



## Mr. Clarence Braden

February 19, 1942 - December 8, 2018

### His Story:

Clarence Robert Braden (Bobby) was born in Detroit, Michigan on February 19, 1942. He was the son of Olive May Dean (McCaughan) and Clarence Robert Braden Sr. (Three). He was the second of seven children.

On December 8, 2018, at the age of 76, Bobby passed away peacefully at the John D. Dingell Veteran Affairs Medical Center in Detroit, Michigan. Earlier that week, he gave out much love, lots of hugs and kisses and said his farewells to his many family members and friends.

Sergeant First Class Braden served two tours in Vietnam where he distinguished himself as a hero, patriot and warrior. By direction of the President of the United States, he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for Valor. In addition to many other Service Medals, he received a second Bronze Star Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster and a Purple Heart.

Bobby attended Custer Elementary, down the street from his home on Linwood, Post Junior High School and graduated from George Washington Trade High School, where he studied automobile mechanics. He grew up in a west side Detroit neighborhood where their grandmother, aunts, uncles and cousins lived within short blocks of each other, known as the Pilgrim Village neighborhood.

In the 1940s and 50s, Bobby and his brothers enjoyed experiences no longer available to young people in Detroit. With friends and cousins, the brothers roamed freely by foot and by bicycles from their home on Linwood to Belle Isle where they canoed, to Dearborn where they explored the Ford Rotunda, to the Northern YMCA where they learned to swim, to the Olympic size pool at Rouge Park where they jumped from the high platforms, and to Palmer Park where they skated and played ice hockey on the lagoons in the winter.

After graduating from high school, Bobby joined the U.S. Army. He spent 14 years in the infantry and more than 9 years as a recruiter and career counselor, serving throughout the US, Germany, Korea and Vietnam. Bobby retired after almost 24 years of service but didn't become idle. He later worked 26 years as manager, supervising inspectors and auditors, for the City of Detroit, Department of Human Services, Home Weatherization Department.

Bobby also was an avid bowler who at one time bowled several days a week. While in the Army, he was a member of the 8th Finance Bowling League in Baumholder, Germany. He was a Founding member of The Rolling Twenty Bowling Club and participated in numerous tournaments, including ABC National Bowling Tournament in Reno NV, Toronto Open Bowling Tournament and Hoinke Tournaments in Cincinnati, OH. Bobby also coached CUZ (cousins) Family Baseball Team, a Women's Softball Team in Germany and a Men's Softball Team for Millie's Lounge in Detroit.

# Cemetery Details

## Great Lakes National Cemetery

4200 Belford Rd.  
Holly, MI 48442

# Previous Events

## Visitation

Friday, Dec. **14**. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

O. H. Pye, III Funeral Home  
17600 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 838-9770  
info@pyefuneralhome.com

## Family Hour

Saturday, Dec. **15**. 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Kadesh Full Gospel Baptist Church  
20361 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48228

## Funeral Service

Saturday, Dec. **15**. 11:30 AM (ET)

Kadesh Full Gospel Baptist Church  
20361 Plymouth Road  
Detroit, MI 48228



# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Clarence Braden*

January 21, 2023 at 09:34 PM



“ *I knew Bob Braden from bowling and he was great at making strikes. He made you feel comfortable and was witty. Wendell can be proud of his father because Bob served his country so that we could enjoy the freedoms we have today. RIP BOB thanks for your SERVICE!*

Marian Lloyd-Caldwell - December 15, 2018 at 01:22 PM



“ *Zilphia Daniels-Martin III lit a candle in memory of Mr. Clarence Braden*



Zilphia Daniels-Martin III - December 14, 2018 at 12:14 AM



“ *Dear Belinda,  
Deepest sympathy to the lost of your beloved father. I grow up on Linwood Avenue with Bobby & his brothers Dennis, Larry, Gary, and Freddie. We played many sports together. Although I have not seen him in many years, I will miss him. It seems that in the twilight of our lives, our friends are dropping like leaves in the Autumn. Your Friend, Tolbert Small*

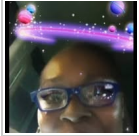
tolbert small - December 13, 2018 at 09:51 PM

SS

“ We grew up with Bobby and had many great times together. His passing has been heart wrenching for us, only our faith has sustained us as it will uphold all of you. Look up God is there  
Sandra Slaughter

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**Sandra E. Slaughter** - December 13, 2018 at 04:24 PM



“ Mr. Braden was one of the most caring person in Human Services City of Detroit 🙏🏻🙏🏻

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**Tisha Flemming-McDougle** - December 13, 2018 at 12:49 PM

TS

“ Our families grew up together on Linwood St. From the 1950's through the 2000's. You were a great guy Bobby. Always smiling and full of cheer. I'll miss that big ole Kool Aid smile and big bear hugs. We all miss you dearly.



*On behalf of The Link and The Small Families of Detroit, MI*

*(Taurie Small)*

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**taurie Small** - December 13, 2018 at 11:51 AM

VB

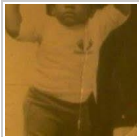
*SFC Braden was my first Infantry Platoon Sergeant when I arrived in Baumholder, Germany in 1976, fresh out of West Point and Ranger School. I was clueless. SFC Braden was in my thoughts throughout my 27 year career. He taught me how to be a Soldier and Infantry leader, and those lessons remained with me throughout my career in Infantry units. He was a great Soldier for whom I had the greatest respect and trust. A tough troop leader honed in combat, to this day I relate stories to my friends of SFC Braden and his fellow Platoon Sergeants (James, Fentress, and Nieves and First Sergeant Bromfield) in A Company, 1-39 Infantry. SFC Braden will always hold a special place in my heart and he shaped me into the officer and man I am today. Rest In Peace Good Soldier.*

Victor J. Bero - July 04, 2022 at 11:14 AM

ML

*“ I am so very sorry for your loss. May the God of all comfort embrace you with peace and hope during this difficult time. Rev 21:4*

Ms Laverne - December 13, 2018 at 10:11 AM



*“ I met Bob as a contractor for the City of Detroit. Bob was a great guy who would give the shirt off his back...as long as he had a spare in his truck (joking)! He was a caring, unselfish individual and he'll be missed but not forgotten! I send my love and condolences for your loss!*

*Yours Truly,  
Sa'eed Yasin and the Yasin Family*

Saeed Yasin-Bey - December 11, 2018 at 05:33 PM

SL

*My best memory of uncle Bobby was when we traveled to Memphis for our family reunion. Listening to him and auntie go back and forth while I'm driving. Priceless. The things they say 😭😭. Missing you uncle Bobby*

S lumpkin - December 12, 2018 at 08:28 PM

TS

*Dear Belinda, Deepest sympathy for the lost of your beloved father, Bobby. On Linwood Avenue, I grow up with Bobby and his brothers Dennis, Larry, Gary, & Freddie. We played many sports together. I remember playing monopoly with him at his parents house. Although, I have not seen him in a long time, I will miss him. Our friends are dropping like the leaves in Autimn. Your Family Friend, Tolbert Small*

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**Tolbart Small** - December 14, 2018 at 01:31 AM

RF

*Sending deepest prayers, condolences and hugs to your family. I met Bobby through my friend and co-worker JoAnn. We played softball after work and then she told me about a team at Millie's Cocktail Lounge. I went with her one day to watch, met coach Bobby, then tried out for and made the team. We had a great coach, great team and so much fun! Special condolences also to brother Gary. Thanks so much for fun times and awesome memories!*

*Gina Favors*

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**Regina Favors** - December 14, 2018 at 09:34 PM