

Pre-publication draft of a developing and pending report planned for MHProNews on the topics as shown to be submitted to third-party artificial intelligence (AI) for facts-evidence-analysis checks.

"Death Sentence" Two Days Before Christmas. "I'm not going down without a fight" 'Moments of True Clarity are Too Rare in Our Distracted Lives.' Ex-Senator Bares Soul by Confessing Fate. FEA

This [facts-evidence-analysis](#) (FEA) [MHProNews](#) article is **not** going to be a whitewash of former Senator Ben Sasse (NE-R) just because he has made a moving 'deathbed' statement about Jesus and his hope for salvation. Thousands have died in the cities and towns streets of Iran, hoping for freedom from a truly tyrannical regime. Thousands to millions have died in places like Nigeria, Uganda, Rwanda, Sudan, or elsewhere in Africa as militant Muslims or others killed, maimed, and raped Christians and those who were deemed 'not part of their tribe.' People are having their lives cut short in the Western World due to corruption and manipulation of health or housing. Communists and 'ex-communists' are killing their enemies as gleefully today as they, National Socialists (Nazis), Corporatists (Fascists), and Marxists did in the 20th century. So, one subject raised by ex-Senator Sasse isn't how people die, but that all of us do die, for better or for worse. We all die richer or poorer. On those points, the deathbed declaration of Ben Sasse is relevant to us all.

According to [left](#)-leaning Google's [artificial intelligence](#) (AI) powered [overview](#) is the following about Sasse.

Based on the available search results, there are no direct, documented ties between former U.S. Senator and University of Florida President Ben Sasse and the mobile or manufactured housing industry.

- **Career Focus:** Sasse's career has focused on academia (President of Midland University, President of the University of Florida), politics (U.S. Senator for Nebraska, 2015–2023), and consulting.
- **Senate Committees:** During his time in the Senate, he served on committees related to finance, intelligence, the budget, and the judiciary, but he was not a member of the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee.
- **Legislative Record:** There is no evidence in the provided search results linking him to specific legislation regarding manufactured housing, mobile home zoning, or manufactured housing financing.
- **Other Ties:** A search for "Sasse" and "Manufactured Home Residents Collective" brought up an unrelated individual named Lilly Sasse, not former Senator Ben Sasse.

While Sasse has made comments regarding the decline of traditional manufacturing jobs, this was in the context of education and not specific to the manufactured housing industry.

There are obviously thousands of people who have worked in manufactured housing that have died. Barring divine intervention or 'the end of time' coming first, everyone on Planet Earth today, some 8 billion souls, will at some point die. So, there are reasonable reasons to consider editor Tyler O'Neil's reflections on Sasse's statement. Part I provides the [right](#)-leaning [Daily Signal](#)'s commentary by O'Neil. Part II provides the full text of Senator Sasse's message.

Part I

Commentary

Ben Sasse's Powerful Deathbed Testimony

[Tyler O'Neil](#) | January 17, 2026

Moments of true clarity are all too rare in our pampered, distracted lives.

We seek endless entertainment, filling our days with buzz, gossip, sports, [and movies](#) to avoid the inevitable truth: we are all going to die.

Unlike our ancestors, we don't witness death constantly. We don't even consider how lucky we are to have escaped what they faced—infant mortality, death in childbirth, more frequent wars, and ever-present disease and poverty.

So, when someone like former [Republican Senator Ben Sasse](#) announces that he's been diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer, it puts us face to face with our own mortality.

Sasse, at 53, had to tell his parents that they'll probably be burying their son. He had to tell his daughters that he won't be there to walk them down the aisle. Then, he gave the world this news—and he also gave the reason for a hope that is in him.

We All Have a Death Sentence

"Advanced pancreatic is nasty stuff; it's a death sentence," he wrote. "But I already had a death sentence before last week too — we all do."

Even insulated from the constant experience of death as we are, we know that death is coming. It's nearly impossible to watch the news without hearing of death: the death of Renee Nicole Good, the death of Scott Adams, the death of [31-year-old Charlie Kirk](#)—who left a wife and two very young children.

Each death is a tragedy, but each death also presents an opportunity for us to learn.

When my time comes, I pray I have the courage and faith to face death like Ben Sasse.

Ben Sasse's Courage and Hope

Sasse announced his "death sentence" two days before Christmas, and he said the season of Advent was a fitting time to do so.

