



Edward "Ed" Robinson Jr.

March 13, 1924 - October 15, 2020

Edward Temple Robinson Jr, 96, passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends on October 15, 2020. He was born on March 13, 1924 in Waterloo, Nebraska to Agnes and Edward (Ted) Robinson. Ed graduated from Waterloo High School. He continued his education at the University of Colorado, the University of Nebraska and UNO.

Ed joined his family seed business, JC Robinson Seed Company, after the death of his father and led the operation as President for 55 years. He also served as President of Golden Harvest Seeds. In 1972 Ed was instrumental in the inception of the Golden Harvest Seed brand, which continues today. He was president of the corn & sorghum division of the American Seed Trade Association. Aksarben recognized Ed as Agriculture Man of the Year in 2001 and he was a member of the Elkhorn Masonic Lodge, where he received his 70 year pin.

Ed met the love of his life, Donna Deffenbaugh, on a Missouri River barge. They were married in 1946 and had 4 children. He imparted the love of camping, boating and many other family activities to them. Ed was a man of many talents and hobbies. He enjoyed photography, lapidary work, cooking, grilling, gardening, hunting, fishing, and boating (especially deep sea adventures on the Sea of Cortez). He was a collector and supporter of art and was a friend to many people. Ed had a deep appreciation of Native American

culture and art. He cared about the needs of others and has been involved in many philanthropic endeavors over the years.

Ed will be greatly missed by his children: Doug (Gina) Robinson of Omaha, NE; Sara (Gil) Ziff of New York City, NY; Sandra (Marty) Blount of West Des Moines, IA; and Edward III-Rob (Cheryl) Robinson of Omaha, NE. He is also survived by his grandchildren; Andy Robinson, Zoe Ziff, Stefan Ziff, Amanda McCurnin, Marty Blount, Ted Blount, Laurel Robinson, Jim Robinson, Scott Robinson, and Matt Robinson. He has 14 great-grandchildren and 1 great-greatgrandchild. Ed was preceded in death by his wife, Donna; his sister, Carol McLean; and his parents, Agnes & Ted Robinson.

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff at Fremont Home Instead, Teresa Mohon, John Groh & Hospice of the Midwest who showed great care and compassion with Ed and we could not be more grateful. Memorials gifts may be sent to the Agnes Robinson Waterloo Public Library, 23704 Cedar Drive, Waterloo, NE 68069.

Cemetery Details

Prospect Hill Cemetery

21907 West Maple Road
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Previous Events

Funeral Service

OCT **22**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Reichmuth Funeral Home - Omaha / Elkhorn
21901 W. Maple Rd.
P.O. Box 711
Elkhorn, NE 68022
402-289-2222
services@reichmuthfuneralhomes.com
<https://www.reichmuthfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Reichmuth Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Edward "Ed" Robinson Jr.*



Reichmuth Funeral Home - October 21, 2020 at 10:18 AM

RM

As we watched from Tasmania, we are thankful we could be part of this truly beautiful ceremony. Our love and warm wishes to all our family and friends at this sad and special time. Gone but never forgotten - a very special man who touched so many lives and enriched them. Robin and Nick XXXX

Robin McLean - October 22, 2020 at 12:13 PM

DL

Absolutely beautiful ceremony for someone so deserving. Ed touched our family in too many ways to mention. He was a man I remember admiring from the earliest of my youth, which would've stemmed from the admiration my parents had for him. It's not enough to say "he will be missed" as, without him, there will forever be a part missing from Waterloo.

Denise (Graf) Lasiter

Denise Lasiter - November 19, 2020 at 04:08 PM



“ *Edward "Ed" Robinson Jr.*

December 10, 2022 at 09:12 AM

JM

“ Ed Robinson and his family played a huge role in the course of my life, as well as that of my own family as well. We will always be grateful for the opportunities, memories, and relationships that grew from being part of the Ed Robinson group of 'Family Seedsmen, Still in Touch with the Land". God Bless and Keep! -Jim & Rhonda Martin

Jim Martin - October 27, 2020 at 11:48 AM

GM

“ My thoughts and prayers are with Ed's family. I have started to write something here several times these past few days. But my attempts to place honor and respect to this great, kind man and leader don't seem adequate. Let me just say, like everyone else here, my family and I over several generations have been so impacted by Ed (and all of the Robinson family) in so many positive ways. Ed impacted everyone around him. The part of his example I saw as an employee carries on in Doug and Rob. Another example of a great man at work. It was a great privilege to be part of the Golden Harvest "family". The Robinson culture has been the absolute highlight of my working years by far. You are missed. But your impact lives on.

Guy Mockelman

Guy Mockelman - October 22, 2020 at 11:22 AM

SC

“ My deepest condolences to the family, Doug, Sandy, Sally/Sara, and Rob. The memories I have of Ed and Donna are quite old but all fond. They were always warm and welcoming to me when we were neighbors in the late 60s/early 70s. Detassling, making homecoming floats in the warehouse, and visiting at the 'cabin' are but a few. May the family take solace in knowing he lived a long and meaningful life and left behind a loving legacy. Bless you all.

