

Robert Donald Elsner was born on April 23rd, 1928 to Edwin and Edna (Olson) Elsner in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. At a young age, his family moved to Springfield, IL, where he graduated from Springfield High School. During his high school years, Bob loved playing the Cornet in his high school band. He also started to attend Camp Anokijig (YMCA) in Racine, WI, which he attended for many years, first as a camper, and then as a counselor. It was at Camp where he learned how to sail and sailing soon became his lifelong passion.

Bob met the love of his life, Jean, after she asked him to her Senior Nurses Prom. The couple dated for six months and were soon engaged. They were married on October 21st, 1951, at the Chicago Temple, living happily together for 66 years. After getting married, the two moved to Rolla, MO, where Bob was stationed at Fort Leonard Wood during his service in the United States Army.

The couple moved and lived in Michigan, together raising their family of four children. Bob's dream of moving back to Wisconsin became a reality in 1974. He had a career in sales, eventually opening his own business. Bob had a love for photography, and he later opened his own photography studio.

Bob shared his love of sailing with Jean and they enjoyed many years of sailing together. Bob enjoyed sailing so much, he chose to teach others the courses in safety, navigation and maintenance of a vessel. His passion for sailing earned him a 25 years of service ring with the Power Squadron.

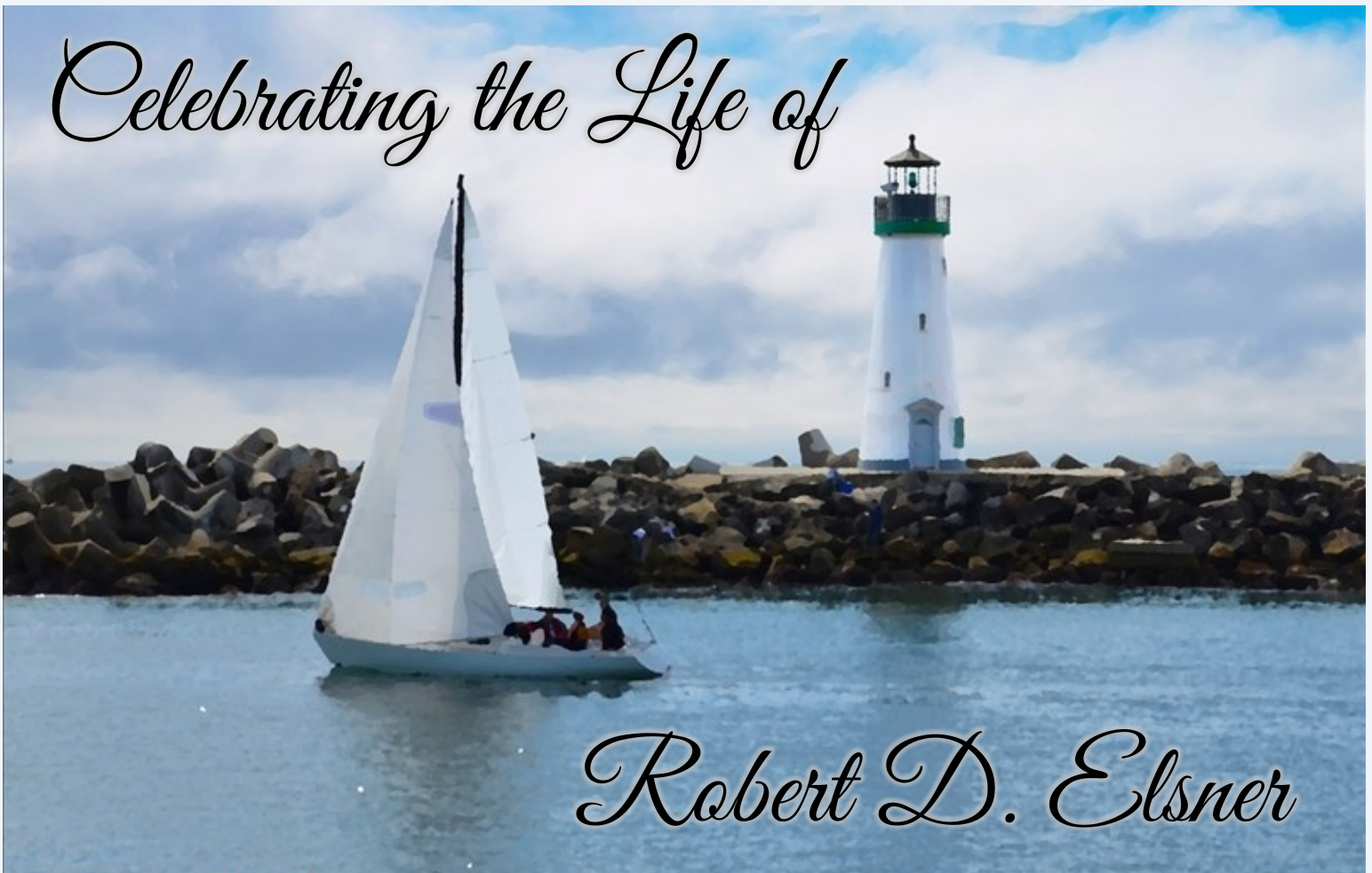
In 2013, Bob and Jean moved to the Detroit Lakes area to be closer to family. He left his beloved state of Wisconsin and his Green Bay Packers, learning to cheer on the Minnesota Vikings. (*As long as they weren't playing against his Green Bay Packers!*)

Bob's Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and his family were the foundations of his life. Both Bob and Jean were devoted to these two principles; Faith and Family. They were inseparable and did everything together. Bob was a devoted husband and father and was proud of each of his children and grandchildren.

Robert is survived by his wife of 66 years, Jean, of Detroit Lakes, Four children: Michael (Pat), of Vestal, NY, Sue (Kevin) Marvin, of Swanton, VT, Don (Cheryl) of Raleigh, NC, and Sharon (Dave) Roethel, of Detroit Lakes, MN. 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Preceding Bob in death were his parents; and Brother Stuart.

Robert "Bob" D. Elsner, 89, of Detroit Lakes, MN passed away peacefully on Saturday April 7th, 2018.



Celebrating the Life of

Robert D. Elsner

Be Comforted

My life is ended here at peace with the sea.

The Lord has called me home and I am free to go peacefully.

Don't mourn my passing as I am now in the presence of the Glory of God,

His bright love is abundant and his promises are real.

I will wait here for you dear ones in Jesus' arms and watch over you with him
until you also come home. Be comforted loved ones.

*"I shall go the way of the open sea, to the lands before you came, and the cool
ocean breezes shall blow from me, the memory of your name."*



Service of Love and Remembrance

Saturday, April 14, 2018 - 5:00 PM

David-Donhower Funeral Home

Detroit Lakes, Minnesota

Pastor Tim Cook, ***Officiating***

Special Music

Rebecca Sip, ***Pianist***

Granddaughter Alicia Marvin, Violinist

"Amazing Grace"

Lars Odegaard, Trumpeter

"Taps"

Honorary Bearers

Jason Elsner, Kimberly Nunez, Alicia Marvin

Jeffrey Marvin, Ryan Marvin, Matthew Elsner

Catie Elsner, Sarah Odegaard, Eric Roethel

Nicholas Roethel and Anthony Roethel

In Loving Memory Of
Robert Donald Elsner

"Bob"

Born ~ April 23, 1928

Died ~ April 7, 2018

Military Honors

Lake Region Veterans Honor Guard

Detroit Lakes, Minnesota