



Bob Lewis

August 6, 1926 - February 4, 2026

Bob Lewis was born in Abilene; his musical career began around the age of 11 when he picked up his first trumpet. He graduated from Abilene High School in 1943. He attended both Hardin-Simmons University and North Texas State University before being called into service by the Army in January 1945. He rose to the rank of Tech Sergeant and was among the first troops into occupied Japan. He left after two years and returned to Hardin-Simmons to graduate with a bachelor's degree in music in 1948 and eventually earned a master's degree in education from Our Lady of the Lake University. In that same year, Bob married Celeste (Lessie) Norvell.

After working for one year as a music teacher at Sanderson and Abilene, he became band director of Hondo High School and stayed there for six years before joining the Northside Independent School District staff in 1957.

Bob was a pivotal figure in the Northside Independent School District, serving as a music teacher and later as the director of fine arts for 33 years. He was instrumental in establishing and expanding the music programs, including orchestra, band and choir. During his time at Northside Independent School District, he enriched the lives of thousands of students and staff members. Bob is known throughout Northside Independent School District as "The Music Man." Bob retired in 1990.

Throughout his career, he played in various bands, including the H.S.U. Cowboy Band and later played in the Abilene, San Angelo, and the San Antonio symphonies, numerous dance and show bands, and directed the HemisFair Marching Band.

In 2001, Bob Lewis Elementary School opened. This enabled Bob to continue to be a part of a school district that he loved so much. He was honored and humbled.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife Celeste Lewis, sons Christopher, Gregory. He is survived by his children: Theresa and Charles Espinoza, Mary Anna, David and Gloria Lewis and Gabriel and Teresa Lewis, 28 grandchildren and 34 great-grandchildren.

Bob's greatest passions were love for Father God, love for his family and friends, love for this country and of course, love for music and laughter.

May his memory live on as a song in our hearts forever.

Flowers appreciated or in lieu of flowers, donations can be made in memory of Bob Lewis to St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Cemetery Details

Sunset Memorial Park

1701 Austin Hwy
San Antonio, TX 78218

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 18. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels North Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Drive
San Antonio, TX 78230

Rosary

FEB 18. 6:00 PM (CT)

Mission Park Funeral Chapels North Cherry Ridge
3401 Cherry Ridge Drive
San Antonio, TX 78230

Funeral Mass

FEB 19. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church
202 N. St. Mary's st.
San Antonio, TX 78205

Rite of Committal

FEB **19**. 12:00 PM (CT)

Sunset Memorial Park
1701 Austin Hwy
San Antonio, TX 78218

Tribute Wall

LS

“ I didn't get to be around Bob very much, but when I did get to see and speak with him, it was always a treat. He was so mild, gentle, kind but very witty which made the conversations fun and memorable. His leadership bestowed music throughout NSISD schools to thousands of students and helped many young band directors become very successful teachers. Thanks for your leadership and friendship Bob. You will be greatly missed.

Leland Sharrock - February 20 at 03:54 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bob Lewis.



February 19 at 04:05 AM

TR

“ The Rilee's purchased the Simply Elegant Spathi phyllum for the family of Bob Lewis.



The Rilee's - February 18 at 03:14 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Bob Lewis.



February 17 at 10:18 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Bob Lewis.



February 17 at 10:10 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bob Lewis.



February 17 at 04:38 PM



“ Mr. Lewis was one of the most positive people I’ve ever known. He could turn an obviously dire situation into a light at the end of a tunnel. He lived his life to the fullest. Kind, loving, faithful, caring, joyful were his greatest traits. Mr. Lewis transmitted Jesus’ love to anyone he touched. You will be missed Sir.
“Well done, good and faithful servant.”
Mathew 25:23

David Espinoza - February 15 at 10:35 PM

DE

From David and Sandra Espinoza

David Espinoza - February 17 at 09:32 AM

LW

“ *Lynne and Diana Weynand purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Bob Lewis.*



Lynne and Diana Weynand - February 13 at 07:40 PM

NM

“ *Bob was my band director at Hondo High School. I have many fond memories of those years in Hondo, of his dedication to his love of music, his patience in teaching us, his beautiful family - I remember especially the many, many days that his son, Christopher, would “escape” from the family backyard (which was just across the bus drive at school) & run to the band hall to hear the music. One of my band members would take him home - he was an adorable little tike with special needs. Bob moved to SA in order to give Christopher the opportunity for schooling for his needs. I ran into Bob many times over the years later at numerous music events - he always remembered me! Rest in Peace, Mr. Lewis, you hold a special place in my heart!* 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Nancy Mortensen - February 13 at 04:12 PM

MD

“ I will never forget hearing Mr. Lewis warming up in his office at John Marshall high school. He was technically very talented and I was very impressed by his skills on trumpet. After a somewhat tumultuous relationship with him in high school we reconnected approximately 40 years later and made peace with each other. He became a very good friend of mine and a total supporter of the music that I pursued by being a band leader of my own blues band. boB in our texting conversations asked me to always spell his name with the small b in front. He had a sense of humor that surprised me. He came out twice to see my band and presented me with two songs that he wrote that I still have to figure out arrangements for and then record them. I was truly unexpectedly blessed to have boB in my life and I will cherish our friendship to the end of my days. I'm certain he is at peace with our Lord and savior Jesus Christ and I hope to live my life well enough to join him in the kingdom of God.

Mike Davis - February 13 at 12:59 PM

LL

“ Love, Sherry & Doug LeSturgeon purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Bob Lewis.



Love, Sherry & Doug LeSturgeon - February 13 at 12:45 PM

DG

“ One of the greatest loves I have ever known and have experienced in this lifetime is that of my Grandfather. He exuded love. It was apparent in the way he showed up his family, the way he cared and prayed for us all, the way he gave you his undivided attention, the way he taught us about the most profound love of all... that of our Lord and Savior, Jesus. We are triumphant that he is reunited with Jesus in Heaven but this is also a loss we will be mourning forever. May he rest in eternal peace and may we be blessed to someday rejoice in reunion with him.

Dolores Grace - February 12 at 07:34 PM

DG

**showed up for*

Dolores Grace - February 12 at 08:23 PM