



# Robert (Bob) Leslie Bogle

SEP 12, 1926 - MAR 24, 2022



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## **Robert (Bob) Leslie Bogle**

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**R**obert Leslie Bogle (Bob) 95 of Bentonville died Thursday, March 24, 2022. He was born September 12, 1926 in Langely, Oklahoma to Claude E. and Evelyn Bogle. He graduated from Ketchem High School in 1943 and attended Northeastern State College in Tahlequah, Ok. In January 1945 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and after graduating from Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia, was assigned to the Company 1 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg.

In spring of 1947 he attended George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and in the fall of the same year transferred to the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

While attending the U of A he worked as a volunteer fireman and lived in the downtown Fayetteville firehouse while attending school. Bob graduated in 1949 with a Bachelor of Science Degree and began his career in the Public Health Department in Augusta, Arkansas where he met and married his secretary's daughter Marilyn McElwee. After their marriage on September 3, 1950, the couple moved for a year to Chapel Hill, North Carolina for Bob to attend the University of North Carolina where he received a Master of Science in Public Health.

In October 1951 Bob and Marilyn moved to Bentonville where Bob worked as the Benton County Health Inspector with an office in the Benton County Courthouse on the downtown square. Within a few years Bob and Sam Walton became good friends while attending Rotary meetings and going on quail hunting trips. By 1955 Mr. Walton had convinced Bob to change careers from public health to managing his Walton 5 and 10 store just across the square from the courthouse. When the new and larger Walton Family Center store was built Bob became the manager there. He loved working in the store, and you usually heard his cheerful whistling upon entering. He eventually moved to the general office where he would take on solving some of the challenges of the new company. Many changes would occur over the



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next decade as the Walmart company was formed and the number of stores increased. Bob will be remembered for his suggestion to Mr. Walton concerning the name of the company—“Wal-Mart”. Bob wrote this suggestion for Mr. Sam who glanced at it and put it in his pocket. Bob did not know if he would use the name until he saw the letters going up on the first store in Rogers, Arkansas. After a career in management Bob retired from Walmart on July 1, 1982.

Bob’s military career with the Arkansas National Guard began on July 9, 1954. In June 1972 as a Lt. Col., he took command of the Battery A 1st Battalion 142nd Artillery and remained in the Arkansas National Guard until his retirement in 1982 at the rank of Colonel.

Bob and Marilyn were always involved in civic activities. Bob was recognized numerous times for his commitment to beautifying the city of Bentonville. After his retirement from Walmart and the National Guard, Bob and Marilyn began traveling extensively. Both loved visiting gardens throughout the world. Many trips were taken with the Arkansas Alumni Association and the American Horticulture Society. They celebrated their 50th anniversary with a trip around the world traveling on the Concorde supersonic jet.

In his free time at home Bob loved to garden and over the years developed the once vacant lot across from their home into a beautiful garden name Bogle Park. Having attended the University of Arkansas Bob became a true Razorback fan. For one of their first dates, he took Marilyn to a Razorback football game in Little Rock. They became life-long fans and followed the Razorbacks to many games, tournaments, and bowl games. Their devotion to the U of A is evident in their contributions to endowments, scholarships and building projects both in scholastics and athletics.

Bob and Marilyn joined the First Baptist Church of Bentonville as soon as they arrived in Bentonville in October 1951 and continued as members throughout their lifetimes. Bob was also a longtime member and past president of the Bentonville Rotary Club.

He will be remembered for his kindness and generosity in so many ways, always ready to tell you what a great job you were doing no matter the task. For Bob, every



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day was an excellent day.

Bob is preceded in death by his parents Claude E. and Evelyn Bogle and his brother Roger Bogle.

He is survived by his three children, David Bogle (Tina) of Bentonville, Becky Alexander (Bob) of Rogers, and Ann McKenzie (Jim) of Bentonville. Surviving grandchildren are Ben Bogle (Sara) of Destin Florida, Erin Easley (Jason) of Gravette, Marshall McKenzie of Bentonville, and Sam McKenzie (Larissa) of Bentonville, and great grandchildren Lukas, Brittney, and Halie Easley of Gravette.

He is also survived by his sister-in-law Wilma Bogle of Grove, Oklahoma.

A visitation will be held 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. Wednesday March 30, 2022, at First Baptist Church Bentonville, with the funeral service starting at 1:00 p.m. under the direction of Nelson-Berna Funeral Home Rogers. A private burial will take place at Bentonville cemetery.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Circle of Life Hospice in Bentonville, Arkansas, 1201 NE Legacy Parkway, Bentonville, AR 72712 [nwacircleoflife.com](http://nwacircleoflife.com) or the Bentonville Library Foundation, 405 Main St. Bentonville, AR 72712.






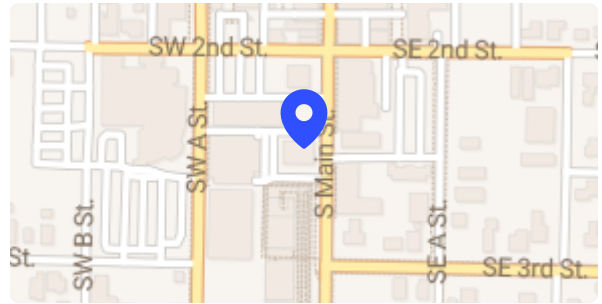
# Events

**Robert (Bob) Leslie Bogle**




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## Visitation

-  **Wednesday**, March 30, 2022
-  12:00 PM - 1:00 PM CT
-  **First Baptist Church of Bentonville**  
220 S Main Street, Bentonville AR 72712




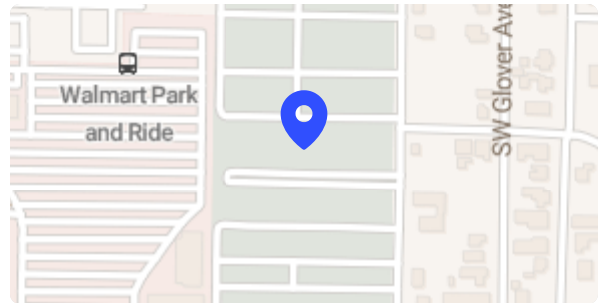
## Funeral Service

-  **Wednesday**, March 30, 2022
-  1:00 PM CT
-  **First Baptist Church of Bentonville**  
220 S Main Street, Bentonville AR 72712



## Cemetery Details

-  **Bentonville Cemetery**  
400 SW F Street, Bentonville AR 72712





# Tribute Wall

**Robert (Bob) Leslie Bogle**

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**Charlie Pierson** posted:

What a joy it was to know Bob and Marilyn Bogle. O.J. and I remember with great fondness their friendliness, their happy and vibrant personalities, and their kindness. May I extend condolences to each family member because each will be affected in their own individual and personal way. So glad and blessed to have known them.

March 29 at 4:33 PM



**Meriam Benson** lit a candle in honor of Robert (Bob).

Bob was one of the nicest people I ever met. He did so much for the community, usually behind the scenes. Bob welcomed me with open arms when I was the first woman Rotarian in Rogers. He will be missed, as will his sense of humor. Meriam Benson



March 29 at 5:52 AM



**Kelly Billingsley Jones** posted:

Mr. Bogle was always so kind! From when I was a little kid in the sunroom area watching the Miss BHS planning with Marilyn and my mom to an adult walking my dog down Jefferson, he was always friendly, smiling and usually working in the park. What a wonderful legacy to our town. My deepest condolences to the entire family. May he Rest in Peace.

March 29 at 4:37 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert (Bob).



March 29 at 4:32 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Bogle family.



March 29 at 4:25 AM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Sacred Duty Spray to the Bogle family.

March 28 at 5:45 AM



**Bob Oneal** posted:

To the Bogle Family-I am so sorry for your loss. Every time I ran into Bob, he had a smile on his face, was always friendly, and usually had a Walmart story to share. He will be sorely missed by those who knew him as well as the Bentonville community. Prayers for your peace. Bob ONEal

March 27 at 4:03 PM



**Alan Dranow** posted:

My deepest, heartfelt condolences to the entire Bogle family. Bob's visits to The Walmart Museum were always a special event for us. I like to think it was special for him, and I have a strong feeling it was. He always brought a smile and, when I had the great privilege of addressing the Bentonville Rotary Club, Bob came up to me right after my sharing what we were doing at the museum and offered me his hand, a big smile and a warm thanks for the museum team's guardianship of our company's history. Marilyn would come by from time to time and always with a "Bob sends his best", which always felt so good. Bob? You'll be missed and forever one of the most loved members of Walmart's legion of alumni. Rest in peace and may your family be comforted by memories of your wonderful life. Alan Dranow The Walmart Museum

March 27 at 1:04 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Bogle family.

March 26 at 11:47 AM



**Charles Wagers** posted:

David - So sorry to hear this. Loosing our dads s tough. Prayers for you. Charlie & Mary Jayne

March 26 at 11:02 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Robert (Bob) by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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