



Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver

May 17, 1926 - May 8, 2021

Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver, age 94, of Kearney, passed away Friday, May 7, 2021 at his home. Funeral services will be 1:30 p.m., May 17, 2021 at the First United Methodist Church with Pastor Melody Adams and Pastor Bob Gannon officiating. Burial with Military Honors provided by the United States Navy Funeral Honors Team, Kearney American Legion Post #52, Kearney V.F.W. Post #759 will follow the service at the Kearney Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the family to be designated later.

Bob was born May 17, 1926 in Kearney to John and Mabel (Dye) Hauver. He graduated from Kearney High School. Bob joined the Navy in October of 1944 serving as a radioman on the PEC ® 852 in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

After the Navy, Bob attended Nebraska State Teachers College, (now UNK) where he was one of the most recognized athletes during the post WWII years. He was a 3-sport letterman for each of his four years, excelling in football, track and basketball. In football, along with his four letters, he earned All-Nebraska College Conference honors his junior and senior seasons as a running back. He was team captain in 1948. In the 1948 yearbook it states, "Hauver was the workhorse of Kearney backfield with his hard running, passing and as a signal caller." Bob also excelled in basketball and track. He is still one of the most versatile track athletes in school history. He captained the 1949 track team where he competed in the 100,200,440,880 and mile as

well as being a key member of the relay teams and was the team's top shot putter.

Following his college career, he spent almost 40 years teaching and coaching at the high school and college levels in track, football, and basketball. He started and was the first coach of the KSC wrestling program. He retired in 1988 as the head men's indoor, outdoor track and cross country coach.

Hauver was president of the NAIA (National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics) Track and Field Coaches Association. He was the first member of the NAIA Hall of Fame to be inducted as both an athlete and a coach. Bob was inducted in the UNK Hall of Fame in 1983, and the Nebraska Football Hall of Fame in 1995. On June 5, 2021 Bob will be inducted into the inaugural Plainview High School Hall of Fame, recognizing his championship seasons.

Bob married Frances Chambers on March 29, 1949 in Kearney. They were married 72 years.

He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, the B.P.O Elks, a 32nd degree Mason, a member of the Rob Morris Lodge, Scottish Rite, Fort Kearny Shrine Club; Kearney Cosmopolitan Club, Kearney American Legion, Kearney V.F.W., and helped with Special Olympics and the Boy Scouts.

Bob is survived by his wife Frances Hauver of Kearney; daughters, Franny (Tom) Madsen of Kearney, Cindy (Jerry) Foote of Kearney, Becky (Charlie) Huggins of Wasilla, Alaska; Peggy (Dudley) Benson of Axtell, son, Rich (Mona) Hauver of Lansing, KS. Grandchildren: Mark Richardson, Erik (Mary Kate) Richardson, Dr. Ryan (Trisha) Foote, Adam (Lori) Foote, Kevin (Robyn) Foote, MAJ Chad (Sasha) Huggins, Hallie (Ben) Johnston, Cody (CPT Bonnie) Huggins, Brady (Ashley) Benson, Brandon Benson, Megan (Mike) Seebeck, Jessica (Thomas) McIntyre, Abby Hauver, Bobby Hauver, Elle

(Andy) Linafelter; 27 great grandchildren; along with cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Bob was preceded in death by his son, Robert D. Hauver Jr.; sisters, Darlene Butoph, Evelyn Zehr; brothers, Dell Hauver, and William Knaggs.

Cemetery Details

Kearney Cemetery

4400 Avenue I
Kearney, NE 68847

Previous Events

Funeral Service

MAY 17. 1:30 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
4500 Linden Drive
Kearney, NE 68847

Tribute Wall



“ Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver

January 29, 2023 at 11:14 AM



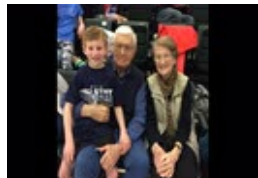
“ 1 file added to the album *Hauver Funeral*



Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services - May 17, 2021
at 04:45 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Hauver Slide Show*



Horner Lieske McBride & Kuhl Funeral and Cremation Services - May 17, 2021
at 04:38 PM



“ *I met Coach Hauver as a track athlete at KSC and a student in his classes. He was a true inspiration as a teacher and coach and knew the work and dedication it took to make yourself a better person. My condolences and sympathy to all his family.*

*Jim Schaefer
Surprise, AZ*

Jim Schaefer - May 17, 2021 at 04:31 PM

KW

“ *Fran and family-
Our hearts and sympathy are with you.
The Lantis Family
Spearfish, SD*