Why? Because Advent isn't just the four weeks [leading up to Christmas](#), it's also a time for Christians to look forward with anticipation to the Second Coming of Jesus. It's a time to "orient our hearts toward the hope of what's to come."

For those who don't know, Jesus promised that he would return to earth from heaven, that the dead would be raised, and that those who accept his gospel would enjoy a new kind of life, where every tear will be wiped away. [Christians don't earn](#) this eternal salvation—it's only available for us because Jesus himself paid the penalty for our sins, and God calls us to follow him, to love others and die to ourselves.

Sasse rightly noted that this isn't some "abstract hope in fanciful human goodness," or a "Hallmark-sappy spirituality," or even a reliance on our own strength.

It's a "stiffer" hope, the hope of those walking in darkness who have seen a light off in the distance. It's the hope of God telling Abraham that he will give his descendants the land of Israel—after they spend 400 years in Egypt. It's the hope of God telling the Israelites in Babylon that they'll be able to return home—after 70 years in exile. It's the masculine hope that gives us strength to hold out amid tribulation, because the destination is worth the journey.

Sasse said it's the kind of hope you shout "often properly with a gravelly voice soldiering through tears."

This hope "doesn't dull the pain of current sufferings," but it does put them in a new perspective.

None of this means Sasse—who attended Harvard as a wrestling recruit—is just going to throw in the towel.

"I'm not going down without a fight," the former senator writes. "One sub-part of God's grace is found in the jawdropping advances science has made the past few years ... Death and dying aren't the same — the process of dying is still something to be lived."

Sasse viscerally feels the pain of losing the muscle he was so proud to have put on as a youth. His body is breaking down, but he isn't giving up his fighting spirit.

Most importantly, he's using the last few public messages of his life to share something important with the world. His hope isn't found on earth, but in the promises of Jesus. Ben Sasse may not be able to stop the decay of his body, but he can encourage us to take hold of the thing that gives him the most important hope.

Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, but I tell you a mystery: this mortal body will put on immortality. Though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God.

We work hard to distract ourselves, but the truth of our mortality will break through, sooner or later. Is there a reason for this kind of hope within you? I pray that there is.

Friends-

This is a tough note to write, but since a bunch of you have started to suspect something, I'll cut to the chase: Last week I was diagnosed with metastasized, stage-four pancreatic cancer, and am gonna die.

Advanced pancreatic is nasty stuff; it's a death sentence....

— Ben Sasse (@BenSasse) [December 23, 2025](#)

Part II. From former Senator Ben Sasse's X-post, quoted in Part I.

Friends-

This is a tough note to write, but since a bunch of you have started to suspect something, I'll cut to the chase: Last week I was diagnosed with metastasized, stage-four pancreatic cancer, and am gonna die.

Advanced pancreatic is nasty stuff; it's a death sentence. But I already had a death sentence before last week too — we all do.

I'm blessed with amazing siblings and half-a-dozen buddies that are genuinely brothers. As one of them put it, "Sure, you're on the clock, but we're all on the clock." Death is a wicked thief, and the bastard pursues us all.

Still, I've got less time than I'd prefer. This is hard for someone wired to work and build, but harder still as a husband and a dad. I can't begin to describe how great my people are. During the past year, as we'd temporarily stepped back from public life and built new family rhythms, Melissa and I have grown even closer — and that on top of three decades of the best friend a man could ever have. Seven months ago, Corrie was commissioned into the Air Force and she's off at instrument and multi-engine rounds of flight school. Last week, Alex kicked butt graduating from college a semester early even while teaching gen chem, organic, and physics (she's a freak). This summer, 14-year-old Breck started learning to drive. (Okay, we've been driving off-book for six years — but now we've got paper to make it street-legal.) I couldn't be more grateful to constantly get to bear-hug this motley crew of sinners and saints.

There's not a good time to tell your peeps you're now marching to the beat of a faster drummer — but the season of advent isn't the worst. As a Christian, the weeks running up to Christmas are a time to orient our hearts toward the hope of what's to come.

Not an abstract hope in fanciful human goodness; not hope in vague hallmark-sappy spirituality; not a bootstrapped hope in our own strength (what foolishness is the evaporating-muscle I once prided myself in). Nope — often we lazily say "hope" when what we mean is "optimism." To be clear, optimism is great, and it's absolutely necessary, but it's insufficient. It's not the kinda thing that holds up when you tell your daughters you're not going to walk them down the aisle. Nor telling your mom and pops they're gonna bury their son.

