



Mr. Robert Dowdle "Bob" Collier

May 28, 1930 - July 10, 2017

Robert Dowdle "Bob" Collier, 87 of Asheville died July 10, 2017 in Missouri City, Texas while visiting family. Born May 28, 1930 in Cedar City, Utah, he was son of the late Theodore and DeFonda Collier. He was also preceded in death by two brothers, one granddaughter and one great-granddaughter.

As a youth he lived in Logan, Salt Lake City, Taylorsville and Provo, Utah. He married RaeAnn Boyer on September 8, 1955 in the Salt Lake Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. All of his children and their spouses were wed in an LDS Temple, this made him extremely happy.

After graduation from Brigham Young University, he worked in Mechanical Engineering in Ontario, Van Nuys, and North Edwards, CA, Lindon, NJ, Schenectady, NY, Spokane, WA, DelCity, OK and Rantoul, Campaign, Moline, IL. He came to Arden, NC in 1968 to work at Taylor Instruments. He finished his career with the LDS Physical Facilities.

He is survived by wife, RaeAnn Boyer; his ten children, Lynette (Bradley) Jones, Lisa (Gregory) Kellar, Eric (Cynthia) Collier, Jolene (David) DeFranco, Alan (Cara) Collier, Rachel (Joseph) Murdock, Wayne (Karen) Collier, Martha (Steve) Garvin, Marian (Tommy) Hobson and Ted (Laura) Collier. In addition, he has one sister, three brothers, 48 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Bob was a good man, he was a dedicated member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and was always willing to talk about it. He completed a two-year mission for the Church to the Southern States as a young man and spent four years as a missionary in Illinois, Montana, Cyprus and Lebanon later in life.

A memorial service will be held 11:00 AM, Saturday, July 15, 2017 in the Church of Latter-day Saints, 3401 Sweeten Creek Road, Arden, NC. The family will receive friends from 6:30 to 8:30 PM, Friday, July 14, 2017 at the church.

Cemetery

New Salem Cemetery

200 Rosscraggon Rd
Skyland, NC, 28776

Events

JUL 14 Family to Receive Friends 06:30PM - 08:30PM

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
3401 Sweeten Creek Road, Arden, NC, US, 28704

JUL 15 Memorial Service 11:00AM

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
3401 Sweeten Creek Road, Arden, NC, US, 28704

Comments



“ I can remember growing up with the Collier children. Douglas was my age, and Bob's father came to our home many times to visit with our family. Glad to hear of his wonderful life. Marlene Sorensen Johnson

Marlene Sorensen Johnson - July 15, 2017 at 12:36 PM



“ Uncle Bob was always there. And not only there, but offered advice and listened and helped you search your soul. Helped figure out and find how to have peace. He took time to listen to me on a drive from Gilbert to Asheville, Just he and I in the car on the way just before Marian's wedding. For my wedding, he and Aunt Rae Ann gave us a framed picture of the Savior at the Second Coming, and said we could change out the picture now and then. We never have; that one suits us fine and reminds us of the thing Uncle Bob lived and died for; a better world with Jesus Christ as the King. My favorite memory of Uncle Bob is when Marian, August '90, our very first semester of college, was not allowed to come to college until she re-assembled the engine of her car. What an awful, wonderful, strategic, genius thing to do and teach his daughter, and his niece, who watched and worried her cousin would be late for class that first day of college. Thank you Uncle Bob for the amazing life of service you led, and thank you for blessing me with 10 outstanding people I have as cousins. God be with you till we meet again.

Elaine Park - July 15, 2017 at 01:11 AM



“ Sylvia Pearl is following this tribute.

Sylvia Pearl - July 14, 2017 at 09:34 PM



“ During Spring Break of 1994, my two oldest daughters and I made an 'exploratory' trip up from Florida, to check out neighborhoods/housing, and schools, in anticipation of our move the coming summer. Sister Collier was out of town, but Brother Collier invited these three Strangers into his home for supper, following our church attendance. He was delightful company, had prepared a lovely light meal, and provided sage, grandfatherly counsel to my daughters, and considered, wise direction to me regarding which areas might be best for me to seek housing and work opportunities. We wound up in Weaverville, in appropriate housing, into a ward which warmly welcomed us, with work opportunities, schools which opened doors for my five children to become well-prepared to enter into excellent postsecondary education, a community which appreciated our efforts to serve it...All due to this Good Man's caring to serve Strangers...he simply knew we were Children of God.

How grateful We are to him (and his family) for his love and devotion to his God, and his ever-present desire to serve Him through service to his fellow man (and woman!). I, we, will miss him here, and look forward to having his company There.

Very Warmly,
Sylvia Pearl with Melissa, Tiffany, Arianne, Adam, and Lauren



Sylvia Pearl and Family - July 14, 2017 at 11:57 AM



“ Love, Alvie & Ruthie Evans purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Mr. Robert Dowdle "Bob" Collier.



Love, Alvie & Ruthie Evans - July 14, 2017 at 11:34 AM



“ I moved to Asheville area in 1978. From the time I arrived, Bob Collier was an influential part of my life. He was a great example and inspiring teacher, personally and from the pulpit.

