



Robert J. Basnett

October 18, 1922 - June 06, 2020

Robert J. Basnett, 97, of Fulton passed away on June 6, 2020, 76 years after he flew four missions over France in the D-Day invasion and 62 years after he graduated from veterinary school and moved to Fulton.

Bob was born on October 18, 1922 in Webb City, Missouri to Thomas M. and Gladys M. (Salas) Basnett.

He graduated from Webb City High School and immediately volunteered for the Army Air Corp, was assigned to the 416th Bomb Group as a navigator/bombardier where he served until 1945 and flew 65 missions over Europe. He was awarded a Purple Heart, six Bronze Stars, The Distinguished Flying Cross, and an Air Medal with eleven Oak Leaf Clusters.

When he was discharged, he returned to Missouri and attended the University of Missouri where he received a BS in Animal Husbandry, an MS in Dairy Management, and a DVM. After graduation in 1958, the family moved to Fulton where Bob began practicing veterinary medicine with Dr. Pat McGinnis and later with Dr. Robert Link.

Bob loved Fulton and Callaway County. He served on the Fulton School Board, Callaway County Extension Board, Callaway County Special Road District, and the Human Society Board, as well as serving as an elder in the Callaway Christian Church. He was honored with the Kingdom of Callaway Settlers Award in 2005. After retirement, he continued to enjoy skiing, especially where he became eligible for a free lift ticket at age 70. His love of woodworking continued from his teenage years into his eighties. His suitcases were always at the ready in case any travel presented itself. His dry wit never left him.

Bob was preceded in death by his wife of 72 years, Lanola "Puz" Basnett, less than a month ago. He is survived by children, Dr. Michael and Teri Basnett, and Jan and Jeff Rebob; seven grandchildren, Jessica Ellinsworth (Chris), Brooke Peterson (Dan), Daniel Recob, Dr. Andrew Basnett (Jeanna), Catey Jones (Ben), Dr. Joseph Basnett, and Julia Recob; and fourteen great-grandchildren.

The family would like to thank Dr. Robert Pierce, the staff of Valley Park North, Fulton Manor, and the Missouri Veteran's Home for the wonderful care Bob received in the last years.

A private family memorial will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be left for the family at www.maupinfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall
