

Robert F. Utz, 88, Marine Corps veteran and FBI special agent

- By [Samantha Christmann](#) - Published Sun, Apr 23, 2017

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Robert F. Utz, a Marine Corps veteran and retired FBI agent, died in his Grand Island home Saturday after a brief illness. He was 88.

A Kenmore native and graduate of Kenmore High School, Mr. Utz enlisted in the Marines in 1946, after the end of World War II. Afterward, he earned a bachelor's degree in history from Colgate University in 1952, where he played basketball for four years. During his senior year, he was the team's captain.

In 1954, Mr. Utz joined the FBI, serving in California and Virginia. He married his wife, Helen, in 1955. After returning to Buffalo in 1967, he served as a senior resident agent in Niagara Falls and then a supervisory special agent in the Buffalo office before retiring in 1982. During his career, he served as a police instructor for agencies in New York and Virginia.

Inducted into the Kenmore West Athletic Hall of Fame in 2005, Mr. Utz enjoyed playing basketball, baseball and golf with friends and family. He also enjoyed attending his children's and grandchildren's activities.

Mr. Utz was a member of the Judges and Police Conference Society, the Men's Sustaining Society of Kenmore Mercy Hospital as well as local and national chapters of the Former Special Agents of the FBI. He also was a member of the Holy Name Society of St. Stephen's Catholic Church on Grand Island, where he served as an usher.

Survivors include his wife of 61 years, the former Helen Rennie; two sons, Robert W. and Thomas C.; two daughters, Kristine Ziemann and Karen; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 10 a.m. Tuesday in St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 2100 Baseline Road, Grand Island.