



Robert "Bob" Simon

February 19, 2025 - June 2, 2009

Mattoon, IL-Robert 'Bob' E. Simon, age 84, of Mattoon, IL, passed away at 10:00 p.m., June 2, 2009, at his home. \r\nA Mass of Christian Burial will begin at 12:00 p.m., Friday, June 5, 2009 at the Immaculate Conception Roman Catholic Church with Reverend Dennis Kollross officiating. Visitation will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial at sea will be held at a later date. Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938, is assisting the family with arrangements. \r\nMr. Simon was born February 19, 1925, in Chicago, Illinois, the son of Frank F. and Barbara (Heinz) Simon. He married Eileen T. Satka on June 18, 1949, in Gary, IN. She survives. Other survivors include their children: Gail Ferguson and husband David of Park Forest, IL; Tim Simon and his wife Michelle of Naperville, IL; Barbara Simon of Park Forest, IL; Beth Crabtree and husband Michael of Tacoma, WA; and Bob Simon and wife Eva of Elk Grove, CA; one sister, Renee De Smidt of Wauconda, IL; and 10 grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Frank and Don. \r\nBob and his family moved to Mattoon, IL, in 1968 for the 'start up' of the R.R. Donnelly plant. He retired from R.R. Donnelly in 1985 as Paper Supervisor. He served our country with the United States Navy during World War II, serving in the Pacific Theater as a Naval Pilot and Flight Engineer. He was a member of the Immaculate Conception Church, the Knights of Columbus, American Legion Post 88, and the Tri County R/C Flying Club, all of Mattoon, IL. \r\nIn lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the St. Mary's Catholic

School, 200 Richmond Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938 or St. Vincent De Paul Society, P.O. Box 468, Mattoon, IL 61938, or Coles County Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 945, Charleston, IL 61920. \r\nPlease visit www.mitchell-jerdan.com to light a virtual candle in Bob's honor or share a memory with his family. \r\n\r\n

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert "Bob" Simon*

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ *I just read of Bob's final flight. John, it cannot be said better - the Pacific theater stories and the "suspicious subs" were the best. What true human grit Bob displayed in his life. I helped him carry his office mementos to the yellow VW on a rainy day when he retired from RRD. I was a young 20 something that learned a lot about life from Bob Simon. The RRD gun club, his victory over health challenges, the love of aviation and country - there isn't a finer example of an American patriot that I've met. My condolences to his family and please know that many of us - far removed from you - have terrific memories of Bob (even 21 years after leaving my home of Mattoon and RRD).*

Bill Hutton - July 22, 2009 at 03:05 AM



“ *So sorry to hear about your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. I know Bob has to be piloting all around heaven watching over you all. He was a great neighbor and friend.*

Mark and Beth Koelm - July 16, 2009 at 03:18 PM



“ *Our prayers are with you during your time of loss of Big Bob.*

Patrick Murphy FAMILY - June 06, 2009 at 01:44 PM

JL

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Simon family with your loss. I have known Bob since I got into flying in 1994. Our hangers were next to each other and what a supportive aviator he was. Always willing to help, advise, share stories, inspire, praise and encourage. I can only imagine how fortunate the Simon family was to have him as their father figure. I especially liked all the stories of the war years and his involvement as a young aviator. One of my favorite stories was of his co-piloting an amphibious PBY over the Pacific looking for Japanese subs. He recalled the "old man" always wanted me to fly as we had no armor on that plane and if he were ever shot, wanted to make certain I could get us home. I asked him how old the "old man" was and he responded, 24. Truly a flag bearer of the greatest generation of the greatest nation on earth. I am proud to have known him and he will be sadly missed.

JOHN LIVESAY - June 04, 2009 at 09:31 AM