



Robert. T. "Bob" Jensen

MAR 19, 1926 - DEC 5, 2014



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Hamlin & Hilbish
Funeral Directors

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Robert. T. "Bob" Jensen

MAR 19, 1926 - DEC 5, 2014

Dr. Robert Travis Jensen, loving father, grandfather and great-grandfather, war hero, trusted friend and life-long servant of Christ, went to be with his beloved Lord and Savior this December 5th. He was born to John and Katherine Jensen in Minot, North Dakota, March 19th, 1926, and grew up on a farm in the North Woods of Minnesota.

Dr. Bob, as he came to be affectionately known, came from the humblest of beginnings to earn a medical degree, graduating from The University of Minnesota Medical School in 1948. He volunteered for military service, at the age of twenty-four. During the Korean War he served as a battalion surgeon, and was shortly afterwards promoted to regimental surgeon, the youngest of that rank in the Korean War theater. He was awarded a Bronze Star, Silver Star, Combat Medical Badge, four Battle Stars, and a battle-field promotion to Major.

Bob completed his residency in Internal Medicine, and later earned a Doctor of Tropical Medicine & Health, a Master's of Public Health, and was certified by the American Board of Medicine in Preventive Medicine.

In 1954, Bob married Rosemary McEachern, and remained her loving and faithful husband for 60 years. Bob was the father of three daughters, Annie, Katherine, and Tova.

Bob served as the chief of medical services at Fort Meade Army Hospital in Maryland from 1955 to 1957. His first daughter, Annie was born during this time.

Bob and Rosemary felt a calling to the mission field, and served in Tanzania, Africa, from 1957 until 1966. He first served as the physician in charge of a 120-bed mission hospital in Bumbuli, Tanzania. During this time he personally delivered his second and third daughters.

In 1962, he and his family moved to Moshi, Tanzania. During this time, he accomplished his dream for Africa, to provide quality medical treatment for the people. He secured the funding



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and planning for the construction of the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center, a 450-bed teaching hospital, which continues today at the foothills of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Upon his return to the United States, Bob re-entered the military, and received advanced training at Johns Hopkins and did research in tropical disease control at Walter Reed during the crisis of the Vietnam War.

In 1969, he was assigned to Okinawa, Japan where he was the Director of the Health Education & Welfare, and responsible for trilateral negotiations between the United States, the Ryukyu Islands, and Japan. For that service he was awarded the Legion of Merit. While in Okinawa, Bob and Rosemary welcomed Barbie to their family unit.

Upon his return to the United States in 1971, Bob was assigned to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas, as the Director of Preventive Medicine at the U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences. He planned and directed numerous educational programs in Preventive Medicine for the U.S. Army, and was awarded the Oak Leaf Cluster to Legion of Merit. In 1976, he retired from the Army as a full Colonel.

From 1976-1998, Bob served in numerous medical capacities, consistently serving the poor and needy. He worked as the Chief of Medicine at the San Antonio State Chest Hospital. He was also the Medical Director of the Medina County Health System in Hondo, serving indigent populations through clinics. As an Associate Professor with the Department of Family Practice, he developed Geriatric Training for medical students and residents. He also spent several years pursuing solutions to the growing problem of HIV/AIDS. He lectured in medical fields of interest, and published numerous papers.

In 1998 he formally retired from his medical career, after 50 years of service. From inventing sanitary systems, to working at clinics for the indigent, to caring for family, friends and missionaries, Dr. Bob's focus was always to show the love of Jesus through his mercy, kindness and never ending compassion.

In San Antonio, Bob and Rosemary welcomed a number of other teenage girls into their home for brief times. Margie became a foster daughter in the Jensen home in 1973.



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Bob co-founded the Rafiki Foundation with his wife Rosemary and two other partners and remained foundational supporter until the day he died.

