



Robert Franklin Shirley

January 25, 1934 - April 3, 2021

Robert Franklin Shirley (Bob), beloved husband, father, and Grandpop, passed away on April 3, 2021 at the age of 87 from Covid Pneumonia. Born on January 25, 1934, in Marshall, TX to E.R. (Jake) Shirley and Lucille Petrey Shirley, Bob was raised in Dallas, TX where he attended Cathedral School for Boys and later St. Mark's School of Texas. An avid high school athlete, he was a four-year letterman in both basketball and football, lettered in track and was captain of the football team. He always looked forward to football season and continued to remain passionate about high school football, often attending local games.

After graduating from St Mark's in 1953, he attended Texas Wesleyan College, where he earned his undergraduate degree in Political Science. He then entered the US Army in 1957. Following his enlistment, Bob taught elementary school in Corpus Christi and later reenlisted in 1964. It was in 1968, while teaching full time and attending law school at St. Mary's University in San Antonio, his Army Reserve Unit was called to active duty. He proudly served his country during the Vietnam War and was awarded a Bronze Star for acts of heroism. He remained active with the Army Reserves for over 30 years, until retirement.

After returning from Vietnam, Bob earned a Master's in Education from Texas Wesleyan College. He spent his life working as a teacher, guiding and caring for students, particularly those who were underprivileged and had special needs. He spent much of his career as a professional educator in Fort Worth ISD, Castleberry ISD, Dallas Can Academy, and Fort Worth Can Academy.

He is survived by his wife Dana Dane Shirley; daughter Jana Best of Oak Harbor, WA and her husband Jerry; daughter Kate Shirley Studdard of Plano and her husband, Scott; daughter Clarissa Shirley of Plano; sister Laura Shirley Blakeley of Dallas; grandson Ian Best of Mukilteo and wife Alysha of Mukilteo, WA; granddaughter Johanna Best Cronshaw and husband Christopher of Santa Barbara, CA; and great granddaughter Margaret Best of Mukilteo, WA.

A service will be held at DFW National Cemetery on Wed April 21 at 2:00. Following the service, the family will host a Celebration of Life from 3:30-5:30 at Seasons 52 NorthPark for family and friends. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions, if so desired, may be directed to the Fort Worth ISD JROTC program (<https://www.fwisd.org> - 2901 Shotts St. Ste. D Ft. Worth, TX 76107).

Comments



“ Clarissa, your dad sounds like an amazing person. As a teacher myself, I appreciate his life dedicated to his students and the sacrifices he made. Please accept my sympathy, and my thoughts are with your family. From Cathy Bambenek

cathy bambenek - April 25 at 01:48 PM



“ Very appreciative of the Long and exemplary US Army service of Robert Shirley for our country, Prayers are going up to heaven for comfort for his family, friends and comrades in arms present and past. May he rest in the paradise of his Creator and Lord in this his new heavenly deployment. Thank you Lord, for men such as this.. d huffman Army vet (Cpt) and DFW Honor Guard member..

Don Huffman - April 16 at 06:02 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Restland Funeral Home and Cemetery - April 14 at 05:38 PM