



Robert Emerson Windom

July 14, 1930 - October 21, 2016

Dr. Robert Emerson Windom passed away at home on October 21, 2016.

Born in Westerville, OH on July 14, 1930, he moved here in 1945 when his father, Col. Ross Windom, became the first City Manager of Sarasota. He graduated from Sarasota High School in 1948 with Sarasota native, Lelia Harmon. They both graduated from Duke University in 1952 and married the next year while he was a medical student at Duke.

'Dr. Bob' was in private practice with Windom, Page, Binns, and Harris and was Chief of Staff at both Sarasota Memorial Hospital and Doctors Hospital, president of the Sarasota County Medical Society, Florida Heart Association, Florida Medical Association, and Sarasota Chamber of Commerce.

In 1986 he was nominated by President Ronald Reagan and confirmed by the US Senate to serve as Assistant Secretary of Health, the highest government position required to be filled by a physician. He served over the National Institutes of Health, Public Health Service, and US Surgeon General (C. Everett Koop at the time).

He was the inaugural Chairman of the Board of Sarasota Military Academy, Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Sarasota Salvation Army, a 55 year 'Legion of Honor' member of the Kiwanis Club of Sarasota, 'Distinguished Alumnus' Duke University Medical Center, board member of the Tiger Bay Club, The Glenridge, The Pines of Sarasota, and Plymouth Harbor, and was an Elder at Church of the Palms.

In addition to his wife, Lelia, he is survived by his three sons, Bob Jr. (Missy), Ross (Carolyn), and Hugh (Anne), and six grandchildren Caroline (Atlanta, GA), Porter (Ensign, US Navy), Grant (Cadet, West Point), and Reed, Sarah, and Emerson of Sarasota.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, November 5, 2016 at Church of the Palms at 3:00 p.m.

A special thank you to Tidewell Hospice, Debra from Take Care, and care-givers over the past year Cindy and Donna.

Memorial donations in his name may be made to the Church of the Palms (3224 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota 34239) or Duke University School of Medicine Davison Club (Box 90581, Durham, NC 27708-0581).

Tribute Wall

TF

“ Our condolences to your family for the passing of your husband, father, and grandfather.

The Driggers/Kim Family - October 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Bob was a Great & Honorable man who continually worked for others. We valued our friendship & the great times we spent together. The weekly dinners where we often went to the Creek & Bob always had cat fish. He worked on many boards National & international. He was ill with blood poisoning and was admitted to hospital but the next morning at 7 a.m. he was in the garage going to another meeting. RIP my dear Friend. God Bless You & be with you always. You will always be in our Prayers & thoughts. Karen & Dave and son Chris are sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Chris remembers helping Bob with his Computer. Julie & Erin are also sorry to hear of Bob's passing. Erin remembers Dr. Bob wrote a recommendation for her. Dr. Bob would be very proud of Chris & Erin now & what they have accomplished.

David Cripps - October 25, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ Ross, Thoughts and prayers to your family. Your father was a great man!!! You have all his traits!! You are blessed.. Love you!!!

Pamela Dunn Darley - October 24, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Lelia and Family: Peg and I send our condolences and prayers for God's Good Grief. Big Love demands Big Grief and Bob's life and Loves, so well lived, certainly deserves the Big Grief his Love requires. May God grant you the Peace that passes human understanding in the knowledge that Bob is in God's Good Hands. Peg and I regret we will not return to Sarasota until the day after the life celebration but will keep you and all in our thoughts and prayers. I know the community outpouring of love and support will bring you comfort. Peg and Don

The Rev. Donald and Peggy Roberts - October 24, 2016 at 12:00 AM

FH

“ HUGH, I planned to be at the funeral until I saw the date of Nov. 5th when I will be in Cuba. Thoughts and Prayers. What a great man. Celebrate his blessed life.

FR. DON HENRY - October 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM