



Robert "Bob" Hulvat

June 10, 1934 - January 15, 2026

Robert "Bob" Hulvat, 91, of Sarasota, Florida, passed away on January 15, 2026. Born June 10, 1934, in Cleveland, Ohio, he was the son of Joseph and Pauline Hulvat.

Bob is survived by his sister, Beverly Mohr (Mike) of Georgia. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Delores Chernansky Hulvat, in 1997. He is survived by his devoted wife of 27 years, Sandy; his children Debbie Hulvat Spiewak (Bruce), Ryan Hulvat (Dawn), and Jennifer Hulvat; nine grandchildren; and three great grandchildren. He also leaves behind his stepchildren Billy Gamble (Liebe), Karen Gamble, and Amie Gamble Hiltbrand (Rod), along with four step grandchildren.

Bob dedicated 46 years of his career to F.W. Woolworth, serving his final decade as the company's senior candy buyer. In recognition of his contributions to the industry, he was inducted into the Candy Hall of Fame in 1991. As Bob often said, "I like to do business with many companies and specialize on each company's strengths."

He proudly served his country for five years in the Army National Guard.

Bob found joy in the simple beauties of life—his yard, his orchids, and the peaceful moments spent fishing. His flower garden was a source of pride, and

every Christmas he transformed his front yard by hanging dozens of bright, colorful ornaments from the oak trees and filling the landscape with red poinsettias.

A man of strong faith, Bob served as a devoted Eucharistic Minister at St. Martha's Catholic Church. He had a generous heart and quietly helped those in need, often donating roasted chickens and turkeys to the Salvation Army. The children at Gulf Gate Library adored reading to his beloved service dogs, Candy and Scrabble, during "Reading with the Dogs" each Wednesday.

Bob was a beautiful soul—full of light, warmth, and humor. His legacy is one of love, kindness, and unforgettable memories. He will be missed beyond measure.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 30th at St. Martha's Catholic Church in Sarasota, followed by a reception at Church of the Redeemer in downtown Sarasota.

In lieu of flowers, Bob requested that donations be made to Dogs Ink, St. Martha's Catholic Church, or a charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 30. 10:00 AM.

St. Martha Catholic Church
200 N. Orange Ave
Sarasota, FL

Tribute Wall

SC

“ He always stopped and dropped flowers off at the gatehouse. Had some good conversations. He will be greatly missed.

Stuart Cottrill - January 30 at 06:50 PM

LM

“ We will miss seeing Bob puttering around his yard or playing catch with Candy or more recently Scrabble. One year Bob and Sandy gave us a Christmas ornament of a Westie that reminded them of our dog, Coco, and every year when we hang it on our tree we think fondly of both of them.

With deepest condolences, Bob Rue and Lily Myers

Lily Myers - January 26 at 11:47 AM

ST

“ Sending our sincere sympathy to Sandy and family. We were so sorry to hear about Bob. We loved his flower and holiday displays in the yard over the years. He was good at helping around the neighborhood especially after our mailbox was hit by a vendor's machine. We will miss seeing him as we take our daily walks. Thinking of you.

Sue and Rob Thuma - January 23 at 04:23 PM

DS

“ Dave Speiwak lit a candle in memory of Robert "Bob" Hulvat



Dave Speiwak - January 21 at 12:36 AM