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STAR Financial Bank Mourns the Passing of Longtime Executive and Banking Leader Robert L. “Bob” Wright

Fort Wayne, Ind. (Jan. 14, 2026) – STAR Financial Bank shares with deep sadness the passing of Robert L. “Bob” Wright, a dedicated banking leader whose vision and character helped shape the organization for more than five decades. Wright passed away on Dec. 30, 2025, at the age of 92.

Wright’s banking career began in 1952 at Upland Bank and spanned more than 60 years as a principal owner and executive leader. He ultimately served as President and Chairman of the Board, playing a pivotal role in transforming a small community bank into the regional financial institution known today as STAR Financial Bank.

Under Wright’s leadership, the organization expanded through strategic acquisitions, introduced modern lending practices, and strengthened its operational foundation. He was instrumental in establishing loan committees, shaping the annual budgeting process, and recruiting exceptional banking talent. His approach to leadership emphasized fairness, sound judgment, and relationship-driven banking.

Wright was known for his belief in “character-first banking,” a philosophy he lived daily and instilled throughout the organization.

“Bob Wright believed that character mattered, yesterday, today, and always. His leadership shaped STAR Financial Bank in strength and stability, and in the values that guide how we serve others. Bob never stopped caring about this organization or the people within it. His wisdom, humility, and steady presence left a lasting impact on all of us. Our thoughts are with the Wright family during this difficult time,” said Jim Marcuccilli, Chairman and CEO of STAR Financial Bank.

In his later years, Wright remained closely connected to the bank, regularly visiting colleagues and offering insight and perspective grounded in decades of experience. His wisdom, humility, and steady presence left a lasting impression on generations of bankers.

Beyond his professional achievements, Wright was a devoted family man and community member. He and his wife, Phyllis, shared 70 years of marriage and raised six children. He cherished time with his children,

grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, and was well known for his warmth, storytelling, and genuine interest in others. A lifelong cowboy at heart, Wright was an accomplished calf and team roper, a co-founder of the Indiana Ropers and Doggers Association, and an avid outdoorsman.

Wright's legacy continues within STAR Financial Bank through his son, Tom Wright, former President and current Vice Chairman; his grandson, Kevin Wright, who now serves as President of the organization; and his grandson-in-law, Eric Palmer, a Senior Business Analyst. He is survived by his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and extended family, and was preceded in death by his wife, Phyllis, and several beloved family members.

STAR Financial Bank extends its heartfelt condolences to the Wright family and all who were impacted by Bob Wright's life and legacy. His influence lives on in the strength of the institution he helped build and in the character-driven culture that continues to define STAR. To read Wright's full obituary, visit the website [here](#).

About STAR Financial Bank

[STAR Financial Bank](#), headquartered in Fort Wayne, Indiana, is committed to delivering quality financial expertise and distinctive banking solutions to exceed customer expectations. In addition, STAR Private Advisory offers private banking, investment and fiduciary services. STAR has grown to nearly \$3 billion in assets with locations across central and northeast Indiana. For more information, visit starfinancial.com.

Note: In all references to STAR, "STAR" should be in all caps, as the name STAR was derived from the first names of the early principals (Selah Wright, Thomas Marcuccilli, Arthur Hodson, and Ralph Marcuccilli).

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