



Robert Edgar Davis

APR 30, 1925 - OCT 10, 2020



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Robert joined his beloved Rosemary on October 10, 2020 following a brief illness. He was one strong man who fought in WWII, walked many miles across Europe, helped to liberate the concentration camp, Dachau, but found he just could not live without his wife. Robert's life on earth began on April 30, 1925 on the family farm in Green Lake, WI, the son of Irving Sylvester Davis, and Nellie Gertrude (Hubbard) Davis. He served his country as part of the Rainbow Division, 42nd Infantry Division from July 24, 1944 through June 23, 1946. The horrors he witnessed lived silently within him and it was only during the past few years that he was able to speak about them with family. He married Rosemary Isabel Unser on October 22, 1949, spending 70 years together until Rosemary's death on June 8th. Robert worked as a farm machinery mechanic for Kleinhans Equipment in Fond du Lac and later for Chief Equipment in Oshkosh for many years. He loved tinkering with broken items and always told his children, it was better to fix it than throw it away without trying. He was a talented woodworker and his many pieces of furniture can be found in family homes. Robert always found time to help others. He volunteered many hours at the Grand Theatre helping with props and any other job where he could utilize his talents. He also volunteered his time at the Salvatorian Mission in New Holstein often transporting a van of other volunteers with him. One of the latest highlights in Robert's life was being able to participate in an Honor Flight with his son, John. He enjoyed meeting Senator Bob Dole and his wife and having the opportunity to speak with them. The biggest surprise on that trip however was seeing his daughter Sharon and her husband in Washington DC. He always looked forward to his Friday road trips with his son Mark. They would take to the back roads and he would give a family history lesson, especially when visiting old family cemeteries. Robert is proudly survived by his seven children, Susan (Brian Nett) Eagle River WI, Larry (Jean) Davis Oshkosh, Sharon (Ted Klevay) Medina OH, Linda



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Schultz (and friend Dennis Hankwitz) Appleton, Mark Davis Oconomowoc, Ann (Tom McCormick) Nashotah, and John (Jeri) Davis Cottage Grove. He is further survived by 13 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren (with another expected in March). He is also survived by many nieces and two nephews. Robert was preceded in death by his parents, his wife Rosemary, a granddaughter Elissa, and his four brothers, Arthur, Howard, Glenn, and Vernon. Give mom a big hug for us. We love you and will miss you. We are sorry we couldn't be with you on your last days on earth but as you so often said "What can you do?" He was a member of St. Raphael Catholic Church. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 11 am. Father Kevin Ripley will be the celebrant. Visitation will be held at the church from 9:30 am until the time of Mass. Committal services will be held after the Mass at Sacred Heart Catholic Cemetery with full Military Honors.



Tribute Wall

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Bonnie Schmitt lit a candle in honor of Robert.

Our sympathy to all your family, in the passing of Bob & Rosie Davis, your dear parents. My parents, Bev & Gordy (Pete) Pistohl were close friends of your parents & enjoyed many happy memories of fun times together. Your dear Mom even brought over a hand made prayer shawl she made, when my Dad was diagnosed with cancer. Saw your folks 6 years ago, when my Mom passed, as they attended her funeral. Now they are all at peace and in God's loving care. With Love & Sympathy, Gary & Bonnie (Pistohl) Schmitt



November 11 at 12:59 PM



Susan Nett December 6 at 3:32 PM

Tommy...my dad spoke frequently these past few years about the war and those who served with him. I remember your dad's name well. My mom passed away this past June. My dad was at a loss without her. He developed heart problems at the end of Aug and just wasn't doing well. I took him to the emergency room on Oct 3rd with congestive heart failure. He was found also to be COVID positive. He was a strong man his whole life but he just couldn't survive the combination of the two illnesses. Thank you for reaching out to us and sharing this information. It is very much appreciated. I know my dad was the last surviving member of his infantry group. Sincerely, Susan (Davis) Nett



Tommy Vinciguerra December 2 at 11:44 AM

To The Davis Family, November 11, 2020 Veterans Day Our family was very saddened to hear of the passing of Mr. Davis. My Dad, Ralph "VINCE" Vinciguerra served with Robert as a rifleman during World War II as part of the 42nd Rainbow Division, 242nd Infantry. My dad always spoke very highly of him, as with most combat vets it was not about the war but what type of man he was. Ralph would say "The infantry is no picnic", he said the most important thing in combat was to be mentally tough. Then not much more would be said. I think your dad brought that kind of mental toughness to their squad and he respected that about him. My dad passed away in 2010 and I called Mr. Davis to inform him. We had a very nice conversation. He told me that he remembered my dad very well. He told me that he remembered that my mom would write letters to him and seal them with a lipstick kiss. They would hold the letter up and tease him a little. I asked my mom about it and she said it was true. When my mom died I found over a hundred letters sent by dad during the war to her. RAINBOW MOTTO: "NEVER FORGET" Sincerely Tommy Vinciguerra P.S. I have one brother Robert. There is no family member on either side of the family with that name. Maybe he had your dad in mind.



Susan Nett November 16 at 1:57 PM

Dad and mom spoke often about your parents. I remember all the holiday get togethers between our families. Thank you so much for the kind words and wishes of sympathy. Very sincerely, Susan (Davis) Nett



Memories only last if you share them

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



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