

Robert Johannes Chassell



1946 - 2017

Memorial Service

Prelude and Silent Meditation.....Elliot Ringwald
Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659, J. S. Bach

Welcome.....Lois Rose
Hymn: Morning Has Broken

First Reading.....Lois Rose
Hymn: If I Had A Hammer

Second Reading.....Lois Rose
Guitar Solo.....Rich Hayes
I Will Be Released

Third Reading.....Lois Rose
Organ Solo.....Elliot Ringwald
I Remember Clifford, Benny Golson

Eulogy.....Fred Ringwald
Remembrances

Hymn: Lift Every Voice and Sing

Final Reading.....Lois Rose
Hymn: When The Saints Go Marching In

Benediction.....Lois Rose
Postlude.....Elliot Ringwald
Toccatà from Symphonie No.1, Op.36, Rachel Laurin

Bob was born in Bennington, VT on August 22, 1946, and was a lifelong resident of the Berkshires. He died on June 30, 2017, of a rare neurological disorder, progressive supranuclear palsy (PSP). He was the eldest child of Joseph O. Chassell (1900 – 1981) and Margot Rasch Chassell (1911 – 1996)). He is survived by his sister, Karen Chassell Ringwald,

He read economics at Peterhouse College, Cambridge University, in Cambridge, England (receiving the equivalent of a Master's Degree in Economics). Bob was an avid private pilot, and owned his own Cessna Skyhawk until his illness ended his ability to fly.

Bob was one of the founding directors of Free Software Foundation (FSF) in 1985. While on the Board of Directors, Bob was also the treasurer for FSF for about ten years, and left the FSF to become an international speaker on free software topics for several years. Bob authored a number of books which are listed or linked on his Wikipedia page along with information about his life at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_J._Chassell

Collected memories and tributes to Bob, as well as photographs of Bob can be found and downloaded from:

<http://www.ringwald.org/>

We are asking that in lieu of flowers, that donations be made in Bob's name to HospiceCare In the Berkshires; 877 South Street; Pittsfield, MA 01201.

Bob's sister and family would like to thank everyone for coming to celebrate the life of Robert Chassell

We would also like to thank:

Rev. Lois Rose

Rich Hayes

The First Congregational Church of Stockbridge