

The funeral of Bronisław Kawęcki in Radom. Family, friends and representatives of the authorities bid farewell to the Solidarity activist and hero

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Antoni Sokołowski · 5 September 2026

On Saturday, 5 September, the funeral of Bronisław Kawęcki took place — an activist of the anti-communist opposition, a hero of Solidarity and chairman of the Social Committee for the Construction of the Monument to the Workers' Protest of June 1976.

The final farewell to Bronisław Kawęcki

At the Church of St John the Baptist on Rwańska Street he was bid farewell by his family, closest relatives, friends, colleagues, members of parliament and Solidarity activists. Solidarity colour parties and trade-union delegations stood at the altar. The musical setting of the service was provided by the Radom Chamber Orchestra.

Among those paying their respects were Bronisław Kawęcki's immediate family, as well as MP Marek Suski, the chairman of the Radom City Council Mateusz Tyczyński, the president of the Catholic Intelligentsia Club in Radom, former MP and Radom voivode Dr Jan Rejczak, councillor Artur Standowicz, the headmaster of Secondary School No. II in Radom Dariusz Żytnicki, former councillor Agata Morgan, former councillor and trade-union activist Kazimierz Staszewski, and former deputy mayor of Radom Krzysztof Telka.

Activity in Solidarity

Bronisław Kawęcki died at the age of 72 on Saturday, 29 August. He was born on 29 April 1954 in Sandomierz. In 1979 he graduated from the Extracurricular Secondary School for Working People in Radom. In 1973–1979 he worked as a carer at the State Children's Care Home in Radom, and then in 1979–1982 as manager of central warehouses at Cezal.

From September 1980 he was active in Solidarity. He organised the Provisional Founding Committee at Cezal.

He was also a member of the presidium and board of the Inter-Enterprise Founding Committee (MKZ) and the Inter-Enterprise Workers' Commission (MKR) of the Radom Land Region.

In 1981 he served as secretary of the NSZZ "Solidarność" Radom Land mediation group for talks with the government delegation. He was also chairman of the Social Committee for the Construction of the Monument to the Workers' Protest of June 1976.

Internment and opposition activity

On 13 December 1981 he was detained and taken to the Remand Centre in Radom; on 14 December 1981 he was interned at the Isolation Centre in Kielce-Piaski, then in Radom. On 11 January 1982 he was transferred to the Prison Hospital at Penal Institution No. 2 in Łódź; from 3 February 1982 he was again at the centre in Kielce-Piaski. He was released on 7 July 1982.

In 1982–1988 he distributed underground publications, including *Wolny Robotnik*, *Koncept* and occasional materials. In 1987–1988 he was an editor of the underground *Wolny Robotnik*. In 1983–1988 he was employed by Father Eugeniusz Klimiński on the construction of the Pallottine Oblates' church in Radom.

From 14 October 1988 to February 1989 he was a member of the open Inter-Enterprise Regional Commission of NSZZ "Solidarność" of the Radom Land.

He co-founded the Civic Committee of the Radom Land, served as plenipotentiary of Jan Pająk's election committee in the Senate elections of 4 June 1989, and organised poster and leaflet campaigns.

Commitment to documenting history

Bronisław Kawęcki was a consultant and assistant director on Wojciech Maciejewski's films: *A City under Sentence*, about the Radom June 1976 events, and *And the Body Shall Quietly Rest in the Grave*, about the life and work of Father Roman Kotlarz.

State decorations

In 2018 he was decorated by Poland's president with two important state awards for his opposition activity:

- the Officer's Cross of the Order of Polonia Restituta — presented in June 2018 during the commemorations of Radom June '76;
- the Cross of Freedom and Solidarity — conferred by presidential decision in the same year for his contribution to Poland's independence and sovereignty and to respect for human rights under the Polish People's Republic.

Source: <https://echodnia.eu/radomskie/pogrzeb-bronislawa-kaweckiego-w-radomiu-dzialacza-i-bohatera-solidarnosci-zegnali-bliscy-przyjaciele-i-przedstawiciele-wladz/gh/c1p2-29326133>