

Remembering Bob Moore on His 97th Birthday

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Robert Gene "Bob" Moore, born on February 15, 1929, in Portland, Oregon, and who passed away on February 10, 2024, in Milwaukie, Oregon, was an American food executive and philanthropist. He and his wife Charlee (1928–2018) founded Bob's Red Mill, a brand of whole-grain foods and baking products, in 1978. Known for his white beard, red vest, bolo tie, and flat cap, an illustration of Moore's face is found on all the company's products, alongside the salutation "To Your Good Health."

I had the pleasure of meeting Bob personally over ten years ago at the Bob's Red Mill store in Milwaukie and enjoyed talking with him. Bob was a true gentleman and an exceptional native Oregonian. His passion for whole-grain milling led to extraordinary contributions in making our world healthier.

If Bob were still with us, Sunday, February 15, 2026, would mark his 97th birthday. I enthusiastically put together the following fun number connections and coincidences as a virtual birthday gift for this honorable and remarkable man:

1. If 1978 (the year Bob cofounded Bob's Red Mill) is split as 19 and 78, these two numbers add up to 97, Bob's new age.
2. Further, if numbers 1 through 26 are assigned to letters A through Z, interestingly, the letter values of "Bob" add up to 19 and the letter values of "Robert" add up to 78.
3. The middle two digits of 1978 also form 97 (Bob's new age).
4. The sum of the digits of 1978 equals 25, and the 25th prime number is 97.
5. If Bob's 97th birthday expressed in short form as 02/15/26 is split as 02, 15, and 26, adding the reverses of 02 and 15 (namely 20 and 51) to 26 yields 97.
6. With Charlee's birthdate being March 11, Bob's and Charlee's birthdates in a leap year are 25 days apart—and again, the 25th prime number is 97.
7. If Bob's 97th birthday expressed in full as 02/15/2026 is split as 02, 15, 20, and 26, these numbers add up to 63, which equals the product of the digits of 97.
8. Bob passed away on 02/10/2024, the 41st day of the year. If split as 02, 10, 20, and 24, the number 41 plus the sum of these four numbers (56) add up to 97 as well.

9. If 02/15/1929 (the day Bob was born) is split as 02, 15, 19, and 29, the sum of these numbers equals 65, and 65 is the reverse of 56 (see item # 8). Also, twice 65 equals the sum of the squares of the digits of 97.
10. If 2026 is split as 20 and 26, we get $20 + 26 = 46$. Coincidentally, Bob's birthdate, 2/15, is the 46th day of 2026. Further, the prime factors of 46 (namely 2 and 23) add up to 25, and again, the 25th prime number is 97.
11. Bob died on 02/10/24, and amazingly, 2, 10, and 24 are the difference, the sum, and the product of the digits of 46.
12. Furthermore, assuming Bob's favorite word to be "mill," the sum of the letter values of this word equals 46.
13. Moreover, the reverse of 46 is 64, and the 64th prime number is 311. Interestingly, 311 interpreted as 3/11 coincides with Charlee's birthdate, March 11.
14. Bob's 97th birthday this year is also special because 2026 is twice 1013, the 170th prime number, and 170 equals twice 85—with 85 equaling the sum of the letter values of "Bob Moore."
15. Bob's 99th birthday, which would have occurred in 2028, will be special for at least the following reasons: First, 2028 will mark Charlee's 100th birthday. Second, 2028 will mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of Bob's Red Mill. Also, half rotation of 99 around the vertical axis of its plane yields 66, and 66 equals the sum of the letter values of "Moore."
16. Lastly, if Bob's 100th birthday expressed as 02/15/2029 is split into 02, 15, 20, and 29, these numbers add up to 66 as well.

Thank you, Bob, for being an inspiration and champion of nutritious whole grains. Your legacy continues to nourish and educate generations. Wishing you a happy 97th birthday in spirit!

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