A well-lived life demands more reality — stiffer stuff. That's why, during advent, even while still walking in darkness, we shout our hope — often properly with a gravelly voice soldiering through tears.

Such is the calling of the pilgrim. Those who know ourselves to need a Physician should dang well look forward to enduring beauty and eventual fulfillment. That is, we hope in a real Deliverer — a rescuing God, born at a real time, in a real place. But the eternal city — with foundations and without cancer — is not yet.

Remembering Isaiah's prophecies of what's to come doesn't dull the pain of current sufferings. But it does put it in eternity's perspective: "When we've been there 10,000 years...We've no less days to sing God's praise."

I'll have more to say. I'm not going down without a fight. One sub-part of God's grace is found in the jawdropping advances science has made the past few years in immunotherapy and more. Death and dying aren't the same — the process of dying is still something to be lived. We're zealously embracing a lot of gallows humor in our house, and I've pledged to do my part to run through the irreverent tape.

But for now, as our family faces the reality of treatments, but more importantly as we celebrate Christmas, we wish you peace: "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned....For to us a son is given" (Isaiah 9).

With great gratitude, and with gravelly-but-hopeful voices, Ben — and the Sasses

[10:12 AM · Dec 23, 2025](#) | **23.3M** Views

Part III Additional Facts-Evidence-Analysis (FEA) from sources as shown including more MHPNews expert commentary.

In no particular order of importance are the following.

1) A series of X-posts about Ben Sasse.

Ben Sasse is president of the University of Florida and never published a work of scholarship of any sort pic.twitter.com/9sTX7aQMAy

— Sam Haselby (@samhaselby) [December 16, 2023](#)

Ben Sasse

The Nebraska senator handily won reelection in 2020 and is considered a potential contender for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination. He denounced Trump's false claims of widespread electoral fraud and said there was no basis to object Joe Biden's win 2/6 pic.twitter.com/d9PpVGuTYN

— Reuters (@Reuters) [February 9, 2021](#)

🔗 : <https://t.co/dL0TVihTw6>

As the American political scene spun off its axis in recent years, Ben Sasse seemed like a man too sane for his time, [@JimGeraghty](#) writes.

"Thoughtful and immersed in the details of policy, he recognized the limits of the federal government's ability... pic.twitter.com/Pj0XhPNv7M

— Washington Post Opinions (@PostOpinions) [January 10, 2026](#)

Senator Ben Sasse (R - Nebraska) said it beautifully when he complained years ago that Congress had "self-neutered" and completely abdicated its responsibility. If our elected representatives are too afraid to fulfill their duties, RESIGN.

— DCRefugee (@DonnaSitnik) [January 18, 2026](#)

WATCH: Sen. Ben Sasse (R-Neb.) responds to state party attempts to censure him. [@BenSasse](#): "You are welcome to censure me again but let's be clear about why this is happening: It's because I still believe, as you used to, that politics isn't about the weird worship of one dude." pic.twitter.com/jNsm0XoCXC

— Meet the Press (@MeetThePress) [February 7, 2021](#)

The Ben Sasse news is incredibly sad.

He's only 53 years old.

Take a moment to pray for him, but also take a moment to realize everything can be taken from you in a moment.

Let that guide how you live life and treat others.

— LB (@beyondreasdoubt) [December 23, 2025](#)

Former U.S. Senator from Nebraska Ben Sasse has announced that he has been diagnosed with stage 4 pancreatic cancer. A Christian, during his time in the Senate, he consistently voted in support of the unborn. pic.twitter.com/ZNMWrUQ6ir

— Sachin Jose (@Sachinettiyl) [December 23, 2025](#)

"Ben Sasse's Greatest Lesson" - a thoughtful essay by [@dandarling](#) at [@thedispatch](#) today:
<https://t.co/sP034XkEtJ> pic.twitter.com/DybjexveCv

— Nate Swanson   UMUAIL (@njswanson) [January 4, 2026](#)

Here is my message to Ben Sasse and other establishment Republicans who seem to care more about bringing 30,000 unvetted Afghan refugees into our country than getting our own people out safely.
pic.twitter.com/PSfoc2swdC

— JD Vance (@JDVance) [August 23, 2021](#)

Scenes from the Emerson Alumni Hall at the University of Florida, where students are protesting the likely appointment of Republican Nebraska Senator Ben Sasse as the next UF President
pic.twitter.com/4tTM7oVnrZ

— Ethan Eibe (@EibePxP) [October 10, 2022](#)

Ben Sasse is no longer UF president, but the money he spent lingers longer than the man. [#UF #GNV](#)
[#FL #GainesvilleFlorida](#) pic.twitter.com/Fdc2z6yyfh

— CBS4 Gainesville (@mycbs4) [August 15, 2024](#)

Director for the Land Center Daniel Darling on "Ben Sasse's Greatest Lesson." [@thelandcenter](#)
[@dandarling](#) <https://t.co/YhSslllyust> pic.twitter.com/AWRgXI8xOT

— The Land Center (@TheLandCenter) [January 14, 2026](#)

2) According to [left](#)-leaning [MSN](#) and Distractify.

