

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Of

M.: W.: Sam Roberts Grand Master of Washington 2014-2015

Youth

Sam was born at the end of the Baby Boomer era in the State of Alabama. He grew up on a beef and dairy farm in a part of the country where regard for tradition is practically ingrained and where respect and obedience to your elders was not just expected, but demanded. This was in that time when responsibility and accomplishment earned more responsibility, privilege and independence. Respectability was defined by your actions, your appearance and your character. Your own success and the welfare of others depended on doing what was morally and socially right.

Sam's elementary school class was the largest in the history of the Uniontown School at 36 students. There was a sojourn to Marion Military Institute for several years, until the family moved into 'town'. After high school (A.G. Parrish, Selma, AL) Sam went Navy (ATR-2) for experience and maturity. He returned to college after mustering out of the Navy and graduated from the University of Montevallo. He is a Life Member of Alpha Kappa Psi, a professional business Fraternity.

Manhood

Sam began his career in the business machines industry, first for Burroughs Corporation as a Service Technician working out of the Mobile, Alabama branch office. Obtaining a Broker's License he made a foray into real estate and insurance, where he met and married Vickie - through an introduction from his mother. They do not keep track of the number of years of married bliss. They just look forward to the next one to follow and all those that are past. There are three children (assorted) and all of whom are married (scattered), spreading five grandchildren among them. Sam and Vickie have lived in three different states, but find that Washington suits them best. From Alabama, there was the move to Dayton, Ohio where he worked as a manager for the NCR Corporation until 1995. It was in Dayton that Sam was Initiated, Passed and Raised in 1982 by Miami Valley Lodge, No. 660; M.: W.: Grand Lodge of F.&A.M. of Ohio. He served that Lodge as Master in 1986-1987 and Secretary from 1989 to 1995. He maintains his York Rite membership in Victory Chapter No. 210 and Reese Council No. 9, Dayton. His Scottish Rite membership is in the Valley of Dayton, Northern Jurisdiction.

Economics and employment led to a move to Washington in 1996, where Sam took plural membership in Everett Lodge, No. 137, Everett, Washington and served as Worshipful Master in 2005, followed by another tour as Lodge Secretary. Sam also has membership in Lodge Alba Lodge, No. 315, Skykomish Lodge, No. 259, Nooksack Valley Lodge, No. 105, Grand Mound Historic Lodge, No. 3 and Nile Shrine in addition to a number of other Concordant and Appendant Masonic bodies and clubs. He has been appointed to several Grand Lodge Committees: Deputy of the Grand Master for District 8 (10 Lodges), Grand Orator, and Grand Lecturer. He was elected as Senior Grand Warden in 2012 due to the unfortunate and untimely passing of RWB Jerald "Jerry" K. Lingle. The Brethren saw fit to elect Sam as Deputy Grand Master in 2013 and as Grand Master for the Grand Jurisdiction of Washington in 2014-2015.

Age

Sam retired from The Boeing Company as a Senior Project Manager in 2013. For hobbies, he is partial to things with four wheels that go fast, eight or more cylinders with lots of horsepower and make a loud noise for a quarter of a mile. Do not ask about the red 1930 Model 'A' Ford 5 window coupe unless you have lots of time.

For Sam, restraint is the first lesson learned as Grand Master. He considers the most valuable skill for any man, from Mason to Grand Master, to have the ability to listen. Wrongs can be righted, differences can be understood and even tolerated and astounding advancement can be made, if only we truly listen to each other. Listening requires patience, tolerance and compassion.

Personal circumspection and moral introspection are defined by our Masonic obligations, which we too often overlook or forget. Anything worth doing is worth doing well, hence value is created from effort...

and effort is ***dedication*** in its truest form. Thus the watch words are communication, obligation, and dedication and are exemplified by his motto: Freemasonry. Every day - Every way.