

# Robert Bastian

- **Funeral Date:** 1/09/16
  - **Funeral Time:** 11:00 a.m.
  - **Date of Birth:** 1/25/37
  - **Date of Death:** 12/21/15
  - **Funeral Location:** St. John's Lutheran Church, Northfield
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Bob Bastian age 78, of Northfield, Minnesota, died peacefully Monday, December 21, 2015 at Three Links Reflections Care. He is survived by Sharon, his beloved wife of 55 years; sons Robert (Maya), Maurice (Janice), Walter and partner Angela Sweetland; grandchildren Margaux, Anais, Christopher, and Sophia; brothers Bill, Jack, and David (Gayle).

Bob was born in Alexandria, Louisiana to Joseph William Bastian and Daille Pancoast. The family moved to Knoxville, Tennessee, Ironwood, Michigan, and Hibbing, Minnesota. Bob graduated from Hibbing High School in 1955. He spent the summer before college working on a Great Lakes ore freighter.

He met and married Sharon Malmstrom while at the University of Minnesota where he completed a Bachelor and Master Degree. He earned his PhD in Geography from Indiana University, Bloomington, a town his family loved and visited often. He was a Professor of Geography at the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point and then Indiana State University, Terre Haute.

He loved architecture, especially the Prairie Style, and visited many Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright sites. He researched vernacular house and barn styles and traveled extensively for both research and enjoyment. He published his writings in books and academic journals.

He was a dedicated historic preservation advocate and was instrumental in the creation of the Farrington's Grove Historical District, the first residential neighborhood in Terre Haute to be listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

After retirement in 1999, he and Sharon moved to Northfield. They enjoyed college-town retirement life, pursued gardening, and spent much time with family in Minnesota and on the East and West Coasts. He and Sharon continued to travel abroad and he visited all 50 states. A lifelong academic, Bob both took and taught courses at Northfield Elder Collegium. He was dedicated to Sharon, his children, and grandchildren and will be dearly missed.

A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, January 9, 2016, 11:00AM at St. John's Lutheran Church in Northfield, visitation one hour prior.