



Robert Zender

March 2, 1931 - September 3, 2013

Obituary of Robert Zender

Robert Dominic Zender, 82, of Leesburg, Florida, was born March 2, 1931 in Chicago, Illinois and died Tuesday, September 3, 2013.

He was a Navy Veteran serving in the Korean War and spent his career in Law Enforcement, retiring in 1993.

He is survived by his wife of 21 years, Sharon of Leesburg, FL; daughters, Christine Zender of Fairfax, VA, Elizabeth "Lisa" Jacobsen of Manilla, IA; sons, Paul Zender of Washington, DC, Mark Zender of Fairfax, VA, Matthew Zender of Alexandria, VA; step daughter, Tina Marie Davis of Jacksonville, NC; sister, Carol Olson of Crystal River, FL; brother, George Zender of California; seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, John in 1964.

Graveside Services with Military Honors will be held at Florida National Cemetery on Monday, September 9, 2013 at 11:00 AM with Reverend Mike McCann officiating.

Services

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Interment

Florida National Cemetery, Bushnell, Florida.

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert Zender*

October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

“ I Remember Dad When I think of Dad, my first thought is strength. Then, black t-shirts. Then, smiles. I remember him smiling a lot growing up...always joking around talking like an Indian or something else, laughing with everyone. Talking with his friends. His stories he used to tell us kids...really good stuff, I remember him doing that at night before we went to bed. He used to wrestle with us as kids a lot, I remember that. And the Aqua Velva after shave...he used to love that stuff, and we would always get him that for Christmas. He was a strong guy, the Navy guy, the boxer guy, the Chicago tough youth guy. I remember the pictures of him. He provided a home for his parents in Florida, and they lived next to us for years. He used to have parties at our house for all the relatives. He used to go dancing, and I remember the various clubs he belonged to...Lion's Club, etc. Most cherished though, are my thoughts of him and Sharon in Florida. Sanctuary. What a house. The Florida heat, the quiet, the manicured grass. The quiet. Inside the house it was a flowing raft ride down a slow moving fresh spring river...quiet, clean, sunny, bright, peaceful. Peaceful. Reading the paper outside was so warm, so calm, quiet. Coffee was great. And the books inside the house...the books. The best of signs in a home. There were tons of them, neatly ordered. I remember driving to their house several times for several years...the peaceful meditation of getting there, and arriving. The Florida heat, the bright sunlight, the squinting until you go inside, the walk on the clean patio and walkway, opening the door, stepping up the stairs and into the sanctuary. To shake hands, to hug, to kiss on the cheek, and then to sit down and talk...talk, to catch up, to talk about anything. Anything. Ease of everything. It was easy. It was always like coming home. Sharon and Dad...wonderful and blessed couple. Dad was always good with his hands and fixed things, took care of things, so everything worked so well. Thank you, Dad, for always being there, ready to listen, to give your thoughts...and to tell us to make you proud. And then later in life, that we had made you proud and that you know that we will be alright. We will do alright. You know we will do alright. He was the best, is the best, and will always be with us, watching over us, helping us be strong and do the right thing. Dad,

my family is my priority, you always wanted me to watch over my family, I promise, I promise that I will do what you and I discussed, just be there for me as I try. I have been talking with you a lot lately, knowing you are in Heaven, wanting you to see the kids. Do you see the kids, Dad? And I know you do. Thank you. I will always remember you and Sharon for these and several other good thoughts, and your life made a large impact on me and will always. We will stay in touch with Sharon, have her up to stay with us and Jeanne, Luke, Avelina...we will always remember her and stay in touch with her. Luke and Ava says they remember Grandma, Grandpa, the golf cart rides, and especially the checkers at Cracker Barrel. Jeanne and I know that was an angelic moment, and the glowing angel will always remind us of that. The rain, the relaxation after the dinner, the rocking chairs...and then Luke played checkers with Dad and won, then Avelina played checkers and won, then I played checkers and lost. Luke and Ava say that Grandpa showed them how to play checkers. Sharon, thank you for being there for Dad, you both discovered each other, loved each other, shared over 20 years together. Thank you, thank you, thank you. We love you always, and we will be in touch. Mark and Jeanne, Luke, Ava

Mark Zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *Robert Zender*

Sharon - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MZ

“ Dad, you were and are the greatest. I miss you and cannot believe you have moved on. But will always be thinking of you, you will always be with me, talking with me, guiding. Thank you for teaching, thinking of me, thinking of Jeanne and Luke and Ava, and for being understanding, positive. Thank you Dad. Jeanne misses you. The kids still talk about Grandpa and Grandma, and their trip to FL, and how Grandpa is in God's home now. Will talk with you soon, Dad, and thank you for everything. Mark

mark zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Dad, Miss you. Thank you again for being a great man and father and husband and grandfather. Forever lasting memories of seeing you, being with you, talking with you when we saw you last. Mark, Jeanne, Luke, Avelina

markzender10@yahoo.com - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CZ

“ So sad that he's gone. I'll really miss him. We do have some good memories of him though. He was a fun guy.

