



Obituary

Born: Sunday, July 7, 1929

Died: Thursday, March 5, 2020

Woodland Hills Funeral Home
507-387-5504

Robert B. Layman, age 90 of Mankato, passed away on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at Pathstone Living in Mankato.

Funeral services will be Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 11 A.M. at Centenary United Methodist Church in Mankato, with Pastor Michelle Hargrave officiating. Military honors will be held immediately after services at the church with a time of fellowship and lunch to follow. Interment will be in Woodland Hills Memorial Park in Mankato.

Visitation will be Friday afternoon from 4 to 7 P.M. at Woodland Hills Funeral Home in Mankato and will continue on Saturday morning for one hour prior to services at the church. Memorials preferred to Centenary United Methodist Church or VINE Faith in Action. Woodland Hills Funeral Home of Mankato is handling arrangements.

Robert Boyd Layman was born to Robert Emmett Layman and Docia Payton Layman in Caneyville, KY on July 7, 1929. He married Eloise Cooksey on September 30, 1956. They were best friends and they had two daughters, Anne & Becky. Bob graduated from Caneyville High School and the University of Kentucky where he was a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity and several campus organizations.

After graduation as an ROTC student Bob was sent to Fort Benning, Georgia and then to Korea. He was a member of the Army Reserves, was company commander in Blue Earth, and retired as a Major. After Service in Korea, he was a farm mortgage agent in Bowling Green, KY and then transferred to Blue Earth, MN. In 1959 Bob and Eloise moved to Mankato where he began his career in real estate with Midwest Realty. He and John Todd subsequently started Layman Todd Realty and enjoyed many years helping families find the right homes. He also developed several subdivisions in the Mankato area, partnering with local builders and making lifelong friends in the business. Bob is a long-time member of Centenary United Methodist Church, where he served in many capacities and ushered for 47 years. He has been president of the Sertoma Club, Toastmasters and the Board of Realtors. Bob was also a member of the American Legion, VFW, Korean Vets, and the Minnesota council for Affordable Rural Housing.

Bob looked forward to his annual hunting trip to Canada with his friends Bob, Bob, and Sam and he treasured the friendships he made with his Canadian neighbors, who became like family to him. He loved his cabin on Lake Francis, where he could enjoy the peace and beauty of nature and the company of his daughters and their families. He especially loved spending time with his grandchildren, fishing, playing cards and telling stories around the fire, as

Service Summary

Visitation

4:00 PM to 7:00 PM, Fri Mar 13, 2020

Woodland Hills Funeral Home

1605 Woodland Avenue
Mankato, MN 56001

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Sat Mar 14,
2020

Centenary United Methodist Church

501 S 2nd St
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

Funeral Service

11:00 AM Sat Mar 14, 2020

Centenary United Methodist Church

501 S 2nd St
Mankato, Minnesota 56001

well as entertaining family and friends. Cabin traditions like “Happy Time” started in the late afternoon with Bob lighting the grill and enjoying the view and summer weather.

Bob’s chief hobby was refinishing furniture. He was especially proud of refinishing a solid cherry chest owned by a pre-civil war ancestor from Kentucky. His other hobbies were reading, traveling, making maple syrup, Bridge games, lunch with friends and taking care of the lake property.

Bob is survived by his wife of 63 years, Eloise, daughters Anne (Dr. David) Horn, Becky (Jay) Heflin and six grandchildren Katie, Emily and Jeremy Horn; Robbie, Mitch (Camille) and Jarrett Heflin, Brother John Layman (Faye Davis).

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, brother Owen, and sisters Lucille, Nora and Mabel.

Thank you to the nurses, aids and staff at Pathstone, and to the Ecumen Hospice team for your tender love and care.