



Robert Campbell Hoehn

June 25, 1934 - July 18, 2023

Robert Campbell Hoehn left this earthly life on July 18, 2023, in Blacksburg, Virginia, at the age of 89, to join his wife of 64 years, Johnnie, and many beloved friends and family. He passed away surrounded by family, friends, and colleagues who continued his lifelong love of lively conversation, family, and friendship to the final moments.

Known to all as Bob, Dad, and Grandpa, he lived as a man of faith, ever striving to show the love of Jesus to everyone he met. He never met a stranger, and was quick to offer kindness and help to anyone in need. He was the provider and protector of his family, and set an example for all. Bob had a contagious smile and sense of humor, even continuing to the very end to keep everyone laughing. He loved all animals, especially his dog Cricket, and his two cats, Ellie and Piper.

Born in New Orleans on June 25, 1934, to Robert R. and Kathaleen Campbell Hoehn, Bob lived in Missouri and Oklahoma, but always considered himself to be a Texan. A graduate of Amon Carter-Riverside High School in Fort Worth, Texas, Bob continued his education at North Texas State University where he met the love of his life, Johnnie Shelley, and they married on June 12, 1954. He earned his B.S. in Science Education and an M.A. in Biology from NTSU. Bob served his country in the United States Army from 1956-1958 as a Biological Science Research Assistant. Afterwards he taught in public schools

and later as a faculty member at NTSU. In 1970 he earned his PhD in Environmental Engineering from the University of Missouri in Columbia, and joined the Civil Engineering Department at Virginia Tech in 1971.

A talented musician, Bob used his gifts of teaching and singing to lead choirs and worship in his churches, lead Sunday School classes, and serve as deacon. His beautiful singing voice was a blessing to everyone who heard him. His last twenty-three years he has been a member of Main Street/GraceLife Baptist Church, serving as a Sunday School teacher and singing in the choir.

He was a leader in his field, and was awarded several prestigious awards in his career, although his humble spirit would never mention it. He even has a mountain peak in Antarctica named after him, but he rarely mentioned it. He truly loved teaching at Virginia Tech, and made lasting friendships with students and colleagues alike.

Cherishing his memory are his children, Julie Carter and Michelle Hoehn, his grandson Drew Carter (Nicole), great-granddaughters Hailey Kathleen Carter and Avery Mae Carter; sister Kay Nell Richard, sister-in-law Nancy Hoehn, and many nieces and nephews; also greatly loved as his 'children' are Aney Massie, Cathy Smith Wagon, and Charles Ngassa; special friends, Bob and Donna Barbatti who have treated us all like family; loyal and beloved colleagues from his years at Virginia Tech. A special thank you to the attentive and kind people at English Meadows, Warm Hearth, and Lewis Gale Montgomery Hospital.

His family will miss his great love and laughter, and take comfort in the knowledge that we will see him again one day.

Funeral Services will be conducted Friday, July 21, 2023, at 11:00 am in the

McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends from 10:00 - 11:00 am before the service on Friday, July 21, 2023, at McCoy Funeral Home 150 Country Club Drive S.W., Blacksburg, Virginia 24060.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL **21**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home
150 Country Club Dr. S.W.
Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 552-3211
mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net
<https://mccoyfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

JUL **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home Chapel
150 Country Club Dr S.W.
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Tribute Wall

TF

“ I met Bob when we purchased a home from him. True to the loving tribute shared here, he was warm and humble and quick with a story, and laughed easily, qualities in short supply these days. He gave me a detailed run-down of the water system in the home that he had customized with a solution tank and his own blend of purification chemicals, a regimen I kept up until installing a more modern system some years later. Over the years I'd bring him mail that came to the house and we'd have a visit like old friends. He always talked about the wildlife he and Johnnie enjoyed seeing at the house, so I would email him pictures of different animals here. To the family, I'm sorry; I just found out he passed. Though I didn't know him well I remember him fondly and pray for peace upon you all. I'm sure Bob left you with a library of fond memories to carry on his good nature. Blessings to you. -Todd Fitch

Todd Fitch - August 03, 2023 at 07:33 AM

PM

“ Dr. Hoehn was a great teacher and awesome thesis committee member. I also had the pleasure of presenting my thesis findings with him at CSAWWA in 1996 and working with him on several projects in my early career at Black & Veatch. He always encouraged me and he had an infectious laugh. I will miss him!

Pam Mann - August 01, 2023 at 10:02 AM

DB

“ Sorry to hear of Bob's passing. As an advisor to Black & Veatch, he brought exceptional value through his water expertise and was highly respected and liked by all who knew him. Bob's legacy will live on through the generations of students he taught and mentored at Va Tech, many who went on to become technical experts and leaders in the water industry. Most importantly, he was kind, wonderfully engaging, and always interested in serving others with a gleam in his eye. He was a friend and a joy to work with. My condolences to his family.

Doug Brinkman - July 31, 2023 at 06:23 PM

PM

“ I learned today of Bob's passing. He was a great person and a good friend. I liked Bob from the moment he and Johnnie first stepped into my office almost ten years ago. I am very sad that he is gone, but I am glad to have known him and I'm happy he is reunited with Johnnie. Condolences to the family.

Phillip Martin - July 24, 2023 at 05:31 PM

SS

“ I enjoyed working with Bob Hoehn in VAWWA and on projects with Black & Veatch clients. He was well-respected for his expertise but I admired him even more for his humble way of connecting with and serving people. Sincere sympathies for your loss.

Stephen Simpson - July 24, 2023 at 03:37 PM

MM

“ I always enjoyed talking to Bob at the Hoehn reunions. (My mom, Helen Anderson, was his father's cousin.) We laughed about the fact that both of us had visited Paris, and of all the possible tourist activities, we had both chosen to take the tour of the Paris sewers. I'm so sorry for your loss.
Mary Grace Anderson Moss, Rolla, Missouri

Mary Moss - July 21, 2023 at 11:36 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Robert Campbell Hoehn.



July 20, 2023 at 03:19 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert Campbell Hoehn.

July 20, 2023 at 03:19 PM

HS

“ Dr. Hoehn was a wonderful professor, but an even better mentor. I share many of his teachings with younger engineers, so his legacy lives on in many ways. I also remember that he had me correct all of the dangling participles in my thesis, and I think of him frequently when editing and writing. I send my sincere condolences to the family of Dr. Hoehn. He will be missed.

Holly Shorney-Darby - July 20, 2023 at 09:01 AM

JC

This made me smile because Dad was truly a stickler for good grammar. Thank you for sharing the impact he had on your life.

Julie Carter - July 20, 2023 at 09:31 PM

YV

“ *Your students/friends at Black & Veatch purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Robert Campbell Hoehn.*



Your students/friends at Black & Veatch - July 20, 2023 at 07:34 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Robert Campbell Hoehn.*



July 20, 2023 at 05:33 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Robert Campbell Hoehn.*

July 20, 2023 at 05:33 AM