Christine Zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MZ

“ Dad, You were a great man and father, I love you and will miss you!

Matthew Zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SZ

“ *My Love, My Life I don't know what I will do without you. You are always in my Heart and Prayers. Honey I will join you when it is my time. I will talk with you everyday until then. I Love you with all my Heart. Love, your wife for life. Sharon.*

Sharon Zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PZ

“ *My Dad...*

Paul Zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ *When Uncle Bob owned the store in Harrison, I remember that he would let me help myself to candy...I was in awe of his generosity. It was always fun to visit there. He sure lived a full life. He will be missed.*

Kathy (Dolack) Townsend - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *Thank you for being the greatest father ever. I love you so much, words cannot even describe. Talk to you in my prayers again tonight.*

Tina Marie - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *For the years I knew Bob he always had a positive outlook on life, was kind and had a heart of gold. He will be missed but not forgotten.*

Paula Williams - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

IW

“ Bob was a one of a kind son-in-law that will be truly missed and loved forever.

Iris White - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ Bob was such a wonderful person! I have never known anyone that had such a kind and thoughtful heart as Bob. He was always so positive and full of life. You are at peace with the angels now Bob, surrounded by Gods love. Your soul will live forever in Gods heaven. We love you and miss you greatly.

Sara Munkus - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PZ

“ I see my Dad's writing on his list of things to do and feel him near. Just around the corner with his cup of coffee. Love my Dad so much.

Paul Zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Dad, I'm missing you every minute of every day!!! But I am glad you are an angel watching over me now! I love you and I will always be your baby girl!!! XXOO

Lisa Jacobsen - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CJ

“ Bob, You will be so deeply missed. We will miss the humor you had and always were so full of life and had such a positive outlook on everything, always had a kind word to say. Will treasre the memories in our heart until we see you again.

Carl and Joycelyn - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ My heart goes out to Bob's children and his wife, my sister, Sharon. God Bless.

Mark Kidd - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Bob and Sharon about 5 or 6 years ago at Christmas with Adam, his nephew. He seemed to instantaneously become my "Uncle Bob" too. No one seemed to be a stranger to him. I think we all talked for hours with Bob about everything under the sun. He and Sharon became family before Adam and I ever got married. The last time we got to see them was this time last year for a brief weekend visit. We were amazed at how they seemed to drop everything just to visit with us. I'll never forget that. So many good stories...you will be greatly missed "Uncle Bob".

Monica Kidd - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ Although we never met in person, I was always greeted with your kind voice when I called. I know you are an Angel now, watching over Sharon and your loving family. Rest in Peace Bob. You will be missed. Sending Love and Prayers to Sharon and all your Loved ones.

Pam and Bob - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ You will be deeply missed Uncle Bob. My life has been touched by your kindness, thoughtfulness, and caring heart! You always knew how to brighten up a room with a smile and laughter. Thank you for giving so much while you were here with us.

Rachel Grunthaler - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EB

“ *The only Grandpa I ever knew. A special bond not even the distance of heaven can come between. You will always live in my heart.*

Erin Baughman - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ *Grandpa, I love you and miss you. You were a very big part of my life and the biggest motivation when it came to joining the military. Without you constantly telling me to make a career of the Marines, I would have not re-enlisted. You will always be in my thoughts and I miss your stories. I love you.*

Damion Cardell - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ *Sharon, I wish there was something I could do to help take away the pain you're feeling...but obviously there isn't. I can assure you that God has already given you all that is necessary to help you through this difficult time. I'm really going to miss Bob, a man of honor and compassion. I going to miss the way he loved you. He will never be forgotten.*

Larry Kidd - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MZ

“ *Dad, Being here these two weeks I am constantly reinforced about how great you were as a person, father and friend. I love you and miss you greatly.*

Matthew Zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Good Morning my dear Bobby... I know you are so proud of the children how they have been here for me through these hard times, we tried to honor all your all your wishes. Matthew is still here with me helping me take care of so many things. We just had coffee this morning, I walked down the hall and he was in your chair. Oh, how I miss you. Love you forever

Sharon - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MZ

“ My Dad, I will miss you, many others will miss you. Very much, great memories. You were and are a great man, you were a steady strong rock for me always, taught me life, and Jeanne, Luke, and Ava absolutely love you and Grandma, had such a great time with you both. The angelic moment at Cracker Barrel. You are with John now, and are always with us, as we need and want you in our lives. You will always be there watching us, smiling with us, laughing with us...you are not gone. I will make you proud, Jeanne, Luke, Ava miss you and love you and Grandma so much, thank you thank you for how it ended, and I know you will be there as we continue on. To you, Grandpa/ Dad, and Grandma, you will always be in our thoughts and hearts. Mark and Jeanne, Luke, Avelina

Mark Zender - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM