



Robert Russell Foley

October 14, 1928 - October 27, 2020

Foley, Robert "Dr. Bob" Age 92 of Minnetonka, peacefully earned his second set of wings surrounded by his loving family October 27, 2020. Preceded in death by his beloved wife of 60 years Mary "Mere-Mere". Survived by son Mike (Leslie), Kathy (Greg Pierce) Foley, Anne (Steve) Wagner, Patty (Frank) McKinney. Grandchildren Rachel, Justin, Patrick, Stephen, Anne, Madeleine, Michael, Emmett, Gracie, Zoë and 4 great grandchildren, nieces, nephews and the many friends he held dear. Bob grew up in St. Cloud MN during the depression. As his father struggled to care for 5 young children alone, Bob spent his early years at the children's orphanage. He credited his deep faith to the wonderful care he received from the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, MN. At the age of 8, he and his siblings were reunited with their father. As he grew, Bob found fulfilling work as a farm hand making pickles and packing cans of peas. He also spent two summers on the ore boats as a longshoreman in Duluth MN. He met Mary Leopard while attending St. Cloud Tech High School. After graduation, they went their separate ways as he joined the Naval Aviation Midshipman program in 1946. He earned his first set of wings as a navy pilot at the age of 21. He was a member of the Blue Devil squadron. He flew the F4U Corsair airplanes (the bent-wing Bird) off the Roosevelt aircraft carrier during the Korean War. Bob's naval experience was truly unique in that he also trained and flew the F9F Panther, which was one of the first carrier-borne jet-powered fighters in the Navy. Upon completing the naval program, Bob resumed his studies and graduated from St. John's University in

Collegeville, MN. He loved science and his true calling was to study medicine. He attended the U of MN Medical School with help from the GI Bill. During this time, he reunited with Mary and they married in 1955. Bob earned his MD and practiced Radiology for 33 years at St. Mary's Hospital, now known as M Health Fairview in Minneapolis. While practicing, he and Mary started Imaging Associates, which provided the first mobile CAT scanning services to rural hospitals in southern MN. They fondly called it the "traveling medicine show." He retired in 1993 and remained very active, golfing, traveling, skiing, going "up north" to the family cabin that he built, and south to their place on the ocean. He was an avid reader and had a true appreciation for the written word. Bob appeared average in stature and yet he was a gentle giant, known for his grace, kindness, and generosity. He was loved by all. A private family burial was celebrated at St. John's Abbey Cemetery, Collegeville MN. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date. Bob Foley was extremely proud of his Irish heritage and it was weaved into his everyday life. We toast Bob as he is now reunited with his beloved Mary. Sláinte! Washburn-McReavy.com
Eden Prairie Chapel 952-975-0400

Cemetery Details

St. John's Abbey Cemetery

Collegeville, MN

Previous Events

Graveside Service

OCT **31**. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM.

St. John's Abbey Cemetery
Collegeville, MN