



Robert M. Shaw

April 10, 1922 - January 6, 2021

Robert Shaw, 98, passed away at Homestead of Maplewood on January 6, 2021. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, veteran and champion of journalism. He was born on April 10, 1922 in St. Paul to Lillian and Robert Shaw. He served in the Coast Guard during WWII, graduated from the U of M, and married Virginia Conger Buffington in 1951. He was an assistant professor of journalism at the University of Washington in Seattle, then became manager of the Minnesota Newspaper Association in 1964. Shaw was a tireless advocate for free speech and government transparency. Shaw founded the Minnesota News Council, which from 1970 to 2011 functioned as an independent arbiter of complaints against news media. He also started Wordos, a group of journalists who acted as grammar watchdogs for news media. His love of music lasted a lifetime. He founded the Dare to Be Great Dixieland Jazz band, and played trombone. Author of many books, he won the Midwest Book Award in 2011 for "Bachelor Slob in the Kitchen". His children and grandchildren were his pride and joy. His optimistic attitude and enthusiasm were contagious; his selflessness inspired everyone who knew him. He is survived by sons Robert (Stephanie), David (Mary) and James (Elizabeth); grandchildren Isabel, Joseph, Susan, Jack and Emily; and great-grandchildren James Shaw and Matilda Parker, and sister Jessie Laurion. He was preceded in death by wife Virginia, sister Kathryn Martin, brothers Paul and David, and grandson Willie.

A private family service will be held at 2pm Saturday February 20th. If you would like to view the funeral via livestream please do so at www.washburn-mcreavy.com and select photos/video option under the Robert Shaw obituary.

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david shaw - February 15 at 07:23 PM



“ Two dear ones now together for all of eternity. Many thanks to Steve Buffington for sharing this picture with us.



Elizabeth Shaw - February 13 at 07:23 AM



“ Love this picture. Thanks for sharing!

Laura Schnobrich - February 20 at 02:57 PM



“ Four generations of Shaw men gathered together for Thanksgiving, 2016. What a proud and loving and happy father and grandfather he was!



Elizabeth Shaw - February 12 at 08:39 PM