



Zebedee “Zeb” Cobbs (1950–2026)

PREAMBLE

Zebedee "Zeb" Cobbs was born in 1950 in Galveston, Texas, and passed away peacefully on February 11, 2026, at the age of 75 in Everett, Washington. He lived a life marked by dedication to family, service to his country, a thriving career as a barber, deep faith, and extensive community involvement.

Zeb was born and raised in Galveston, Texas, where he developed a strong work ethic and sense of community that defined his later years. After high school, he served honorably in the United States Navy. His military service brought him to Washington State, where he eventually settled.

In 1972, Zeb married Betty Cobbs, beginning a 51-year partnership filled with love and mutual support. Betty, a trailblazing educator, became Everett's first Black principal and served the Everett Public Schools for 51 years before retiring in 2023. Zeb often credited her as his greatest inspiration, and their bond was a cornerstone of his life.

Zeb was a devoted father to two sons: Zebulun and Zachary. He took immense pride in his family, often sharing stories of their achievements. His four grandsons brought him endless joy, and he cherished being a grandfather.

Zeb was a master barber for over five decades, owning and operating Zebedee's Barbershop at 2020 Madison Street in Everett, WA. The shop, which he ran until his retirement in 2023, was more than a business—it was a community hub where people gathered for conversations, advice, and camaraderie. Clients described it as a place of warmth and trust, reflecting Zeb's approachable and kind nature.

As a small business owner, he built lasting relationships, often serving multiple generations of families. His shop was a fixture in Everett, symbolizing his entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to his adopted hometown.

Zeb was a long-standing member and deacon at the Second Baptist Church in Everett. His faith was unwavering, even as health challenges limited his physical participation in

later years. He found solace and purpose in his spiritual life, often leading by example in service and devotion.

Zeb was an active member of our club for nearly 29 years, embodying the club's motto of "Service Above Self." He actively participated in events, fundraisers, and initiatives that benefited Everett. Tributes from club members note his infectious enthusiasm, such as celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, and community milestones.

Described as a "loving husband, devoted father and grandfather, proud Navy veteran, and Rotarian," Zeb was known for his humility, kindness, and steadfastness. Even in illness, he remained positive and faith-filled. His life was one of quiet, positive influence.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Zeb Cobbs was a respected businessman, community leader, and lifelong Everett resident whose dedication strengthened the fabric of our city; and

WHEREAS, Zeb Cobbs devoted more nearly three decades to the Rotary Club of Everett while personifying Rotary's ideal of *Service Above Self*; and

WHEREAS, Zeb Cobbs gave extraordinary service through his work with the Second Baptist Church of Everett to help improve the lives of others; and

WHEREAS, Zeb Cobbs built Zebedee's Barbershop into a cherished local business that reflected his generosity, creativity, and belief in community; and

WHEREAS, Zeb Cobbs was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend, whose warmth, humor, and optimism enriched all who knew him; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Rotary President Kelli Thode be charged with placing a copy of this Resolution in the hands of Zeb's family so they may know of both the high esteem in which we hold Zeb and the great fondness in our hearts for his memory.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the Rotary Club of Everett, united here together, observe a moment of silence in honor of our departed friend Zeb Cobbs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I affix my hand this ____ Day of _____, _____:

Robert Bavasi, Everett Rotary Resolutions Chair

ATTEST

Kelli Thode, Everett Rotary President

Neil Angst, Everett Rotary Secretary