



# Robert William Bennett

MAR 17, 1927 - NOV 8, 2014



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## **Robert William Bennett**

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**R**obert William Bennett, CMDR, RET, USN, of Fort Myers and formerly of Massachusetts passed away Saturday, November 8, 2014 at Hope Hospice HealthPark of Fort Myers. He was 87. Mr. Bennett was a highly decorated Commander in the US Navy. He enlisted during WWII at the age of 17 and retired after 25+ years of dedicated service. Bob was a graduate of Boston University (COM 1949), the US. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, CA & the US. Naval War College in Newport, RI. He received his MS degree in Political Science from George Washington University in 1964. After retiring from the US Navy, Bob was active in his community, serving as a government relations consultant for many years. He served as special assistant to former US Senator Leverett Saltonstall, the Director of the Bureau of International Trade & Assistant Secretary of Administration and Finance for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In later years he worked on various Senate & Presidential election campaigns from Massachusetts to California. From the late 1980's until the mid 1990's, he was Chief-of-Staff and White House-Congressional Liaison at the American Legislative Exchange Council in Washington, DC. He most recently served as a member of the Boston University Henry M Goldman School of Dental Medicine Board of Visitors, under Dean Frankl, and on Dean Hutter's Advisory Board. Bob was born March 17, 1927 in Cambridge, MA to the late Nicholas DiBenedetti and Catherine C. (Cronin) DiBenedetti. He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Marian S. Barber Bennett; daughter, Janice L. Preston of Beverly, MA; sons, Robert W. Bennett II of Harrisonburg, VA, Jeffrey S. Bennett of Beverly, MA, Keith J. Bennett of Beverly, MA and Mark V. Bennett of Hawaii. He is also survived by 2 brothers, Alfred E. DiBenedetti & Paul E. DiBenedetti, 14 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, 3 great-great grandchildren, 3 step children, his former wife, Constance L. (Izzo) Bennett, & many nieces and nephews. Bob was also predeceased by his sister, Josephine (DiBenedetti) Pupi and his brother Nicholas DiBenedetti.



## Obituary

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Graveside services with full military honors will be held 11:00 a.m., Friday, March 27, 2015 at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA 22211.

<http://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/> All are invited to attend. In lieu of flowers, memorials in honor of Mr. Bennett are suggested to Agassiz Village 238 Bedford St. Suite 8, Lexington. MA 02420 <http://www.agassizvillage.org/>, Boston University School of Dental Medicine 100 E Newton St, Boston, MA 02118 or Hope Hospice 9470 HealthPark Circle, Fort Myers, FL 33908. Online condolences and remembrances may be shared at [www.fortmyersmemorial.com](http://www.fortmyersmemorial.com) Fort Myers Memorial Gardens Funeral Home is serving the family.



## Tribute Wall

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JP

**Janice Bennett Preston** posted:

Matthew, in remembering my dad and his passing 1year ago tomorrow (Nov 8, 2014) I was looking at this page & read your kind message.I'm sorry that because we did not have access to our dad's computer, we were unable to find his many friends & acquaintences to let them know of his passing, you among them.It is wonderful to be reminded when someone you love & admire has affected others lives. Thank you firvtakingvthe time to write.Janice (Bennett) PrestonBeverly, MA

November 7 at 3:23 PM

MK

**Matthew Keator** posted:

To Bob's family,I am very sorry to hear the news of Bob's passing. I was concerned when my last few rounds of emails went unanswered. Knowing Bob as I did I thought he might have been on one of those spectacular cruises he loved so much.21 years ago i was a young intern from MA working for Bob in Washington D.C. What a tremendous experience it was listening and learning from some one who had mastered the gift of making people feel special. Bob always stressed the importance of making an effort of keeping in touch with those whose paths you crossed in life. I always looked forward to our phone calls and the Christmas cards we would share. There are people who you meet along your journey who leave a lasting impression on you -Your brother, father, husband, and grandfather was that to me. He was very proud of his family and spoke fondly of you all.. Please take some comfort in knowing that he may be gone but he will not be forgotten!Rest in peace!Matthew KeatorLenox MA

July 24 at 4:54 AM

KE

**Keith** posted:

Happy Birthday Dad!

March 17 at 10:56 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Robert by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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