Kelly Woods - May 17, 2021 at 04:04 PM

SG

“ *Well done, good and faithful servant, son, husband, father,
grandfather and example to all about what it means to be all the
above!❤️ Blessings to the entire Hauver family.*

Scott Grone - May 17, 2021 at 03:17 PM

DV

“ *A great coach and great family. God's blessing to you all. Thoughts
and prayers are with you. Dennis Venema*

Dennis Venema - May 17, 2021 at 12:34 PM

TP

“ In addition to being RD, Bob and Coach, Bob Hauver was also known as "Brother". He was a member of the first local fraternity on campus at UNK/KSC, Phi Tau Gamma. In 1966 Phi Tau Gamma became affiliated with national fraternity Alpha Tau Omega. Bob was initiated as an alumni member, but he always tried to make Homecoming and Founders Day activities put on by the active chapter. He also served on our alumni board of directors, helping out the young local active chapter.

Our condolences are offered to his wife and family, May the soul of our faithful departed Brother Bob rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon him.

*Tom Paxson
Member Phi Tau Gamma
Member Alpha Tau Omega*

Tom Paxson - May 17, 2021 at 12:08 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.



May 16, 2021 at 09:48 PM

RW

“ There are few people who ever cared more and showed it than 'Coach Bob Hauver'. From the time I stepped on campus in 1962 until the time I graduated, Coach Hauver was there as a teacher, role model, and mentor to many of us who trusted his judgment, wisdom, and knowledge of athletics, and life as we know it. THANK YOU COACH !

There are so many of us that depended on his everyday checking on us, that we now hopefully do the same for others. When I think of the best coaches that I experienced while at Kearney State, he and Zik, and Charlie, and Les, were among four that we could all count on.

I believe I am a better person today because of the foundation that men like 'Coach Hauver' took the time to teach, mentor, and show us how attitude can make a difference.

It is with sadness that we have to say goodbye but it is with pride that we know his legacy will carry on for decades. May Peace and Blessing be with his family and friends.

*Bob Whitehouse
Regent Emeritus, U of N*

ROBERT L WHITEHOUSE - May 15, 2021 at 04:47 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.



May 15, 2021 at 12:49 PM

TF

“ *The Kiser Family purchased the Sweet Tenderne ss for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.*



The Kiser Family - May 14, 2021 at 12:41 PM

GH

“ *Dear Mrs. Hauver and family, Please accept my condolences on the passing of Coach Hauver. He was a kind yet competitive man who gave me a great deal of opportunity and positive support during my formative college years. I have many fond memories of Coach Hauver and I will always appreciate all that he did for me and so many others. He left a significant positive impact on KSC and all of Kearney. Coach lived a long and productive life and he will be greatly missed. Please know that the entire Hauver family are in my thoughts and prayers. God bless you all. Geoffrey C. Hall, "Class of 83"*

Geoffrey C Hall - May 14, 2021 at 12:23 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.*



May 13, 2021 at 08:20 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.



May 13, 2021 at 12:47 PM



“ Coach Hauver and his family were favorites for our family. We have plenty of memories of this friendly man. May he find the perfect peace we are promised.

Paul and Sue (Zikmund) Pocock

Sue Pocock - May 12, 2021 at 12:27 PM



“ Much love, DOTTIE HOLMES purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.



Much love, DOTTIE HOLMES - May 12, 2021 at 11:50 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.



May 12, 2021 at 10:21 AM

JS

“ Coach Hauver was an amazing man who gave so much of his life to others. I send my prayers of love and strength to my classmate Becky and all of her family at this sad time. God Bless all of you and thanks Coach for leading by example with your incredible life! Jim Salestrom

Jim Salestrom - May 12, 2021 at 09:40 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.



May 12, 2021 at 08:25 AM

BH

“ I would like to send my condolences to the Hauver family. I had him as a teacher and a friend. He was one teacher that would allow us to go to the student union for anyone that had a birthday. I believe we had many kids that never had birthdays on the day we went to the student union. He never did ask us for proof. We always talked about athletic injuries that they experienced in football practice and what was the cause of the injury and how they treated it. He would always follow up with what the doctors did for that injury. All the athletes that played under him will have many memories to draw from at this time. Reading about his athletic achievements makes us even more appreciative of his knowledge of each sport. He will be remembered by many.

Bill Holliday

Bill Holliday - May 11, 2021 at 06:36 PM

TO

“ Coach R.D. was welcoming to me upon my KSC arrival. He always was friendly and enthusiastic. May his memory be eternal.

Tim O'Dea - May 11, 2021 at 01:40 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.



May 11, 2021 at 10:31 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert "R.D." "Bob" "Coach" D. Hauver.



May 10, 2021 at 09:54 PM