



## Mr. Robert W. Oast Sr.

August 21, 1927 - October 13, 2012

Robert W. "Bob" Oast, 85, passed away peacefully on Saturday, October 13, surrounded by friends and family. Bob was born in New York City on August 21, 1927, to the late Dr. Samuel P. Oast, Jr., and Dorothy Harper Oast. He grew up in Scarsdale, New York, and Portsmouth, Virginia. He attended Christ School in Arden, and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in Portsmouth.

From 1945 to 1947, he served in the US Army in Europe, where he attained the rank of sergeant, and commanded a tank squadron. Following his honorable discharge from the military, he attended Virginia Tech, graduating in 1951 with a degree in Forestry. Bob worked in forestry management in Trinity, Texas, and Sumter, South Carolina, before moving to Asheville in 1961 to work in lumber sales, retiring in the late 1990's.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ann Schwalenberg Oast of Portsmouth, whom he married in 1952, and his beloved granddaughter, Leigh-Ann Ashton Oast (daughter of son, Thomas). He is survived by a brother, Dr. Samuel P. Oast, III, of New York, son Thomas H., Oast and wife Paula, son Robert W. Oast, Jr. and wife Tracy Rose, and grandson, Ryan Oast.

Bob enjoyed spending time in his neighborhood, where he lived for 50 years, and with his special friend, Edith "Mike" McDonough. He will be missed by all

who knew him.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 AM on Tuesday, October 16 at St. Eugene's Catholic Church with Father Pat Cahill officiating. The family will receive friends at Morris Funeral Home, 304 Merrimon Ave., Monday October 15, from 6 to 8 p.m. Interment will follow at Lewis Memorial Park. Memorials may be made to St. Eugene's Catholic Church, 72 Culvern Street, Asheville, NC 28804.

# Cemetery Details

## **Lewis Memorial Park**

415 Beaverdam Road  
Asheville, NC 28804

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Robert W. Oast Sr.*

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October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM

“ Dear Bobby, Tommy, Other Family and Friends,

*I am so sorry for your loss, and I am very sad not to have seen Bob in so long.*

*Bob Oast, was a dear person to me. I first knew Bob and Ann Oast through their friendship and business connection to William O. Moore. Bill Moore and I enjoyed many hours of talking, laughing and eating, (perhaps, drinking) with them: We would often run into them at 3 Brothers Restaurant on a Friday evening.*

*We knew Ann and Bob through years of great pain, (Leigh Ann's moving chronicle of the struggle against Lymphoma). Then, what seemed unbearable, Ann Oast's tragic death.*

*I am forever thankful for Bob's friends, (all those on Evergreen Lane and those not so close as the same street) who sustained him, comforted him and loved him. Bob also held his friends in high value.*

*As long as I am given, I will remember Bob as a witty, elusive, compassionate, generous, loyal, sweet, quite ingenious, enigma. He was a blessing in my life.*

*Bob Oast wasn't given to divulging his deepest feelings, yet he and I knew each other well enough for him to share how much he loved Ann, their sons, Bobby and Tommy, their grandchildren, Leigh Ann and Ryan.*

*I hope I will always be able to conjure Bob Oast's facial expressions, his voice and the sound of particular songs we enjoyed.*

*Bob loved to dance and had a unique style: As he held out his hand to his partner, he settled into the experience with a rakish tilt of the head, a slight bite of the lower lip and an, ever so small, shrug of his*

*shoulders.*

*This is how I want to remember: Somewhere a band is playing,  
"String of Pearls"....  
and my sweet, funny friend is holding out his hand.....*

*With love and prayers for your safe journey forward,*

*Patricia Gladding and Family*

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**Patricia S. Gladding** - October 16, 2012 at 11:24 AM

VW

“ *Dear Oast Family and Mike,  
I worked with Bob at Earl Raiford Lumber Company from 1985 until  
the late 1990's, and could not have asked for a better friend and  
coworker. He was very special to me and my family. He was always  
concerned about the well-being of my husband, two girls, and me. I  
know he has been very sick, and visited him briefly in the hospital a  
couple of weeks ago. Mike, he couldn't have had a better friend and  
caregiver than you. He was in my prayers then, and your family is in  
my prayers today. I believe he is in a better place, and will see him  
again!*

*Vickie Wilson and family*

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**Vickie Wilson** - October 15, 2012 at 01:54 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for  
the family of Mr. Robert W. Oast Sr..*



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October 15, 2012 at 09:12 AM

RW

“ To the Oast family and Friends,  
While growing up in Asheville, I with some of my friends became involved in the residential building trades. We would always ask Mr. Oast what popular trim wood is available. Whether it was a big or small job, he was always excited to get involved with our projects. While helping to build the Charlotte Street Condominiums near his home, he would come by while we were eating lunch on the rock wall and talk shop with us. He had a house to remodel next to his home. We would go by after work to help him. He was fun to work with and always very generous in his giving.  
After getting married my wife and I would drop by and he would always appreciate our company. I am thankful for his life and look forward to being able to continue a friendship with his family.

*Sincerely,*

*Rick and Maureen Winkenwerder*

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**Rick, Maureen Winkenwerder** - October 15, 2012 at 08:54 AM