



## Robert E. DeBlock Jr.

October 20, 1954 - October 11, 2025

Wantage - Robert E. DeBlock, Jr., age 70, passed away on Saturday, October 11, 2025 at his residence. Born in Paterson to the late Robert E. DeBlock, Sr. and Elizabeth (VanHoven) DeBlock, Bob grew up in Hawthorne and lived in Oakland before moving to Sussex County in 2004. He had been employed as an assistant manager for Shop Rite in West Milford for the past 22 years. He was a former member of the Wantage United Methodist Church.

Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his sister, Barbara Geisert in 2023 and his brother-in-law, Peter VanDerVelde in 2024. Bob is survived by his devoted wife of 48 years, Mary (VanDerVelde); his son, Timothy DeBlock and his wife Tracy Praml of Oakland; his daughter, Kathryn Cook and her husband Ronald of Oak Ridge; his brother, Scott DeBlock and his wife Heidi of Scarborough, Maine; his sister, Joan Arfsten and her husband Ted of Leyland, North Carolina; his four grandchildren, Thomas, Riley, Gabriella, and Logan; his in-laws, Ruth Weiss and her husband Arthur of Franklin Lakes, Paul VanDerVelde and his wife Christine of Mahwah, and Lorraine VanDerVelde of Riverdale; and many nieces and nephews.

Friends may pay their respects to the family on Friday, October 17, 2025 from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex, New Jersey. Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at The Old Clove Church, 889 NJ-23, Wantage with interment immediately following at Clove Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Robert's memory to Tunnell to Towers Foundation,

2361 Hylan Boulevard, Staten Island, NY 10306 or St. Jude Children's  
Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. Online  
condolences may be offered to the family at [www.pinkelfuneralhome.com](http://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Clove Cemetery

Route 23  
Sussex, NJ 07461

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 17. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.  
31 Bank Street (Route 23)  
Sussex, NJ 07461  
(973) 875-3272  
alexis@pinkelfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com/>

## Service

OCT 18. 10:00 AM (ET)

The Old Clove Church  
850-882 NJ State Route 23  
Wantage, NJ 07461

# Tribute Wall



“ *Linda Kinney-Homan lit a candle in memory of Robert E. DeBlock Jr.* ”



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**Linda Kinney-Homan** - October 18, 2025 at 01:20 AM

LK

“ It is with great sadness to hear of Bob's passing. I am still finding it hard to believe. Bob was such a family man. He was so kind, caring, a loving person and would lend a helping hand to anyone in need. "Mare" was the love of his life and his children and grandchildren were his world and so proud of them. Bob always put his family first and so enjoyed spending time with his Thomas, Riley, Gabriella and Logan. When it came to work, Bob was a dedicated and loyal employee to his job at Shop-Rite.

One thing I admired about Bob was his sense of humor. He could always put a smile on one's face or make them laugh.

Bob you will surely be missed and you have left a wonderful legacy of great memories, fun times, and family reunions for your loved ones to cherish forever forever. I know you will be spending time with your Aunt Elsie and Uncle Chirpie when approaching Heaven's Door. You and Mare shared such great times and memories with them. It was even more special when you bought their home. I can still visualize the living room and your "special chair". The "empty chair" without Bob is now retired!

Happy Birthday in Heaven Bob 10/20. May you continue to watch over your loved ones from above.

Sending our Heartfelt Condolences 🌹, Love 💕 and Prayers 🙏 to dear Mare, Tim, Traci and family, Katie, Ron and family, along with Bob's Siblings and In-laws.

Linda Kinney-Homan & Paul Homan from Roxboro, NC

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Linda Kinney-Homan - October 18, 2025 at 01:19 AM

MJ

“ Maryann J. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..

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Maryann J. - October 17, 2025 at 03:07 PM

SL

“ My sincere condolences to the DeBlock family. I'm sending prayers and good thoughts to you. Bob was such a kind and witty man -- he will be missed. Love, Sue Foster Lagerveld

Susan Foster Lagerveld - October 17, 2025 at 11:33 AM

SL

“ Susan Foster Lagerveld planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..

Susan Foster Lagerveld - October 17, 2025 at 11:28 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..



October 16, 2025 at 08:51 PM

BK

“ Condolences to the DeBlock family from Bob and Andrea Knapp.

Rest Peacefully Mr. DeBlock 🙏

Bob Knapp - October 16, 2025 at 08:49 PM

DB

“ Diana B. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..

Diana B. - October 16, 2025 at 06:19 PM

KC

“ Karen and Kelly Cook purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..



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**Karen and Kelly Cook** - October 14, 2025 at 12:16 PM

MF

“ Mark, Steve, Sharon Milano & families purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..



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**Mark, Steve, Sharon Milano & families** - October 13, 2025 at 03:08 PM

MF

“ Mark, Steve, Sharon Milano & families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..

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**Mark, Steve, Sharon Milano & families** - October 13, 2025 at 03:08 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..



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October 13, 2025 at 10:57 AM

TF

“ *The Scott DeBlock Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert E. DeBlock Jr..*

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**The Scott DeBlock Family** - October 13, 2025 at 10:57 AM