

ROBERT SACHS TRIBUTE

After thirty years of untiring services to the Florida State Fraternal Congress, we lost one of our most beloved and greatest members.

On Monday, November 23, 2009, Robert C. Sachs passed away at Spring Lake Rehabilitation Center, Winter Haven, Florida after a lengthy battle with cancer. Bob married his first wife, Renee, in 1965. After Renee's death, he married Elisabeth Ferguson-Sachs (better know to us all as Liz). Surviving Bob are his wife, Liz, sons Robert and William, daughters Cheryl and Michelle, grandchildren William, Jared, Aaron, Shawn, Curtis and Margaret and Erma Sachs.

Robert was a Korean War Veteran in the KMAG, serving with the 44th National Guard Unit of Waukegan, IL, in the 129th Infantry division. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman's Badge. On his return from Korea, he began his career as a Sheriff's Deputy for Lake County, IL. He was the first Chief Juvenile Officer of Round Lake Heights, IL. He owned and operated Mickey's Lounge in Delavan, IL.

After moving to Winter Haven, he became a financial officer for AAL-Thrivent Insurance Company and was with them for 16 years. Robert was a member of the Masonic Lodge, achieving the rank of 32nd degree mason. A long time member of Grace Lutheran Church, Winter Haven, he worked with needy families in Polk County for the holidays, overseeing supplying food and necessities. Also, he was a major contributor for their Habitat for Humanity, active in organizing and volunteering for the many projects for the youth groups of his church.

Bob was interned at Lakeside Memorial Garden, Winter Haven, Florida.

We will remember Bob as our "Leader" in the Fraternal Congress. Bob had served as our President many times during his association with the Fraternal Congress, as well as other offices during his association with the Congress. He loved serving as the Legislative Chair and going to the "Hill" in Tallahassee, Fl. No meeting was complete with out Bob's input. No convention was complete without Bob being there to greet everyone by first name. No project was complete until Bob had a hand in its completion.

There was not a board member that Bob's heart did not touch in one way or the other. Most of all we will all miss his hand shake, his arm around us, giving us a hug, a pat on the back, his jokes, laughter, his thoughts and advice on a personal level, his praying with us and most of all , just his presence. Bob inspired us to be the true fraternalist that he was, putting the other person first, finding out his needs.

We miss you so much Bob. We all loved you. You have left a huge hole that can never be filled.

Donations in Bob's memory can be made to the Richard Hoff Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The Florida Fraternal Congress Fraternalist of the Year Award will now be know as the

Robert C. Sachs Fraternalist of the Year Award.