After saying that, as I pondered about his life this week, I realized I never truly served directly with him. Even though we both have spent many years in Stake and Ward callings. I never had the opportunity to sit in counsel with him and have those, at times, deep discussions that come with leadership service.

I regret that.

I have spent many hours in classes, where the Gospel was discussed and taught. He was always wise and had deep insight of a spiritual nature. His knowledge was always impressive and inspiring.

He has through up the years given me personally, wonderful counsel on a talk I gave or of a lesson I had taught. I respected his critique during each of those times.

I have been along side BR. Collier in many serve projects, at lots of youth and scout

camp, and in service in the temple. He was always cheerful and seemed so happy to be busy about the work. He put himself completely into what ever was being done, even when he wasn't physically able to do all he would like to do.

Even though I consider him a spiritual giant, he was always humble and kind. He had an understanding of the world, and what the world is, in relationship to the Gospel.

I know he was incredibly unselfish with his time. He completely devoted himself to others. As he said once, "If the church doors are open we'll be there!"

I remember once Annette and I were assigned to clean the church building, along with the Davies. It was the same weekend of a Relief Society Woman's Conference. An Elders quorum was assigned to clean and put up all the table and chairs. They didn't show up. We went about trying to get the church in some semblance of order, so we could then clean it. As we began our laborious task, Bob and RaeAnn stopped by to drop something off at the Family History room. They saw the mess we were in, wished us well and left. A few minutes later Bob and RaeAnn reappeared and begin to cheerfully helping to move chairs and take out the mountain of trash. It took quite a long time. The next day on Sunday, I thanked him again for his help. I then asked what he would have been doing if wasn't working so hard in helping us to clean up. He responded "We were going out for an anniversary dinner, but didn't make it."

That is the kind of person he was, he saw a need and tried his best to fill that need. He did that in all things.

Being around him all those years, he was never negative. I never heard him say an unkind word towards or about others. What a great Christ like example to me and to all that came in contact with him.

Truly he is a good man!

Jeffrey Racer

Jeffrey Racer - July 14, 2017 at 08:32 AM



“ I never met the man, but from what I have seen in his face in this picture says volumes about him. I would counsel his posterity, develop in your countenance the same character I see in this photograph. God bless you with his spirit of peace and confidence.

Sincerely,
Walter D Zimmerman
mesa, AZ

Walter D Zimmerman - July 13, 2017 at 06:05 PM



“ The Driscoll Family is wishing you all well during these tough times. Celebrate life.

Kevin - July 13, 2017 at 04:17 PM



“ I met Bob in 1975. My parents had recently died and I was a new convert. He was assigned to be my home teacher. He gave the encouragement and counsel I needed at that time. Years later, after I married and had children, he continued to be a good influence. When my son got his first job and moved far away, Bob took it upon himself to pull him aside and give him a copy of his book of wisdom and share some good advice with him. During Jacob's first few weeks in California he was plagued with doubts about his job. I must have quoted Bob a hundred times those first couple of months. Every time my son had a problem, I would think a moment and then say, "Well, remember what Brother Collier said...". I appreciate all the advice he offered (both solicited and unsolicited) LOL. Bob was never one to hold back an opinion. Bob was Bob. We loved him.

Brenda Haug - July 13, 2017 at 04:16 PM



“ I met Bob when we were both at BYU and in the first class of engineering students. Bob had returned from his mission and I was not even a member of the church. We shared, along with three other students, the experiences of a developing engineering program, as well as being in the AFROTC program which was also new at BYU.

After I joined the church in 1955 Bob followed my progression in the priesthood and even spoke to my bishop so that I would not be lost in the crowd.

We both graduated in 1956 and began our engineering careers. As luck would have it, we were both called to active duty in the air force at the same time and were both assigned for training in the same program in Rantoul, Illinois. Our families were close and we have remained friends ever since. We visited Bob and RaeAnn in different places over the years and they visited us when they passed our way.

We are saddened by Bob's passing, but we know he is enjoying the blessings of a long productive life serving the LDS Church and helping others.

We send our condolences, our love, and our appreciation for Bob to RaeAnn and their family.

Dayton and Geralee Wittke
Las Vegas, Nevada

Dayton Wittke - July 13, 2017 at 01:37 PM



“ When we joined the church in 1978 the Colliers and Pearts were the first two families we met. I will be forever thankful for the great example Brother Collier has been for all these years and his great Love for the Savior and the gospel. Our Love and Prayers to all the family, Ronnie and Pat Bradley

Patricia Bradley - July 13, 2017 at 08:11 AM



“ The Bob and Rae Ann Collier family have been special friends to us during the past several years, through both family friendships and church associations. We send our love, prayers and best wishes to you all at this time. So thankful for eternal ties.

Love, The Tom and Trudy Garner Family

Ceytru B. Garner - July 12, 2017 at 10:04 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to you Alan and Family at the loss of your father/grandfather.

Jodie & Richard (AW Contracting)

Jodie Camp - July 12, 2017 at 06:14 PM



“ Love, the Collier Grandchildren purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Mr. Robert Dowdle "Bob" Collier.



Love, the Collier Grandchildren - July 12, 2017 at 04:23 PM