



Joseph Robert "Bob" Sands

February 25, 1922 - July 2, 2015

Joseph Robert "Bob" Sands, Sr., 93, a well known Benton area resident and highly decorated World War II Veteran, formerly of Center Street, Benton, died early Thursday morning, July 2nd, 2015 at Emeritus at Bloomsburg.

Born February 25, 1922 in Jackson Township, he was a son of the late Howard and Hilda (Fausey) Sands. He and his wife, Eleanor (Fritz) Sands, also a Benton area native, were married in Winchester, Virginia on September 14, 1940. She preceded him in death on December 6, 2014 after 74 years of marriage.

Mr. Sands was a 1940 graduate of Benton High School. He faithfully served his country in the U. S. Army and was a highly decorated World War II Veteran and had served in the European Theater. He served in the battles and campaigns of Northern France, Central Europe and Rhineland. As a Corporal in Company H, 28th Infantry, he was injured in action in Germany on December 6, 1944. On March 4, 1945, Cpl. Sands was a patient in a Belgium hospital due to shrapnel wounds he sustained of the forehead, ear and left leg. The twice wounded soldier was awarded the Purple Heart Medal, the EAME Service Medal with three bronze service stars, the Oak Leaf Cluster to Purple Heart Medal as well as the Good Conduct Medal.

A long time businessman in the Benton area he was a Plumbing and Heating

Contractor. He also owned and operated Sands Oil and later Sands Pharmacy.

Mr. Sands was an active member of the Benton Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) where he served as a Deacon, Trustee and a member of the Church Board.

Very involved in civic affairs, he served two terms on the Benton Borough Council and terms as vice-mayor and mayor during the 1970's. During that time he was coordinator for flood aid and was influential in the closing of the former Benton dump.

He was a Past Master of the Benton Masonic Lodge and a current member of Oriental Lodge, No. 460, F. & A. M., of Orangeville; a former member of Caldwell Consistory, of Bloomsburg; a 50 year plus member of the Bloomsburg Elks Lodge; a life member of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and a life member of the Benton V. F. W.

His hobbies included wood-working, traveling and camping.

Surviving are his two children: J. Robert Sands, Jr. and his wife, Valerie, of Butler, PA; Cynthia Sands Aten and her husband, John, of Canton, Georgia; 2 grandchildren: Curt Stauffer and his wife, Patti, of Lititz, PA and Erika Stauffer Campbell and her husband, Brian, of Berwick; four great grandchildren: Lauren Stauffer, Alexandra, Evan and Brooke Campbell.

Along with his parents and his wife, he was preceded in death by three brothers: Richard W. Sands, Harold Sands and Donald Sands.

Funeral Services with Military Honors will be held Wednesday, July 8th, 2015 at 12 Noon at the McMichael Funeral Home, Inc., 4394 Red Rock Road,

Benton (Rt. 487) with Rev. Dr. David A. Mansfield, his pastor, officiating. Burial will be in the Benton Cemetery. A viewing will be held Wednesday from 10 AM until the time of the Service at Noon at McMichael's. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in his memory to the Capital Building Fund, Benton Christian Church, P. O. Box 264, Benton, PA 17814.

Cemetery Details

Benton Cemetery

Cemetery Hill Rd
Benton, PA

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 8. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

McMichael Funeral Home, Inc.
4394 Red Rock Rd.
S.R. 487
Benton, PA 17814
(570) 204-0858
info@mcmichaelfuneralhome.com

Funeral Service with Military Honors

JUL 8. 12:00 PM (ET)

McMichael Funeral Home, Inc.
4394 Red Rock Rd.
S.R. 487
Benton, PA 17814
(570) 204-0858
info@mcmichaelfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

BO

“ *My deepest sympathy to Bob's family. Growing up here in Benton everyone knew Bob. He was always a great neighbor and would give anyone a helping hand. He would come to my porch and visit for a while when he had time, I always looked forward to his visits. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.* ”



Bonnie(Houseweart)Young - July 07, 2015 at 10:48 PM

Jl

“ *Memories abound as our families shared the small town friendship and caring which made our lives growing up in Benton so special. Thank you, Bob Sands, for protecting our country, enriching our town and making our corner of the world very special. Jill and Joseph Pascale* ”

Jill - July 07, 2015 at 08:49 AM

CS

Thank you for your very kind words. Benton was a very special place to grow up because of the bond between families like ours. My Grandfather and those of his generation are truly national treasures and when they pass a great void is created. I will miss him terribly.

Curt Stauffer - July 12, 2015 at 09:18 PM

JJ

“ *Jill & Joseph lit a candle in memory of Joseph Robert "Bob" Sands* ”



Jill & Joseph - July 07, 2015 at 08:43 AM

BD

“ So many memories of our parents going out together, and seeing your parents around Benton. Our thoughts and prayers. Dave and B.J.[Clewell]Davidson

B.J. Davidson - July 06, 2015 at 08:18 PM

ST

“ Steve lit a candle in memory of Joseph Robert "Bob" Sands



Steve - July 06, 2015 at 11:42 AM

MG

“ Meg Geffken lit a candle in memory of Joseph Robert "Bob" Sands



Meg Geffken - July 06, 2015 at 05:58 AM

MG

Mr.Sands was a great favorite of the History Buffs of the BRASS Pelican. He always had a good story and a kind word to share.

Meg Geffken - July 06, 2015 at 06:03 AM

SL

“ Dear Robert and Valarie, It takes a little darkness for us to see the stars, and a whole lifetime to reach them. Your dad was a very pleasant gentleman. We had a number of interesting visits when he visited you two here in Butler. He enjoyed being outside and so do I! Please be safe as you travel back and forth.

Your next door neighbor, Sonie

Sondra Laughead - July 05, 2015 at 08:03 PM

ST

“ My deepest sympathy to all of Bobs family. Such a good man. I'll miss our visits so much.

Sheila Thompson

Sheila Thompson - July 05, 2015 at 09:22 AM

TH

“ I will never forget his beautiful smile.i will miss him very much!!, Todd hopkins



todd hopkins - July 04, 2015 at 01:47 PM

BG

“ We send our sincere sympathy to the Sands family. We would often stop and talk with Bob when we were driving past Emeritus. He always had a smile and a kind word. He was a good man. God Bless

Bill and Becky Garrison - July 04, 2015 at 10:34 AM

KS

“ Visiting out of town for the 4th and my sister made me aware of Mr. Sands passing. We knew your Dad and mom when our mom was at Emeritus. They were such a sharp couple and we always enjoyed talking with them. Dad loved being outside. It was so interesting to read about his life and all his contributions. A blessing both lived such a long life and touching that they followed one another beyond this life.

Our condolences,
Merry Blew & Kathy Sharrow

Kathy Sharrow - July 04, 2015 at 08:50 AM



“ So Sorry for your loss, he was always fun and he will be sadly missed ! RIP Bob.

Jolene Yaple Quinn Phoenix Arizona

Jolene Quinn - July 04, 2015 at 08:13 AM

