



## Robert "Bob" Walter Weisbach

August 25, 1948 - December 12, 2025

Robert "Bob" Walter Weisbach, age 77, passed away peacefully at his home in Belton, Missouri, on December 12, 2025, surrounded by his loving family.

Born August 25, 1948, in Independence, Missouri, Bob was the son of Mildred June Snow-Stever and Walter Weisbach. He grew up in Independence and graduated from Truman High School. In 1967, responding to his nation's call, Bob joined the United States Marine Corps, serving with honor and pride—a commitment that shaped his life.

Dune buggies and motorcycles were a lifelong passion for Bob, though they occasionally landed him in the hospital. It was during one such stay that he met Gayle Dougherty, who became the love of his life. They married in 1972, building a family rooted in love, hard work, and adventure. Together, they raised two daughters. For Bob, parenthood was his most important role—he strove to raise happy, loving, independent, and successful women, and by all accounts, he succeeded.

A skilled mechanic and carpenter, Bob worked as a journeyman diesel mechanic before moving into roles as an engineer and technical instructor at Brunson Instrument Company for twelve years. His expertise took him around the world—including China, Egypt, Malaysia, Japan, and England—where he trained teams in using precision optical alignment instruments. Despite

language barriers, Bob relied on patience, respect, and a sense of humor to connect with others. He once jokingly told the company owner that if productivity did not improve, he might have to be sent home— all in good fun. While at Brunson, Bob also contributed to the Airbus project and participated in major NASA projects, where he measured heat shield panels to

ensure flight safety. He took great pride in these achievements and the part he played in advancing aerospace technology.

Bob was always eager to learn, fulfilling a bucket-list wish by becoming a pilot. Known for his resourcefulness and determination, he earned his license by bartering for plane time and lessons. He often said the flying came easily, but the hours of study were a formidable challenge—one he tackled with perseverance.

After retiring, Bob poured his creativity into woodworking, crafting beautiful, “Bob- sized” furniture that will remain cherished heirlooms for the family. He and Gayle enjoyed countless adventures together, from camping and seasonal stays in Colorado to cruising and traveling both near and far. Friendly and outgoing, Bob never met a stranger; he was always ready with a story, a laugh, and friendships that endured for years.

A few years into his retirement, Bob was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease. For much of that time, his symptoms were mild, allowing him to continue making the most of family life. In his final months, as the illness advanced, he received compassionate hospice care at home.

Bob leaves behind his beloved wife of 53 years, Gayle Dougherty; his daughters Erin (Josh Turner) Weisbach and Stacy (Mitch Guerrieri) Weisbach; and his brother Philip Weisbach. His memory will be deeply cherished by family, friends, and all privileged to know him.

A celebration of Bob's life will take place in Colorado for family and friends.