



Robert J. Sanders

August 8, 1920 - February 5, 2012

Big Stone Gap, VA

Robert Sanders, 91, went to live with the Lord on Sunday, February 5, 2012, after passing away at the Lonesome Pine Hospital in Big Stone Gap, Virginia.

He lived most of his life in Big Stone Gap, VA. He was very active part of his church and his community. He was baptized at an early age. He loved volunteer work and helping with his community. He worked for Interstate Railroad, then Southern Railroad, for a total of forty years.

He was a very avid, collector of can tops for the Ronald McDonald House donations may be made to the branch in Johnson City at 418 N State of Franklin Road Johnson City 37604. He loved to do anything that would help someone else. He was the "keeper of the block!"

He was married to his wife Clara Shortt Sanders for 65 years. He was preceded in death by his parents, Robert L and Etta Sanders, His wife Clara Sanders, brother Woodrow Sanders, sister Maybrey Strahan, sister Sonja Moore.

Surviving are his siblings, Margaret Dickenson, Hazel Abrams, Jim Sanders and wife Billie, all of Bristol, VA; Jack Sanders and wife, Bessie all of Bristol,

TN, Beulah Ridgeway and husband Les of Dayton OH, Judy Poff and husband Fred of Big Stone Gap, Stella Richardson of Murrieta CA; brother in-law, Roy Moore of Brookville OH; and a host of nieces and nephews.

The family would like to express their gratitude to all the wonderful care givers who have blessed his life in so many ways.

The family will receive friends from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday at Holding Funeral Home (17 E. 3rd St., N.) in Big Stone Gap.

The funeral service will be conducted at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday in the funeral home chapel with Pastor Mike Jones officiating.

A committal service will be conducted at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday at Powell Valley Memorial Gardens. The family and friends will meet at the funeral home, by 10:30 a.m. on Thursday to go in procession to the cemetery. The family and friends will serve as pallbearers.

To view the obituary and sign the online registry, please visit www.holdingfuneralhome.com.

Holding Funeral Home is honored to serve the Sanders family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert J. Sanders*

October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ *I can't say enough about him. He was the best. Sorry I am not able to come but my love goes out to all of you.*

Love your , Aunt Maggie

Maggie Powell - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM



“ *Robert was a good, family oriented man. I always looked forward to seeing him at the reunions every year. He will be truly missed and I look forward to seeing him in that reunion with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, along with our other family members who have passed on.*

Leonard Wilson - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM



“ *Our deepest sympathy and prayers to all the family. We both worked with Robert for many years on the railroad. He was always a wonderful person and a very dear friend. We pray for God's comfort to each of you. Robert will be missed by everyone. God Bless!*

Jerry and Betty Head - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

RC

“ I am part of a privileged few who can claim Mr. Saunders as our Sunday School teacher. I know he put up with a lot, but I remember that he always showed great patience and compassion to tender, chaotic adolescent boy hearts. I am a United Methodist pastor now, and my first sermon in every church I have served has been drawn from Hebrews 12 which mentions the great cloud of witnesses. In those sermons over the years, I have been remembering Mr. Saunders as part of that crowd encouraging my running of the race, and it gives me great joy to know that he is doing the same in heaven as he did on earth. My God wrap his arms around him, brushing away all tears, while telling him 'well done good and faithful servant.' And, may God comfort all of us who will miss him.

Rev. Bert Cloud - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

AB

“ Robert was a wonderful person. He was very friendly and kind. I saw more of him when I worked at the Post Office in Big Stone Gap. He was nice to everyone.

Abbie Blair - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

JH

“ We were so sorry to hear about Robert. He was a wonderful friend and neighbor. He will be greatly missed.

Jim and Patty Herron

Jim and Patty Herron - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

CS

“ It has been a blessing to know Robert Sanders. He is one of the finest men that I have ever known in my life. He tried to help everyone that he met. He was very sweet and had a great sense of humor. The world is a better place because of him

Charles Shortt - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

BM

“ I know for certain that we never lose the people we love, even to death. They continue to participate in every act, thought and decision we make. Their love leaves an indelible imprint in our memories. We find comfort in knowing that our lives have been enriched by having shared their love.
Robert brought much joy and laughter to my life. When I hear a train whistle, I will forever think of him. My deepest condolences to my beloved family.

Barbara Moore - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM

RW

“ I have known Robert since I had lived in his neighborhood in the 50's, When I came to the BSG High School reunions over the years, we talked a lot about railroads.
He came over to our table at the picnic last summer to say hello.
We will miss seeing him

Robert and Patricia Wolfinger - December 10, 2013 at 08:12 AM