Bob also wrote and published his memoir, *Bloody Snow* (available upon request from the Rafiki Foundation, www.rafikifoundation.org), about his experiences in the Seventh Infantry Regiment as a battalion and regimental surgeon, during the Korean War.

Bob was a man of faith, humble, tender, kind, consistent, self-sacrificing, well-read, brilliant, honorable, unselfish, passionate, courageous, problem-solving, adventure-loving, fun-loving, witty, wise and compassionate. He listened to his patients and made those around him feel valued. There are many people who owe their very lives to his heroism, medical care, advice, or as a result of his influence. He faithfully loved his Lord, his family, and many others.

Bob is survived by his loving wife Rosemary, his three daughters, Annie Jensen, Katherine Cook, and Tova Kreps, nine grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren.

Family and friends are invited to gather for viewing on Tuesday, December 9 from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in the Hamlin & Hilbish Chapel.

A funeral ceremony will be held on Wednesday at 11:00 am at the St. Andrews Chapel, 5525 Wayside Drive, Sanford, FL 32771.



Events

Robert T. "Bob" Jensen

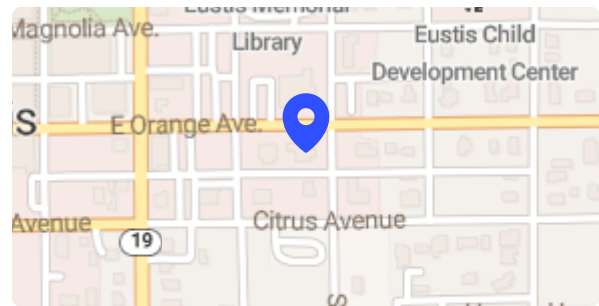
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Visitation

 **Tuesday**, December 9, 2014


 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET


 **Hamlin and Hilbish Funeral Directors**
326 East Orange Avenue, Eustis FL 32726

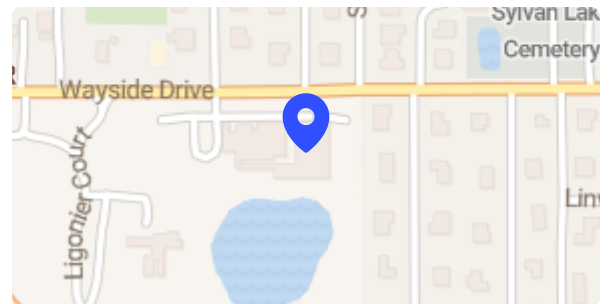


Funeral Service

 **Wednesday**, December 10, 2014

 11:00 AM ET

 **St. Andrews Chapel**
5525 Wayside Drive, Sanford FL





Tribute Wall

Robert T. "Bob" Jensen

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Hamlin & Hilbish Funeral Directors shared a **Tribute Video**.



December 8 at 11:17 AM



Sharon C. Browning posted:

Dear Rosemary, May our Dear LORD bring you comfort as you remember your husband, Robert, and your times together! This may take some time, so give yourself permission to grieve his loss as you adjust to his "graduation from earth to glory"! Praise God for all he was able to accomplish-amazing! Sharon Browning-former BSF member, DL, CL, Assis't CS.(Grand Rapids, MI)

March 26 at 4:08 AM



Linda Peritore posted:

I've never forgotten the compassion Dr. Bob had when talking about aids. The words that have stayed with me are 'when people have nothing, they look for comfort wherever they may find it, even if it is only in another warm body'. Blessings, Linda Peritore former tl, rafiki volunteer

March 21 at 6:32 PM



Sally Lair posted:

Dear Rosemary, I have a very fond memory of being at your San Antonio home during a BSF Teaching Leader orientation or an Institute in which Dr. Jensen prepared ostrich burgers for us. I remember his kind demeanor and was touched by the hospitality the two of you exhibited to those of us who had the privilege to be there. There have been few days in my life these past 22 years since I first met you at BSF headquarters in San Antonio that I have not thought about your extremely positive influence for Christ on my life and the lives of countless others. I often do my devotional from your book, Praying the Attributes of God. I can't imagine how deeply you must miss your God-given companion of 60 years. May God comfort and strengthen you. You are in my prayers. With love and sympathy, Sally Lair Canyon, Texas

February 4 at 4:58 AM



Anonymous sent a sympathy card to the Jensen family.



December 29 at 9:38 AM



Tribute Wall

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DK

Duane And Diana Kiihne posted:

We remember times around the Mbuni farm dinner table. Dr Bob blessed the food then began his litany of hilarious Sven and Olie jokes. Especially we cherished his wisdom concerning how to survive in Africa. Thank you God and the Jensen family for sharing Dr Bob with us. In Him
Duane and Diana Kiihne

December 13 at 11:16 AM

SA

Satterwhite posted:

Seeing the picture of Bob in his military uniform brought so many scenes to mind that he wrote of in his book. Bob was a giver and a servant. We are glad we knew him. Bill and Neita Satterwhite

December 12 at 5:52 PM

MG

Million Getachew posted:

"So with you: now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy." John 16:22
I am very sad and feeling sympathy because of your husband passing away from this world. He was a father of many children who have no parents and he was a kind person for this world. However, his work is still alive and I remember him always by his good works. Finally I and the Rafiki employees in Ethiopia wish you and your family comfort. God be with you always.
Million Getachew (Village Assistant – Rafiki Village Ethiopia)88

December 11 at 8:27 AM

PJ

Patricia Jarrett posted:

I will always remember Dr. Bob's smile and his way of telling stories that captivated me with his humor and charm. I am grateful I knew him. My love to all of you and until we see him again, you are in my prayers.
Patricia Jarrett

December 11 at 6:24 AM



Anonymous sent a Fall Fantasia to the Jensen family.



December 9 at 6:33 AM



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Carol posted:

May God's amazing peace and comfort be very real to you in the days ahead. I know you will miss your dear father, grandfather and husband so much, but you have much to look forward to as the Lord has promised. What a wonderful tribute to his life well lived. Carol Schmeltzer, Wichita Falls, TX

December 8 at 2:32 PM



Judy Stokes December 13 at 3:24 PM

I share in your celebration of Dr. Bob's life and will be praying for you for your times of missing his gentle, loving presence. Judy Stokes, Silverton OR.



Bsf Hq - Susie, Bod & Staff sent an Emerald Garden Basket to the Jensen family.



December 8 at 11:17 AM



Debbie Needham posted:

We were blessed to have known Dr. Bob. He was a pioneer, a loving spouse and father, and he served the King of Kings. Our deepest sympathies to our founder and leader, mentor, and friend. Rafiki Village Malawi (Debbie Needham on behalf of the village)

December 8 at 10:37 AM



Anonymous sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Jensen family.



December 8 at 7:46 AM



Anonymous sent a sympathy card to the Jensen family.



December 8 at 6:45 AM



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Randy Dudik posted:

Although we did not have the privilege of knowing Dr. Jensen when he was a younger man, we had the pleasure of making his acquaintance and seeing him several times over the past three years. For us he will be remembered as a kind and sweet gentleman who loved his wife dearly. We were blessed by his humble demeanor and the light of God that so radiantly shined through him. We grieve over the world's loss of such an accomplished servant of the Lord, but rejoice in the victory that is his and ours in Christ Jesus. Even now, we hear echoes of the words, "Well done ..." Thank you, Dr. Jensen, for demonstrating how it is that we live our lives to the glory of God. Blessings, Randy & Diane Dudik Rafiki Ghana

December 7 at 11:52 PM



Don And Barbara Post posted:

Dear Rosemary and family, We count it a privilege to have met your husband and father. He seemed like a very dear man. I enjoyed getting to know him from reading his book he gave me when we were there in May 2013. We appreciated his gentle and humble spirit. May our God comfort you with the comfort only He can give you. We are co-laborers here in Ghana because you and Dr. Bob were pioneers those many years ago. We would not be here if you both had not lived out your vision for Africa. You paved the way for others to follow and serve our King. We can hear Jesus saying "Well done good and faithful servant." Bob is now rejoicing in the presence of His Lord. To God be all the glory! Don and Barbara Post, Rafiki Ghana

December 7 at 8:31 AM



Anonymous sent a Heavenly Grace Spray to the Jensen family.



December 7 at 4:08 AM



Media

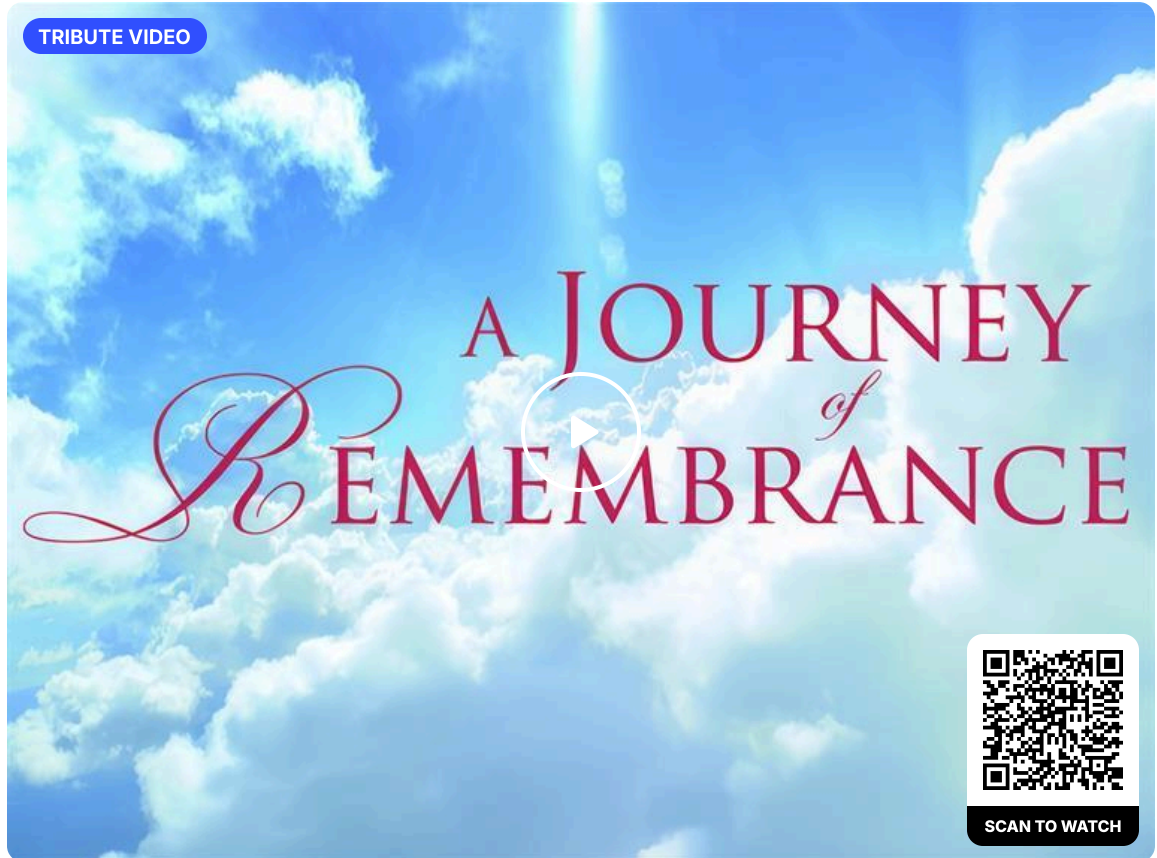
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Hamlin & Hilbish Funeral Directors shared a **Tribute Video**.

December 8 at 11:17 AM





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Robert. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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