

Office of the 2009-2010 Chairman – District Patriotism Committee  
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## IN REQUIEM

**Robert “Bob” Heft, b. 1942, Saginaw, MI; d. 12DEC2009, 2:21p, Napoleon, OH**

In 1958, as a high school student, Bob took on a class project of designing a United States flag. He was 17-years old and living with his grandparents in Lancaster, OH.

When Alaska and Hawaii were being considered for statehood, over 1,500 designs were submitted—a mixture of them having 49 and 50-star designs. Bob submitted his design and received a B- for his report. After much discussion with his teacher, they came to an agreement that if his design were chosen, the grade would be reconsidered.

After Alaska and before Hawaii were admitted to the Union, Bob’s design was selected by presidential proclamation in 1959. That flag which we are familiar with was first used on July 4, 1960. According to Bob, his teacher kept his agreement and changed his grade to an “A”.

It is reported that Bob has copyrighted designs for 51-60 state flags.

As your clubs, organizations and units salute our National Ensign, please keep in mind that it was a young American and not a government agency or business that created this international symbol of Leadership and Freedom.

Most likely Bob’s story will not make the San Francisco Chronicle, L.A. Times, or Chicago Tribune, other than a small obituary at most.

You are receiving this because I know your character and your love of our country...and I ask you to share this with your friends and relatives who feel the same way.

God Bless America for we are.....*One Nation Under God!*

*Ken*

Ken Delfino

United States Navy (Retired)