



Robert Morgan Coleman

November 17, 1933 - October 13, 2024

Robert Morgan Coleman, 90, of Travelers Rest, SC, entered his heavenly home on October 13, 2024. Born in Travelers Rest, Robert was the husband of his wife of 70 years, Elizabeth "Lib" Coleman. He is survived by his daughters, Deborah Batson (Dennis) and Nancy Plumblee (Jeff), and his son, Bobby Coleman. He is also survived by his grandchildren, Scotty Batson, Stacie Stegall (Rusty), Sandi Sternburg (James), Sara Howard (Aaron), Nichole Livengood, Jeff Plumblee, II (Leah), Ashley Hanks (Tom), Brooke Coleman, Alexis Barton, and 16 great grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joe and Ruth Coleman; his sister, JoAnn Coleman; and his son, Henry Coleman.

From a young age, Robert's passion for electronics was evident. As a Boy Scout, he learned Morse code, igniting a fascination with technology that would shape his life. Much to his mother's dismay, as a teenager his curiosity led him to disassemble the family's new television, which he successfully reassembled. Another of his teenage feats was building a receiving station at his childhood home capable of picking up signals from the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC). After attending the University of South Carolina, Robert returned home to pursue his passion for electronics.

A true pioneer, Robert often drew intricate plans for his own printed electronic circuit boards, which he designed and used in many of his projects. In the 1960s, he constructed a large satellite antenna in his front yard, allowing him to receive signals from astronauts as they orbited the Earth—an extraordinary

accomplishment for the time. He was also one of the early innovators in the home satellite television industry, building one of the first satellite receiving systems. Robert was a charter member of the Society of Private and Commercial Earth Stations (SPACE), contributing to advancements in satellite communications technology. His forward-thinking designs and innovations truly helped to bridge the gap between early technology and the sophisticated systems we enjoy now.

Throughout his career, Robert maintained radio systems for businesses across Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. He served as Chief Engineer for several radio and television stations and was known for his willingness to scale towers to install critical antennas. Alongside his wife, Lib, Robert co-founded the first cable television company in Travelers Rest. Their company would later be sold and merged into what is now one of the leading cable providers in the Upstate and beyond.

Robert was a man of vision and innovation beyond his professional work. He played an instrumental role in organizing the North Greenville Volunteer Fire Department and served as one of its earliest Fire Chiefs. He was honored to be appointed by the governor of South Carolina as Fire Commissioner, dedicating his time and expertise to public safety. He was a Scoutmaster, guiding young scouts on their own journeys of growth and learning. Robert was an Amateur Radio Operator (K4AWB). He was a member of the South Carolina Baptist Disaster Relief Organization, where he set up communications during times of disaster. He developed the Pleasant Valley subdivision in Travelers Rest, helping shape the future of his hometown community. He was a member of Foothills Baptist Church in Travelers Rest. Though Robert's career achievements were numerous, his greatest accomplishment was his family, including his four children, nine grandchildren, and sixteen great-grandchildren. He also valued the time spent with his many nieces, nephews, and cousins, always looking forward to family gatherings. The family will receive friends Tuesday evening from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at The Howze Mortuary.

Funeral services will be 3:00 p.m. Wednesday at Foothills Baptist Church.
Burial to follow at Enoree Baptist Church Cemetery. Pallbearers will be Scotty
Batson, Jeff Plumblee, II, Rusty Stegall, James Sternberg, Aaron Howard, Jim
Morgan, Dan Lindsey, and Bob Miller.
The family will be at the home.

Cemetery Details

Enoree Baptist Church Cemetery

881 Tigerville Road
Travelers Rest, SC 29690
(864) 834-8051

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **15**. 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

The Howze Mortuary
6714 State Park Rd./P.O. Box 369
Travelers Rest, SC

Funeral Service

OCT **16**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Foothills Baptist Church
1204 N. Highway 25
Travelers Rest, SC

Tribute Wall

MS

“ *Deborah, Dennis & family, we just heard about your father & our hearts go out to all of you during this time of sorrow. May the Lord guide you during the days ahead. Love & miss y'all!*
Mark & Teresa Shivers

Mark & Teresa Shivers - October 30, 2024 at 08:58 PM

JH

“ *May God continue to comfort your family. Prayers for Lib. Many fond memories of all the good times we had years ago. Love to you all. Jonell Thacker Hart.*



Jonell Hart - October 18, 2024 at 09:44 AM

CL

Thanks JoNell, would love to see you!

