



Samuel M. Robinson
February 7, 1926 to May 31, 2006

Relationship to St. Andrew United Methodist Church: Samuel attended St. Andrew United Methodist Church regularly and supported funding of the new church. His wife, Natalie Robinson, is organist emeritus for the church.

Family: He was married to Natalie. He had two sons, two daughters, one stepdaughter, and two stepsons. In addition, he had five grandchildren and four step-grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one step-great-grandchild.

Recognitions, Activities, Special Interests: Samuel was born in Ft. Wayne, attended Purdue University for his bachelor's and master's degree in speech communication and earned an MBA from University of Southern California. During his twenty years with the Air Force, he served during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. His rank was Lt. Colonel. He taught ROTC and communications at Purdue briefly and became an ordained Baptist minister in February 1986. He served as interim pastor in many churches. Samuel supported family of nine Vietnamese refugees, transported cancer patients, and worked with Meals on Wheels for twenty years, serving as President of the organization. He was Master of all York Rite Mason bodies and recipient of the Indiana Sagamore of the Wabash Award in 2002.

Memorial: An ornamental pear tree was planted at St. Andrew in 2007 in honor of Mr. Robinson.

Samuel M. Robinson, 80

The Rev. Samuel M. Robinson, 80, a retired Air Force lieutenant colonel, died at 3 a.m.



Robinson

Wednesday, May 31, 2006, at his home at Westminster Village, West Lafayette.

Born Feb. 7, 1926, in Fort Wayne, he was the son of the late Rev. Monroe L. and Celeste Chambers

Robinson. He had lived throughout the United States and the world during his military career. He received his bachelor's degree and master's degree in speech communication at Purdue University and Master of Business Administration from the University of Southern California.

His first marriage was to Juanita E. Durbin in June 1949. He married Natalie J. Todd on July 9, 1989, at East Tipp Baptist Church in Lafayette, and she survives.

A 20-year Air Force veteran, he served during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

He taught ROTC and in the communications department for brief periods at Purdue. He became an ordained Baptist minister in February 1986, serving as interim pastor in many churches.

He enjoyed national and international travel and spent a summer as an archeologist in Jerusalem and explored the caves of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The Rev. Robinson was a member of East Tipp Baptist Church and taught adult Sunday school in several churches. He also was a member of the National Rifle Association and Masonic Lodge 123, receiving many honors including Mark Master, past and most excellent master and Royal Arch Master. He was Indiana Cryptic Mason of the Year 1988-1989 and was named Sagamore of the Wabash in 2002, by Gov. Frank O'Bannon.

Surviving with his wife are children from his first marriage, Daniel M. Robinson (wife: Delight) of Kokomo and Paul M. Robinson (wife: Cheryl) of Lafayette; and daughters, Susan Morrison of Nashville, Ind., and Amy Robinson of Bloomington; stepdaughter, Janet Tipton of Lafayette; and stepsons, Bruce Tipton of Indianapolis and Don Tipton of Wyoming.

"Celebration of Life Memorial Service" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, June 7, at St. Andrews United Methodist Church, 333 Meridian St., West Lafayette, Tim Burchill officiating. Friends of the family will be received after the service in the fellowship hall to celebrate Sam Robinson. His body will be interred at Arlington National Cemetery at some future date. The Rev. Robinson donated his body to the I.U. Medical School Anatomical Education Program. Surviving are grandchildren, Scott M. Robinson (wife: Janelle), Kelly M. Robinson, Heather Reeves (husband: Mathew), Rachael Pace (husband: Bill), Tyler Steury, Nick Steury and Casey Steury; stepgrandchildren, Joy Ritz (husband: Chris), Brad Oldfather (wife: Robyn), Corey Tipton and Scott Tipton; and great-grandchildren, Alexis Renea Robinson, Austin Martin Robinson, Ethan Hunter Pace, Merek Mathew Reeves and step-great-grandchild, Maximillan Christian Ritz. In lieu of flowers, donations in remembrance of Sam Robinson may be made to East Tipp Baptist Church, Westminster Village Foundation, Masonic Lodge 123 or Eastern Star, Hope Chapter 5, Lafayette.



Ornamental pear tree planted in honor of Sam Robinson.