



Byron "Butch" Hopma

November 1, 1943 - April 10, 2026

Byron J. "Butch" Hopma, 82, passed away on Friday, April 10, 2026. He was born on November 1, 1943, in Muskegon, Michigan.

Butch earned his bachelor's degree from Hope College, where he was a proud member of the Omicron Kappa Epsilon (OKE) fraternity. Following graduation, he served honorably in the United States Army during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Air Medal for his service.

Butch built a long and successful career as an insurance agent, working with several agencies, including Washington National and Conseco Life Insurance. He was also a devoted member of First Presbyterian Church and a longtime resident of Libertyville, Illinois.

Butch enjoyed golfing and was a loyal University of Michigan sports fan. Above all, he cherished his role as a grandfather. He found his greatest joy in attending his grandchildren's sporting events and artistic performances, always cheering them on with pride.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 57 years, Johanna Hopma; his children, Brock (Nancy) Hopma, Bethanie (Kevin) Dajka, and Carrie (Aidan) Harrison; and his six grandchildren, Kate Hopma, Nellie and Norah Dajka, and Charlotte, Hudson, and Stella Harrison. He is also survived by his siblings,

Paula (Jim) Seastrom, Renee (Adam) Mountain, and Otto “Bud” (Brenda) Hopma; and his sister-in-law, Carol Hopma.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Otto and Grayce Hopma, and his brother, Jerry Hopma.

A visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m on April 25, 2026, followed by a service at 12:00 p.m. at Burnett-Dane Funeral Home, 120 W. Park Ave. (Rt. 176, one block west of Milwaukee Ave.), Libertyville. Memorial donations in Butch’s name would be appreciated to First Presbyterian Church, 219 W. Maple Ave., Libertyville, IL 60048. For information, please call 847-362-3009 or share a memory at www.burnettdane.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 25. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Burnett-Dane Funeral Home
120 West Park Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 362-3009

Memorial Service

APR 25. 12:00 PM (CT)

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120 West Park Avenue
Libertyville, IL 60048
(847) 362-3009

Tribute Wall



“ I have always considered Byron a friend since I met him 20 years ago. I knew Byron a company employee that I could trust. I also knew him to be the type of person that could be a friend. After he retired we would talk by phone a couple of times a month where we would talk politics and our common friends. He is now in heaven enjoying his reward of everlasting life. Best to you Byron

Chuck Moore - May 29 at 02:02 PM

PH

“ Butch and Jo have been brilliant in-laws to our son Aidan and always so welcoming when we arrived for a visit. Thank you Butch for making all our visits to Libertyville so memorable. We will miss your humour and infectious good cheer when next we visit. However, be rest assured your legacy is in good hands with Jo and all your family. Butch adored his grandchildren and supported them in all their endeavours. His infectious rapport with them was so natural and they all loved him back. He undoubtedly provided them with a wonderful framework for their future and somebody to aspire to. Rest in peace Butch you will be solely missed but not forgotten. Those pesky Brits Phil and Mary.

Philip and Mary Harrison - April 24 at 02:48 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Byron "Butch" Hopma.

April 21 at 08:26 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Byron "Butch" Hopma.*



April 21 at 08:26 PM



“ *Reaching out on behalf of the Bob and Ann Ramey clan...this is Linda. Of course I grew up knowing "Mr. Hopma" at WNIC. Both my parents have passed, but I know how much they greatly admired and respected Butch for so many years! My favorite story passed down was when he became a Blue Devil and then went to war. The story was that they sent him the Blue Devil Gazette in Vietnam. Not sure if it's true, but I grew up thinking it was and thought it was so cool since in those days we wore the POW bracelets and all that. Then when I actually met him and got to know him he was always larger than life to me as a kid. So sorry about your family's loss.*

Linda Matza - April 21 at 08:04 PM



“ *Doug & Nell VanDam purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Byron "Butch" Hopma.*



Doug & Nell VanDam - April 20 at 10:06 AM

MF

“ *Melanie Fox purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Byron "Butch" Hopma.*



Melanie Fox - April 17 at 01:02 PM

FD

“ *From Frank and Cynthia Dajka purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Byron "Butch" Hopma.*



From Frank and Cynthia Dajka - April 17 at 10:25 AM

AW

“ *Albert the Weatherman purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Byron "Butch" Hopma.*



Albert the Weatherman - April 17 at 09:55 AM



“ *Glorious Grace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Byron "Butch" Hopma.*



April 17 at 08:46 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Byron "Butch" Hopma.

April 16 at 12:10 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Byron "Butch" Hopma.



April 16 at 12:10 PM



“ Maureen Catalano purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Byron "Butch" Hopma.



Maureen Catalano - April 16 at 07:17 AM



“ Maureen Catalano planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Byron "Butch" Hopma.

Maureen Catalano - April 16 at 07:17 AM