



# Robert "Bob" R. Essington Sr.

MAY 28, 1945 - JUN 6, 2025



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## **Robert "Bob" R. Essington Sr.**

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**R**obert Essington Sr. was born on May 28, 1945, in the small town of Wausau, Wisconsin, to the late Arthur Essington Jr. and Josephine Stroker Essington. He was the husband of the late Judith Vanetta Essington. He grew up in Racine, Ohio and graduated from Southern Coral High School in 1963. After high school, Bob ventured to Madison, Wisconsin, where he attended University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and received his Bachelor of Science Degree in 1967. He then attended Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia and received his Master of Public Administration Degree in 1975.

In January 1965, Bob met Judith Essington, and they married on June 24, 1967. During their nearly 58 years of marriage, Bob served in the United States Army where he served two tours in Vietnam. He was also stationed at Fort Gordon, GA; Baltimore, MD; Elroy, WI; Dayton, OH; and Sierra Vista, AZ. During his service to our country he was able to receive the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. In addition, to his service in the Army, he served 35 years in the U.S. Department of State where he was stationed overseas in Islamabad, Pakistan; Beirut, Lebanon; Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates; and Pretoria, South Africa before returning to Sterling, Virginia.

Bob was a caring and loving son, father, grandfather, and husband. He was a devoted member of the Sterling United Methodist Church for over 25 years. Bob passed away unexpectedly on June 6, 2025, at Reston Hospital, Reston, Virginia.

He is survived by his son, Robert Ray Essington, Jr, daughter, Renee Essington; daughter-in-law, Jennifer; his grandchildren, Robbie, Jocelyn, Dule, and Tanner, and Summer (Robbie's fiancé) and his great grandchild, Eleanora. Bob was predeceased by his daughter, Carmen, and his late wife, Judy Essington.

A service to celebrate the life of Bob and Judy will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday July 5, 2025, at Sterling United Methodist Church located at 304 E. Church Road Sterling, 20164. A reception will



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follow the service at the church. In lieu of flowers, friends from Southern Coral High School, Racine, Ohio, and others are invited to send contributions to Sterling United Methodist Church. Online condolences may be made to the family at [www.loudounfuneralchapel.com](http://www.loudounfuneralchapel.com).

Bob's kindness, love, and dedication to his family, the church, and the community will be deeply missed.



## Events

**Robert "Bob" R. Essington Sr.**

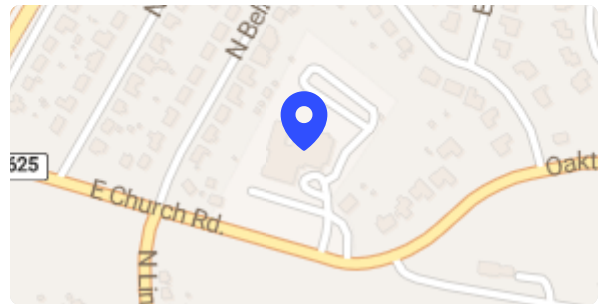
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### Celebration of Life

 **Saturday**, July 5, 2025

 11:00 AM ET

 **Sterling United Methodist Church**  
304 E Church Road, Sterling VA 20164





## Tribute Wall

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SM

**Sandy Michael** lit a candle in honor of Robert "Bob".

Our Heartfelt Sympathies, Renee and Rob, for the loss of your Mother and Father. We are deeply sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you. God Bless, Bob and Judy, they were wonderful and loved by many. Joel and Sandy Michael

June 18 at 5:49 PM



DH

**Don Hudenburg** posted:

Bob and I were colleagues at the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Diplomatic Security, for many years. We were also friends. Judy, Bob, my wife, and myself had many delightful dinners at various restaurants in Northern Virginia. As both military veterans, Bob and I had lots in common and he told me how injured he was in Lebanon. Bob was intelligent, articulate, and a loving spouse. He and Judy will be sorely missed. Don Hudenburg

June 17 at 7:39 AM

MC

**Marlene Cavaiola** lit a candle in honor of Robert "Bob".

We are so sorry for the passing of both Judy and then Bob so quickly. Please accept our heartfelt condolences. I will miss Bob's hugs before going into the worship service. He always was so pleasant with a smile, regardless of his own health issues. In God's love, Marlene and Dick Cavaiola

June 13 at 11:42 AM



JT

**Jean Trotter** posted:

Rob & Renee, our hearts ache for you in the passing of both your mom and dad. We members of SUMC will miss your dad's warm greeting as an usher all these years and the fellowship with both of them. The Lord be with you in this great loss. In Christ, Jean & Richard Trotter

June 13 at 5:24 AM

SW

**Sam Ward** June 26 at 7:19 PM

Rob, Renee and family, how sad to learn of the loss of both Bob and Judy. They were such an important part of our church family. Bob, as both an usher and a greeter at services, was welcoming to all as he shared his big smile, and at times a big hug, but always his big heart to brighten our day. We will miss them! May God hold you close at this difficult time and give you peace. In loving prayer, Mame and Sam Ward. 🙏



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**Anonymous** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Essington family.



June 11 at 11:50 AM



**Anonymous** planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Robert "Bob".



June 11 at 11:50 AM



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

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



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