*Susan Fleming Cerbone
Waterloo Class of '74*

Susan Fleming Cerbone - October 21, 2020 at 09:02 PM

KR

“ I was so sad to hear of Ed's passing. I truly enjoyed working with him the last few years. He will be missed.

Kristi booth

Kristi - October 21, 2020 at 04:10 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Edward "Ed" Robinson Jr..



October 21, 2020 at 03:32 PM

AB

“ Sorry for your loss. Alvin so liked working for you. Many friends because of Golden Harvest

Audrey Braun - October 21, 2020 at 12:36 PM

JS

“ It is with fond memories that I recall the friendship and enjoyable times that I had with Ed. He was a man who loved his family, friends and hometown. He was also an innovative seedsman.

JAMES SHEARL - October 20, 2020 at 03:40 PM

KC

“ Ed your smiling face will be missed dearly at the airport. I have really enjoyed working with you. I will try to catch a grouper for you soon.
Kenneth Cox

Kenneth Cox - October 20, 2020 at 10:19 AM

KC

“ Kenneth, Sri & Jennalee Cox purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Edward "Ed" Robinson Jr..



Kenneth, Sri & Jennalee Cox - October 20, 2020 at 10:15 AM

FK

“ From Fred Weiner and Diana Knag purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Edward "Ed" Robinson Jr..



From Fred Weiner and Diana Knag - October 20, 2020 at 03:06 AM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Edward "Ed" Robinson Jr..*



October 19, 2020 at 12:53 PM



“ *We send our sympathy to Doug, Rob and families on your Dad's passing We will always remember how happy he made us feel with our accomplishments. We were very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with him. Golden Harvest will be a part of our family having worked there. Prayer and blessings to your families. Ed and Ruth Germscheid*

Ed and Ruth Germscheid - October 18, 2020 at 04:51 PM



“ *We will really miss Ed. He was one of a kind. We loved his stories and hearing about his adventures. We will always fondly remember the amazing corn he brought us still warm from the field and the beautiful peonies he gave me once. We will remember him as the twinkly young man in the the photo of him on the population sign in Waterloo after the flood when he was 17 and the older Ed who never stopped being a mover and a shaker. Our condolences to the Robinson family. Suzy and Ian Crabb*

Suzy and Ian Crabb - October 17, 2020 at 01:01 PM

RS

“ I have so many memories of Ed Robinson that I could fill a book. First, and foremost, Ed has served as an amazing boss, friend, and mentor, to my family for nearly a century. It began with my grandfather, Burt Sell, in the 1930's and has continued throughout four generations of our family. Ed has left a legacy of love to rural America and beyond that will never be forgotten. His love for the family farm and for production agriculture knew no bounds. He generously shared whatever God gave to him for as long as I can remember. My wife, Betty, and I so enjoyed visiting Ed at his cabin in Minnesota as well as the time we had with him throughout the years at business gatherings throughout this country and even beyond. Thank you, Ed, for all that you have done for me and my family. We pray God's amazing grace upon your beautiful family at this very sad time. Rolan Sell

Rolan Sell - October 17, 2020 at 10:57 AM

SM

We have such wonderful, cherished memories of the warmth, humour, and humanity shared with our Uncle Ed, Aunt Donna and their children over the decades in Nebraska. We will greatly miss our Uncle Ed, who always lived life to the fullest. We share our fond memories and send our prayers to Doug, Sandy, Sara, Robbie and their families from Ed's sister Carol's children, grandchildren and great grandchildren in Australia.

Steve & Susie, James, Julia & Jacquie McLean, Adelaide South Australia

Steve McLean - October 22, 2020 at 07:12 AM



Thanks for sharing the service and tribute to Ed online. I can only imagine he is already entertaining the heavens with some stories. Ed's perspectives and passions are contagious and will live on in so many of us. May God's grace and mercy bless his entire family.

Ron Wulfkuhle - October 22, 2020 at 12:13 PM

RS

Betty and I just finished watching Ed's Memorial Service on line (doggone old covid!). What a fitting service by his marvelous children and family members! We both thought the song, "I Did it My Way" was so appropriate for him. He had a very unique way of doing things which sometimes went against the "normal" way but they always led to success. I told you in my card how much Ed meant to me and my family for the past four generations and we are so thankful that he was in our lives. We have been blessed beyond measure by knowing Ed Robinson. May God bless each and every one of you today, tomorrow, and forever as you resume your earthly journey without him. All our love and prayers. Rolan & Betty Sell

Rolan Sell - October 22, 2020 at 12:16 PM

RU

*This was such a beautiful service, a heartfelt and personal tribute to your Dad. We've been sharing our own stories here as the joys of knowing Ed washes over us. So lucky to have been a part of Golden Harvest and that came with a feeling that we were part of your truly special family. Our trips to Waterloo felt like we had entered a special world, like a "Robinson" Camelot filled with excitement, love and fun... with Ed as the patriarch. Sending our virtual hugs and positive thoughts to you all until we can share them in person.
With love, Bob and Barbara Unell*

Robert and Barbara Unell - October 22, 2020 at 12:56 PM