Coleman, Lib - October 20, 2024 at 10:45 PM

 Heidi Glenn-Woods

“ *I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your father. May you feel the strength and comfort of our Heavenly Father during this time.*
Heidi Glenn- Woods



Heidi Glenn-Woods - October 16, 2024 at 05:24 PM

CL

Thank you, honey!

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:33 PM

PH

“ *Pat Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Robert Coleman*



Pat Hawkins - October 15, 2024 at 05:45 PM

CL

Thank you, Pat.

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:35 PM

JH

“ *My condolences to the entire Coleman family*

John Hart - October 15, 2024 at 05:28 PM

CL

Thank you honey

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:36 PM

ST

“ *Sammie Tate lit a candle in memory of Robert Coleman*



Sammie Tate - October 15, 2024 at 12:15 PM

CL

Thank you Samme.

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:37 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Robert Morgan Coleman.*



October 15, 2024 at 11:46 AM



“ *I am saddened to note the passing of Bob. I met Bob many years ago when he was attending the amateur radio luncheons of the Old Friends Net. I had many pleasant conversations with Bob. He was a delight to talk to as he was such a knowledgeable man, and always had a friendly disposition. He was a man that didn't mind helping you and would always go out of his way to pass along knowledge that was of help to you. I wanted to pass along my condolences to his family, and say, you have lost a remarkable man! He will be missed, and a man of his caliber is hard to find....May he rest in peace, and carry on some amateur radio conversations in heaven. We will miss you Bob!*

Marvin W. Beach/N4NY - October 15, 2024 at 09:25 AM



Thank you Marvin for your remarks about Robert. He will truly be

Lib - October 17, 2024 at 09:32 PM



missed.

Lib - October 17, 2024 at 09:37 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Robert Morgan Coleman.*



October 14, 2024 at 10:15 PM



“ *Country Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Robert Coleman*



Country Hawkins - October 14, 2024 at 07:07 PM



Thank you!

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 09:51 PM



“ *Pat Hawkins lit a candle in memory of Robert Coleman*



Pat Hawkins - October 14, 2024 at 05:48 PM



Thank you Pat!

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:39 PM

JA

“ Prayers for the family



judy Alford - October 14, 2024 at 05:38 PM

CL

Thank you Judy!

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:40 PM

SC

“ I appreciate this family so much. I am praying for all of you during these difficult days.

Steve Crouse - October 14, 2024 at 05:34 PM

LI

Thanks Steve. Still miss you leading choir!

Lib - October 15, 2024 at 11:28 PM

RA

“ Rebecca & Paul Usher, Ric & Linda Allred purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Robert Morgan Coleman.



Rebecca & Paul Usher, Ric & Linda Allred - October 14, 2024 at 04:56 PM

LP

“ Praying for the family.

Larry&Joretta Pena - October 14, 2024 at 04:19 PM

CL

Thank you for the prayers, this will be a big adjustment for me.

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:43 PM

GF

“ *I am so sorry to hear about my hamradio buddy! Robert was an electronic genius...and that description was by Dr. Tom Goldsmith who was a pioneer in the development of television with the DuMont labs. Robert and I set up amateur TV stations in our homes in the 70's to communicate with one another. Dr. Goldsmith heard about it and that's how we became acquainted with him. When Dr. Goldsmith retired he moved back to Travelers Rest. He was fascinated with Robert's developments in the new Satellite TV industry. Particularly in the development of Low Noise Amplifiers (LNA)!!! I shall miss Robert! Glenn Farr N4AK*

Glenn Farr - October 14, 2024 at 02:42 PM

CL

Thank you Glen. He will truly be missed.

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:44 PM

CL

Opps! I left off an "n" and it won't let me correct my mistake.

Coleman, Lib - October 26, 2024 at 05:47 PM

BA

“ *But he had both. :) Elissa Arnold purchased the D reams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Robert Morgan Coleman.*



But he had both. :) Elissa Arnold - October 14, 2024 at 01:05 PM

YC

“ *Your Nieces and Nephew - Cynthia Cook Clinard, Isabelle Cook Mize & Douglas Cook planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert Morgan Coleman.*

Your Nieces and Nephew - Cynthia Cook Clinard, Isabelle Cook Mize & Douglas Cook - October 14, 2024 at 12:43 PM