



Robert Martin Anderson

December 6, 1921 - March 15, 2025

Robert Martin Anderson, 103, of Rockford went to be with his Lord and Savior on March 15, 2025. Born December 6, 1921 in Rockford; son of Gustav Albert and Fannie (Krans) Anderson. Bob's parents were born in Sweden, and he was always proud of his Swedish heritage. Graduate of Rockford High School. Bob obtained his Bachelor Degree from Western Illinois University in Macomb, and his Master's Degree from Stout State University in Menominee, WI. He was united in marriage to Faye Schwitters on April 22, 1967 in Rockford. Bob and his wife, Faye invited many Chinese students into their home for meals and to share the Gospel message in China through the Mission to Unreached People for 20 years. Prior to that, he was a Vo-Tech teacher for Rockford Public Schools. In his younger years, he also worked at Camera Craft and Pitney Bowes. Bob was a member of First Free Church in Rockford. He loved America and was a true Patriot. Bob was a dedicated Boy Scout Leader and a member of several area car clubs. Bob owned a Model T Ford, and several MG cars. Bob enjoyed spending time in nature, bird watching and taking photos. He learned how to operate computers at a young age and enjoyed them immensely. He was a true Renaissance man, always learning, exploring and sharing his knowledge with others. Survived by his nieces and nephews, Karen Akerlund Adell, Bill (Jean) Sanders, John (Betty) Akerlund, Jane Sanders Brass; nephew-in-law, LaVerne Larson, the most dependable and caring Christian man who lovingly cared for Bob; several great-nieces and great-nephews; and his special Chinese Friends, Ayla (Steven) Carlson, Lucy

(Michael Xu) Lin, Serena (James) Stravers, Lily (Graham) Stitz, Pamela (William) White, Allen (Meilin) Yang, Angela (Josh) Yu, Jun (Haruko) Zhu; special friend, Martin Espinosa; caregiver, Candice Joyner; and former caregiver, Kathy Schneider. Preceded in death by his parents, wife, Faye; siblings, Philip Anderson, Frances Sanders and Florence Akerlund. Memorial Visitation on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, from 12:00 p.m. to 12:45 p.m. at First Free Church, 2223 N. Mulford, Rockford; followed by a Celebration of Life at 1:00 p.m.. Pastor Chuck Rife will officiate. In lieu of flowers, memorials in his memory may be made to the Mission Fund at First Free Church. Share a memory or condolence at www.graceFH.com.

Cemetery Details

Rock River Crematory

4301 N. Main Street
Rockford, IL 61103

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

MAR 26. 12:00 PM - 12:45 PM (CT)

First Evangelical Free Church
2223 N Mulford Rd
Rockford, IL 61107

Celebration of Life

MAR 26. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First Evangelical Free Church
2223 N Mulford Rd
Rockford, IL 61107

Tribute Wall

RA

“ Hello family of Robert and Faye Anderson: I am a pastor in a EFCA church in Arizona, Randy Brainard. Our church works regularly at an incredible ministry in the Philippines called the Aeta Children's Home. It serves a people group there called the Aetas, plants churches, feeds children (it's amazing!).

I recently saw some pictures of a new shad structure on the campus and I asked the pastor about it. I thought his response would encourage you...

Yes pastor Randy. The events were taken in the new covered court of the Christian Academy.

It was a blessing and miracle from the Lord concerning the construction of the said covered court.

We have been praying for this covered court for a long time.

Then suddenly, we received notice from an insurance company in the USA informing us that a fund was donated by a missionary couple who have passed into glory for the Aeta children. It looked like it was written in their last will and testament. Before passing into glory, the Lord touched their hearts to donate a fund for the Aeta children.

The fund was enough to build a covered court. Praise the Lord and glory to God!

This missionary couple served the Lord in China for a long period of time.

Due to old age, they went back to the USA. We met them one time when we attended a missionary conference in Thailand.

That was the first and last moment that we have met and talked with them sharing the ministry about the poor but precious Aeta children here in the Philippines.

The Lord has put into their hearts a burden to help the Aeta children.

In their last moment, they have written a will to send fund for the

Aeta children.

Their names are Bob and Faye Anderson of Illinois, USA. They both passed away several years ago. Bob was 103 years old and Faye was 98 years old. What a wonderful, meaningful and fruitful lives they have lived! Glory to God!

Indeed, we serve an AWESOME AND AMAZING GOD

Randy - April 02 at 07:08 PM

JW

“ My deepest condolences to the families of Bob both in Rockford and around the world! I'm looking to meet Bob Baba and Faye Mama in the glory in the future. They had great impact on my life, especially on my spiritual growth. Bob and Faye sponsord me to Wheaton College for my master degree. If I am correct, they spornsored at least 6 students for their studies to the States, and I am one of them. I really appreciate their ministry and great help to my career. Bob and Faye also sponsoreded my transporation cost to a suburb of Beijing when I led Bible studies for a group of old people.

Faye was our English teacher in Minzu University of China. I wrote I was sad about my size in my journal. This was one method Faye asked the students to do to improve their writing capabilities. Bob and Faye encouraged me in the comments area. They wrote I was called “petite” and I was charming. When Bob saw me next time in their home, Bob hugged me and said he liked petite size. My best friend was very tall in size. Bob gave her a hug and said he liked girl who was tall at the same time. Every week, Bob and Faye prepared meals for the students after Bible studies. Yes, Bob was so nice, gentle, considerate, supportive and full of love. There are many heartwarming moments and considering the length, I won't go into too many details.

Bob Papa and Faye Mama are missed by Jane Wang in China.



Jane Wang (Xiaoying Wang) - March 24, 2025 at 10:12 PM

LS

“ Our deepest condolences to the families of Bob both in Rockford and around the world! It's comforting to know that we'll meet again in Glory!

Bob Baba and Faye Mama have been an integral part of our lives. They are missed by Lily and Graham and Esther Stitz in Australia.



Lily & Graham & Esther Stitz - March 22, 2025 at 02:17 AM

AC

“ 1 file added to the album Bob & Faye photos from their Chinese children



Ayla Carlson - March 21, 2025 at 10:40 PM

AC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Ayla Carlson - March 21, 2025 at 10:21 PM

LS

That's the 103 year old Bob we remember.

Lily & Graham & Esther Stitz - March 24, 2025 at 10:59 PM