



William Robert Anderson

September 10, 1926 - March 16, 2011

W. Robert (Dr. Bob) Anderson, 84, of Fort Myers, passed away at home on Wed., March 16, 2011. From a long line of Florida natives, he was born on Sept. 10, 1926, in Fort Myers, to Pat and Virginia Anderson. Dr. Bob graduated in 1944 from Fort Myers High School, where he lettered and was all-conference in five sports. He joined the Navy and served during WWII on the USS Hornet. Returning home, he married the love of his life, Betty Brown. He received his undergraduate and dentistry degrees from Emory University in Atlanta. During a two-year hiatus between the two, he taught and coached at Fort Myers High School. During his years practicing dentistry, he served his community in the roles of Boy Scout Master, Little League Coach, member of Kiwanis, and as a member of the of the Lee County School Board for 12 years, among many more. During this same period, he was also deeply involved in leadership roles at Riverside Baptist Church. After 18 years in Fort Myers, Dr. Bob sold his home and dental practice, and with Betty, joined the dental missionary field. For the next 15 years they were stationed in Ghana and Nigeria. In addition to operating two dental facilities and conducting clinics in surrounding villages, Dr. Bob taught at the University of Nigeria Dental School. Upon retirement from the mission field, he came back to his beloved Fort Myers, for good, to continue to practice the profession he loves at Family Health Centers of Southwest FL, a non-profit healthcare clinic for special populations who require health care. Never one to be idle, he also resumed his involvement in the community. He served on the Fort Myers City Council,

the Board of Directors of the Fort Myers Police Athletic League, was a member of Rotary International and was also very active in First Baptist Church of Fort Myers. Family Health Centers named their clinic on Broadway Ave. in his honor. He earned the distinction of being named Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International and he was awarded the Meritorious Service Award by the Dental Alumni Association of Emory University. He loved nothing more than a boat full of mullet and a Jeep full of quail. But most of all he dearly loved his family, his God, his profession, and his community, and served all of them tirelessly and with great distinction. Dr. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, and his brothers, Pat Anderson and Emmett Anderson. Survivors include his wife of 63 years, Betty; his son Buz (Cathy), Melbourne, FL; daughter, Beverly Gunderson (Lance), Atlanta, GA; son Steve (Susan), Jasper, GA; son Michael (Michelle), Ft. Myers; 15 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; six nieces; three nephews; and many, many friends. Visitation will be at 10 a.m. on Monday, March 21, 2011, at First Baptist Church of Fort Myers, with a celebration of his life held at 11:00 a.m. Donations may be made to Hope Hospice or to the Dr. Bob & Betty Anderson Well Project at <http://thewaterproject.org/community/profile/sheri-ahrens> Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.andersonpatterson.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *William Robert Anderson*

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *William Robert Anderson*

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *We send our sincere love and respect in the passing of dear friend since FMHS days in school and sports.*

N. Jeanne (Thaggard) & L.D. Bochette - March 23, 2011 at 02:10 PM



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“ *from a fellow rotarian, sorry for your loss. we will always remember him. paul and vicki williams*

paul & vicki williams - March 22, 2011 at 09:12 PM



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ME

“ Dear Betty, I am so sorry to have read about the passing of Bob. I know that you and Bob had a wonderful life together and that you will miss him dearly. Stay strong knowing that he is in a better place. With Sympathy, Marianne Eppich

Marianne Eppich - March 21, 2011 at 06:38 PM

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Marianne Eppich - March 21, 2011 at 06:38 PM

LD

“ Betty, we are praying for you and the family today and in the days to come. You and Bob were such a blessing in our lives - I'll never forget the time Bob 'worked' on me at Miango, with you assisting and the laughs we had as he tried to hit all the right buttons on unfamiliar equipment! I got a shower in the process and nearly slipped, headfirst, out of the chair! Our love to you and yours.

Larry & Trish Davis - March 21, 2011 at 10:26 AM

DC

“ We are very sorry for your loss, and glad that your family is there to comfort you, and each other. Your neighbors, The Corbetts

Don and Marilynn Corbett - March 21, 2011 at 10:26 AM

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Don and Marilynn Corbett - March 21, 2011 at 09:36 AM

TD

“ Our whole family is so sorry to hear about the passing of Dr. Anderson. We have fond memories of growing up with you guys. If there is anything we can do for you please call. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Terry Dorsey - March 20, 2011 at 07:37 PM

ME

“ Dear Betty, I am sorry to have read about the passing of your loving Husband Bob. The little time I knew him, he seemed a very special person. He is in good hands now and in a better place. You are a strong woman Betty. My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Sincerely, Marianne Eppich

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Terry Dorsey - March 20, 2011 at 05:22 PM

LC

“ Granddad- I love you and you will always be in my heart. I hope Granny will be okay but always remember he is in our hearts!! Love you both!!

Laynie Caldwell - March 19, 2011 at 04:30 PM

PE

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to you during this bittersweet time of grief. I will always remember with fond memories of "Dr. Bob" when we were on furlough and even after I came back to the States for college to visit him for our dental checkups. And of course, Carolyn was always by his side to assist him. He and Dad are having a good time fishing with the Lord, I'm sure. We love you and will be remembering you during this time.

Patty Miller Ethridge - March 19, 2011 at 04:30 PM

BM

“ Betty: I am thinking of you and praying for you and the family at this difficult time. It has been a joy and a privilege to count you and Bob as some of our dearest friends for many years. May the Lord comfort you day by day. Isaiah 41:13 has been a comfort to me through difficult times. Blessings on you. Love, Bobbie.

Bobbie E. Miller - March 19, 2011 at 08:16 AM

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Patty Miller Ethridge - March 18, 2011 at 10:09 PM

SA

“ I am so sorry that I cannot be there to honor his life in person. In the 8 months I spent living with the Andersons in Africa, I learned so much from Uncle Bob, I cannot even begin to make a list. I credit him with helping me to mature during a pivotal point in my life. I have several very wise "quotes" from Uncle Bob that I still use today and will pass on to my children as well. He was such an excellent example, and such a loving person, that I am honored to call him "Uncle". Among my favorite memories are the Wild Cherry sodas he kept in his McGregor Blvd dental office. I cant' think about Uncle Bob without thinking about Wild Cherry soda or Root Beer! Much love and prayers go from our family to Aunt Betty, Buz, Bev, Steve, Mike and their children.

Sheri Ahrens - March 18, 2011 at 04:26 PM

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CN

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Carol Nogueira - March 18, 2011 at 02:40 PM

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