob coming as they would both tease each other with lots of fun. Our prayers are with Gregg, Donna, and Bill. We have grown very fond of Gary the last few weeks as he came in Bob's place to feed his mother in law.

wanda Mason - March 11 at 01:35 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Robert Edwin Crain.



March 09 at 03:38 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert Edwin Crain.

March 09 at 03:38 PM

MB

“ *Mary Beth Barlow lit a candle in memory of Robert Edwin Crain*



Mary Beth Barlow - March 09 at 09:27 AM

MB

Donna, Bill and Greg....I am so very sorry for your loss. Bob was a great man, and will be dearly missed.

MaryBeth Barlow - March 09 at 09:28 AM

SS

What a joy to have known and be loved by Bob. He was one of a kind. He loved his Lord, loved his family, loved his church. His legacy lives on in all those he loved.

Steve Scott - March 10 at 06:42 PM