



Robert T. Wedlake, Sr.

MAR 24, 1925 - MAR 27, 2012



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WEDLAKE – Robert Thomas Sr, age 87 years, entered eternal life Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at The Homestead in Owasso, OK. He was born March 24, 1925 in Chicago, IL to Lee A. Wedlake and Adele Pratt. A WWII Navy Sailor, Bob served on the SS Yankee Sward, SS Andrew Carnegie, SS Joseph Priestly and the SS Makua. During the 3 years 10 1/2 months he served, he received the American Area Ribbon, European-African-M.E. Area Ribbon, Asiatic-Pacific Area Ribbon, and World War II Victory Ribbon, with his final rank being Gunner's Mate Third Class. After his honorable discharge in March of 1946, he returned home to Chicago, where he met and fell in love with Virginia Rose Vaughn. They were married on April 19, 1947 and were blessed with their first child, Robert Thomas Wedlake, Jr., on August 15, 1955. Six weeks after the birth of their second son, Brian Patrick Wedlake, they transferred for Bob's employment with Midwestern Instruments-Memorex/Telex to Tulsa where they made their home. Bob retired as Production Manager from Memorex/Telex in January of 1991 after 43 years of service, with plans to travel with his wife. Their first trip was to Las Vegas, where Virginia suffered a massive heart attack and stroke. With Bob's never ending love and encouragement, and her strength of will and determination, she overcame many obstacles and was able to resume an active life. Bob and she enjoyed several more trips, and many activities with their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. And in 2001, Bob received his High School Diploma in special Commencement Exercises presented by Tulsa Public Schools for World War II Veterans. Having never graduated high school due to enlisting in the Navy, this was a special honor for Bob, and a wonderful memory for his family. Suffering from Parkinson's disease and related dementia, Bob eventually struggled physically and to communicate verbally, but never lost his wonderful smile or the ability to let you know how much he loved you through the look in his eyes. In his last year and half, he was lovingly cared for by the wonderful staff at The Homestead,



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and his family was able to be with him as the Lord and Virginia called him home. Preceded in death by his mother and father; his wife; 4 brothers; 1 sister; and grandson, Jay Thomas Wedlake. Survived by his sons, Robert Wedlake, Jr and wife Gina of Tulsa, OK and Brian Wedlake, Sr and wife Melissa of Skiatook, OK; grandchildren Brian Wedlake, Jr and wife, Lindsey, Angela Foster and husband Danny, John Wedlake and wife Jamie, Caroline Murray and husband Mike, Cara Nichols and husband James, Austin McDonald and wife Mary, Tessa Alumbaugh and husband Grant; 10 great-grandchildren; and relatives and friends too numerous to name. A Funeral service will be held 12:30 pm on Monday, April 2, 2012 at Floral Haven Chapel in Broken Arrow. Memorial contributions may be made to The Jay Wedlake Memorial Scholarship, c/o Exchange Bank, 111 N Highway 11, Sperry, OK 74073.



Tribute Wall

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CR

Clyde Roberts posted:

Dear Family and Friends of Bob Wedlake, I worked with Bob at Telex for some time. I have some good things to say about him. Bob, Virg, & boys mingled with me and my son somewhat either at their house or my house in Sapulpa. You could always expect upbeat conversations whether at work or at play. Bob sold me a push mower one time for \$7. Maybe not the best mower in the country but it was what I needed at the time and it got the job done. At Telex, Bob was always a conscientious worker. He was there when needed. I will never forget the time when we were vying for a government contract and had a failure just before the approval of that contract. Bob and I worked around the clock about three days and two or three nights until we got a working replacement. In order to expedite the project (at nighttime) we cooked various food including baked potatoes in the laboratory oven. Naturally when the day shift came on, the aroma filled the lab area. You can imagine a roomful of assembly technicians' tastebuds longing for a bite! No one ever said a thing to us about the misuse of the oven. Perhaps because of the critical nature of the contract, or perhaps they just didn't want to face two guys (or bears) who had no sleep for maybe 80 or 90 hours!!! Anyway Bob and I and others laughed about that incident many times. That should give you an indication of Bob's dedication and willingness to work. In my opinion that work ethic is in fairly short supply these days. I make all the funerals of my deceased friends from Telex. The list is long and getting longer. Bob is one of those I REALLY don't want to miss. Unfortunately I can't make it because of circumstances beyond my control. Maybe this short piece will make up for it in a small way, even though I would write this anyway. Best Regards to those remaining in the Wedlake family. Clyde Roberts (& wife Carol)

April 2 at 10:01 AM

BS

Barbara Scariano posted:

Our whole family here in Illinois is saddened by Uncle Bob's passing, but we do rejoice that he is now with the Lord, free of pain, and reunited with his beloved wife Virg. We all send our deepest sympathy to all of you in Tulsa and pray that you will find comfort through your knowledge that you will see him and your mom again. He was one in a million, and you and we were lucky to have had him in our lives. Love to all of you! Barb and Tony and Family

March 31 at 8:48 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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