



## Robert Douglas Esse

October 7, 1925 - January 23, 2026

Robert "Bob" Esse, age 100, passed away on Friday, January 23, 2026. Bob was born on October 7, 1925, in Duluth, Minnesota, the son of Lawrence and Euphemia (Johnson) Esse. Bob grew up in Duluth; after high school Bob served in the Army Air Corps for 2 years. Bob moved to Minneapolis where he was employed as a driver for various companies. He met Genevon Erickson and they were married in 1950. They lived in the Minneapolis area and had 7 children. In 1961, Bob opened a business to teach drivers training. Bob grew this business into a metro area drivers training school, he has taught so many people (and their children) how to drive over the years! After a divorce, Bob met and married Jackie Rush in 1976. They lived on the lake and celebrated 40 years of marriage. Bob enjoyed boating, tennis, taking pictures and videos, playing cards, exercising, writing short stories, and the big one.. he created a race car board game with 50 rule variations. Bob lived a stress free life, focusing on today and what he could improve upon. He had a captivating sense of humor and smile as he told stories from the past, and shared his unique ideas for the future. And, his old sayings.. they will live on. Bob is survived by children Julie Bondi, Rob Esse, Jane (Kevin) Dorweiler, Joel (LeeAnn) Esse, and Jon (Cindy) Esse; John (Mary) Rush; beloved grandchildren, great-grandchildren; nieces and nephews. He is greeted in Heaven by son Douglas, daughter Jodi, and their mother Genevon, wife Jackie, his parents, his 3 siblings (Warren, Howard and Carol), and many other family members and friends. A private burial will be on January 30,

2026. A celebration of life will be held on a future date.  
[www.Washburn-McReavy.com](http://www.Washburn-McReavy.com)

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ Jackie & Erik Miles planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Douglas Esse.

Jackie & Erik Miles - January 27 at 02:12 PM

JM

“ Jackie & Erik Miles purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Robert Douglas Esse.



Jackie & Erik Miles - January 27 at 02:12 PM

CB

“ I remember Bob coming to my mother's birthday party and playing guitar and singing. He had everyone singing and playing different instruments. Awesome memory. Joel your father was friendly, funny, and a kind soul. Thanks for sharing him with us.  
Carol Bengry

carol bengry - January 27 at 01:04 PM