



Robert Joseph Renard

December 22, 1923 - August 27, 2019

Obituary

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Dr. Robert Joseph Renard

Dr. Robert (Bob) Joseph Renard passed away of natural causes on August 27, 2019, at his home in Monterey, CA, in the presence of family. He was born to parents Frank and Eleonora (Wozniak) Renard in 1923 in Green Bay, WI.

Bob joined the U.S. Army in 1943, serving honorably during several African and European campaigns in a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Heavy Pontoon Bridge Building unit (Patton's 3rd Army), until December 1945. He married his wife of 69 years, Dorothy Mae (Fruik) Renard (1927-2016), in Green Bay, WI, in 1947.

Bob served as a meteorological aide with the U.S. Weather Service in Green

Bay, and as a research meteorologist with the Jet Stream Project, before moving his young family to Monterey, CA, in 1952, after completing a Master of Science degree in Meteorology from the University of Chicago. He quickly became a pillar of the local community when he joined the faculty of the Naval Post Graduate School (NPS) on the Peninsula, where he remained a valued contributor for the rest of his life. During his formal tenure at NPS, Bob earned his Ph.D. in Meteorology (1970, Florida State University); assumed the Chairmanship of the NPS Meteorology Department (1970); was awarded the U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA) "John Campanius Holm Award for sustained excellence in observing and reporting Monterey Peninsula weather"; was awarded the prestigious U.S. Department of Commerce (NOAA) Thomas Jefferson Award for 31 years of "... unusual and outstanding accomplishments in the field of meteorological observations..."; and was awarded the title of "Distinguished Professor" by NPS (1990). Bob retired in 1990, after 47 years of combined military and civil government service.

Bob was a prolific volunteer and positive force in his community. In addition to his official meteorological work, Bob enjoyed civic membership and volunteering with groups such as the Stage Stompers Square Dance Club; the Monterey Maritime Museum (as a Docent); the Monterey Dunes Natural History Association; San Carlos Catholic Parish (as a Eucharistic Minister, ministering to sick and otherwise homebound parishioners); and the National Weather Service (as an official volunteer weather observer and recorder for Monterey Peninsula). Bob also enjoyed traveling with his wife, Dorothy, having been all over the world (including a stint at the South Pole), as well spending time with his loved ones, family and friends alike.

Bob is survived by his four children (Ron, Debbie, Rick, and Carol), ten grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren.

The family would like to thank all friends and caregivers that contributed to Bob's wellbeing and quality of life.

Bob's life will be celebrated at various events across the Peninsula on Friday, September 20, 2019, all of which are open to friends, family, and anyone wishing to pay their respects:

7:45am - A Catholic mass will be celebrated in Bob's memory at San Carlos Cathedral, 500 Church St, Monterey, CA 93940.

3:30pm - There will be a short service with military honors for Bob at the California Central Coast Veterans Cemetery, 2900 Parker Flats Cut Off Rd, Seaside, CA 93955, followed immediately by the placement of ashes at the same cemetery.

4:30 - 6:00 pm - The family will host an open house reception at the Renard home in Monterey, open to any wishing to pay their respects, even if they could not attend the other services. Please contact the family at 831-646-0717 for the address, if needed.

In lieu of flowers family requests donations in Bob's name to the Alzheimer's

Association (<http://alz.org>).

To send flowers to the family or plant a tree in memory of Robert Joseph Renard, please visit our floral store.

Tribute Wall

DP

“ Thank you Lanny

Debbie Renard Pittman - December 03, 2019 at 05:29 PM

LP

“ Bob was one of my professors when working for my graduate degree in 1966-68. Ten years later we were associates on the staff of the Naval Postgraduate School. He truly was one of a kind and I will always cherish he and I being friends and co-workers. We worked very closely for several years. He never ever mentioned his work with Patton in WWII. So typical of Dr. Renard. I am so sorry to hear of his loss and thank Captain Charles Roberts for sending this to me.

Lanny Yeske, Commander, U.S. Navy (Retired), PhD - November 11, 2019 at 09:20 AM

RP

“ Bob was the department chair when I was hired at NPS thirty years ago. His efforts to help me and my family changed the course of our lives. He was a true gentleman and one of the finest men I've known. May God's grace be with the Renard family.

Randy Pauley - September 14, 2019 at 08:30 AM

DP

“ Thank you Bill

Debbie Renard Pittman - September 13, 2019 at 04:00 PM

BT

“Wow! So very sorry to hear of his passing. I owe my whole life on the Peninsula, and my career at NPS to this kind and generous man who hired a young graduate student from San Jose State back in 1979. My condolences to his family.

Bill Thompson - September 13, 2019 at 02:13 PM

TH

“Professor Renard hired this young post-doc from the East Coast as a faculty member way back in 1989 and I will forever be grateful to him for what he saw in me. He indeed was a genuinely kind and thoughtful man. He will be sorely missed. My deepest condolences to the family.

Teddy Holt - September 12, 2019 at 07:52 PM

DP

“Thank you.

Debbie Renard Pittman - September 12, 2019 at 10:09 AM