People are asking about former Senator Ben Sasse's net worth following cancer diagnosis

...

Here is Ben Sasse's net worth.

Ben Sasse reportedly has a net worth of approximately \$2.8 million, according to [Open Secrets](#). He was born on Feb. 22, 1972, in Plainview, Nebr. He studied at Harvard University, St. John's College, and Yale University before becoming a senator in 2014. Despite being a Republican, Ben was a critic of President Donald Trump during the 2016 presidential election. He refused to endorse Trump because the real estate mogul failed to denounce the Ku Klux Klan, per [The Washington Post](#).

...

Ben resigned from the Senate in 2023 and was selected as the 13th president of the University of Florida. His salary was reportedly \$1 million per year, and he lives in a home worth approximately \$3 million.

The former senator noted on X that his family and friends have been a great source of support during his illness. Ben is married to Melissa McLeod, and they share three children: Alex, Corrie, and Breck.

"I'm blessed with amazing siblings and half-a-dozen buddies that are genuinely brothers," his post continued. "As one of them put it, 'Sure, you're on the clock, but we're all on the clock.' Death is a wicked thief, and the bastard pursues us all. Still, I've got less time than I'd prefer. This is hard for someone wired to work and build, but harder still as a husband and a dad. I can't begin to describe how great my people are."

Benjamin Eric Sasse

13th President of the University of Florida, former U.S. Senator from Nebraska

\$2.8 million

Birthdate: Feb. 22, 1972

Birthplace: Plainview, Nebr.

Education: Harvard University; Yale University

Spouse: Melissa McLeod

Children: Corrie, Alex, and Breck

Please pray for the former GOP Senator Ben Sasse and his family.

He was just diagnosed with stage 4 Pancreatic cancer. Please pray for him and his wife and children.

🙏🙏🙏 pic.twitter.com/zf42kBOoNa

— "Scoop" Texas 🎉 us 😊 (@VEtFeMaLE) [December 23, 2025](#)

According to [Reuters](#), Ben was one of seven Republicans who voted to convict Trump of inciting the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol. Vice President JD Vance replied to the announcement on [X](#). "I'm very sorry to hear this, Ben. May God bless you and your family."

3) [MHPNews](#) notes that there have been several individuals in or associated with the manufactured housing industry who have been diagnosed and successfully treated with various forms of cancer. Some have lived years beyond their 'battle with cancer.' That noted, according to OncoDaily, which self-describes as

OncoDaily is a specialized oncology news and information platform that provides daily updates on oncology research, treatments, clinical trials...

was the following about Sasse's condition.

Former U.S. Senator Ben Sasse and Stage IV Pancreatic ...



Oncodaily

[> Stories > Celebrities and Cancer](https://oncodaily.com)

Dec 27, 2025 — When all stages are combined, *overall 5-year survival remains in the range of 12–13%*, making pancreatic cancer one of the deadliest solid tumors

4) MHPNews further notes that it can be a curious form of grace to know that someone is facing a life-threatening illness or condition. It offers that soul time 'to prepare' for what is next, in both temporal and spiritual matters. Someone involved in a fatal auto or other accident, or who becomes the victim of a fatal violent crime, or someone in combat or a war zone may have only moments (or no time at all) to prepare for death.

5) In Sasse's situation, per Google's AI, this is his religious affiliation.

Former Senator and University of Florida President Ben Sasse attends **Grace Church**, a Presbyterian Church in America (PCA) congregation in Fremont, Nebraska, though he was raised Missouri Synod Lutheran and identifies as a "Lutero-Calvinist," having embraced Reformed theology.

- **Denomination:** Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).
- **Location:** Fremont, Nebraska.
- **Background:** He grew up Lutheran but became theologically Reformed and joined the PCA church, marrying his faith to Lutheran traditions.

6)

7)