



Remembering our brothers who have passed from this life

Bobby Webb Bowie, '47

June 16, 1929- August 22, 2020



Capt. Co. "D", Varsity Football. Fencing, Baseball, Honor Committee, Vice-President Ciceronian Literary Society, Secretary Student Body, Capt. Football, Capt. Fencing, Second in Intramural Swimming, Second in Intramural Wrestling.

"Bobby" came to us three years ago from the sleepy town of Galax, Va. He brought with him the same fame that he held at GI IS. In football he etched his name as a member of the JV Team his first year only to be outstanding in this same sport last year as the All-State Guard Mention plus winning the Silver Football Award. This past year he played backfield where he performed very creditably. In the winter he went out for fencing where he furthered his athletic laurels by defeating his opponents both at West Point and Annapolis, incidentally he is one of those rare three weapon men in this sport. In the spring he quickly added further honor by his work with the baseball team. Academically he stands near the top. Along military lines he rose from a private in three years to be Captain of "D" Co. Their progress has been almost phenomenal and much is due to his work with them. When West Point opens the door to him this July he merely takes up where he began three years ago at Augusta. His work there will be merely adding honor upon honor. Good luck, Pal.

Bobby Webb Bowie died on August 22, 2020 at the age of 91. He was born in Galax, Virginia to Dr. Robert C. Bowie and Pearle Webb Bowie.

At the age of 12, Bobby was a page in the Senate of Virginia while his father served in the state legislature. He graduated from prep school at Augusta Military Academy and received an engineering degree from North Carolina State University. After retiring, he moved to St. Simons Island, Georgia, where he lived for thirty years before his death in a Brunswick, Georgia hospital.

As a distinguished fighter pilot in the Air Force, he was among the first to break the sound barrier and won the world championship for gunnery. He later had a career in the paperboard industry that took him and his family across the country, living in Ohio, Virginia, New York and Connecticut before retiring as an Executive Vice President of Federal Paperboard in Ridgefield, Connecticut.

Throughout his life until he had health issues he was an active philanthropist, making generous donations every year to numerous charities. He was on the board of directors for MAP International, an international charity that provides medicine and health care to people in need. He was an active member of the Community Church in St. Simons, GA.

With his natural athletic ability, Bobby excelled in sports and was inducted into the football hall of fame at Augusta Military Academy and Campbell University. In his adult life, he was an avid tennis player, skier, and golfer. Between activities, Bobby always enjoyed good meals with family and friends.

Bobby is survived by his wife Elizabeth Porter Bowie, his brother Jimmy Bowie, his sons Webb and Timothy Bowie, his daughters Anne Cornejo and Brooke O'Hare, and his three grandchildren.

Bobby was predeceased by his first and second wives Anne Cather Bowie and Lucille Stanley Bowie, his parents Robert and Pearle Bowie, and his sister Betsy Ballard.

Edo Miller Funeral Home is serving the family. When it is safe to do so, there will be a service for family and friends, details to be developed. A graveside service for the family will occur in Felts Cemetery, Galax, Virginia.

