



John Robert Mantell, Jr.

May 15, 1930 - August 26, 2020

John Robert Mantell, Jr (Bob) went home to be with the Lord Wednesday, August 26, 2020.

He was a devoted husband, a loving father and steadfast friend.

Bob was born May 15, 1930 to John Robert and Thelma Haugh Mantell in Frederick, Maryland. Bob graduated from Frederick High School before working for Western Union and then the Maryland State Road Commission.

Bob met his wife, Mary Louise Hutchins, through mutual friends and married in 1950. They celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary before Mary Lou's passing.

Shortly after marrying, he was hired as a cryptographer in the communications center with HQ 2nd Army. Six years later Bob began working for the National Security Agency. Due to the nature of his work, there was much secrecy surrounding his responsibilities and travels. Bob spent over 23 years with NSA before retiring as a Special Research Analyst. While home, Bob enjoyed spending time with his family. He shared his love of crabbing, bowling and amateur radio with his children. In the evenings Bob could often be found with a book in his hand (spy novels, of course) and the baseball game playing in the background.

Many people around the world knew Bob by his call signs, K3BYV and PZ5DX.

Bob and Mary Lou moved to Brevard, NC after receiving a job offer from Raytheon Electronics Company as Deputy Chief Operations and Mission Manager until the government closed the facility.

In 2005 Bob and Mary Lou moved once again, this time to Waxhaw, NC so they could devote more time volunteering with JAARS. In 2013, they moved one last time to Plantation Estates in Matthews, NC.

Bob is survived by his sons, John Robert III and wife Carroll (Waxhaw, NC), William and wife Rosalie (Chestertown, MD) and daughter Karen and husband Ralph Strader (Charlotte, NC). Bob was loved and known as Opa by his four grandchildren, Corrie (Mantell) Kolbe, Shaun O'Neale Thalman, John Robert Mantell IV and Jeremy David Mantell. Opa will be missed by his seven great grandchildren.

Upon learning of his passing, many people commented about his dry sense of humor and that he had a twinkle in his eye, like he knew a secret. And we all knew he was first rate at

keeping secrets.

The Mantell family would like to thank the Levine and Dickson Hospice House in Huntersville, NC for the care, compassion and dignity they showed Bob during his brief stay.

A Celebration of Life service will be held Saturday, September 19, 2020 at 2:00 pm at Christ Covenant Church, 800 Fullwood Drive, Matthews NC 28105. At a later date the family will hold a graveside service at Baldwin Methodist Church in Millersville, Maryland. Family is in the care of Heritage Funeral Home, Weddington Chapel. Online condolences may be made at www.heritagecares.com.

Events

SEP **Celebration of life** 02:00PM
19

Christ Covenant Church

800 Fullwood Lane, Matthews, NC, US, 28105

Comments



“ We know how much you all loved Bob. We first met him when we picked up some camera equipment to take to Suriname on our first trip there. We rejoice in his faithful service to his Lord and his love and care of his family. You took wonderful loving care of him as well. We pray for comfort for you in your grief. In Christ's love, Denise & Frank

Denise Doejaaren - September 11 at 11:12 AM



“ Dear Bob & Carroll, was saddened to hear of your dad's passing , he's been in our prayers recently as y'all are now! We rejoice in his long life and appreciate his time of service @JAARS over the years!

In Christ's Love,
John & Rhonda

John & Rhonda Strawser - September 11 at 10:45 AM



“ What a very interesting life your Father has led. Karen, I know you will miss him terribly. Be thankful for all the wonderful memories and the legacy your beautiful parents have left you and your family. I will pray that your tears of sadness will be replaced with smiles as you remember him in the future. God Bless you. Robyn

Robyn Lyemance - September 07 at 07:31 AM