



William Arthur Tilton

May 20, 1954 - August 16, 2024

William (Bill) Arthur Tilton, age 70 of Allen TX, went to be with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ early Friday morning August 16th, 2024. He passed away at home surrounded by his loving family. His wife, three children and his very devoted German Shephard Rodeo.

He graduated Denison High School in May 1972. He attended Grayson County College studying Law Enforcement. During his school years Bill was an exceedingly popular, handsome, all-around great student and person. He was Who's Who Among American High School Students 1970-1971. He served Student Council VP, Key Club, The American Legion Boys state delegate and elected Senior Captain to the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He was an avid athlete running track, hurdles, football, and pole vaulting. In 1968 in 8th grade Bill gave Hughes Jr High its only first place pole vaulting win, and he repeated that the following year in 9th grade. In addition, he loved motorcycle riding whether that was a race of flat track dirt biking or a casual ride on his street bike. His motorcycle awards were from his Enduro races. Placing third in state at one point.

He was born on May 20th, 1954, in Ipswich Suffolk England to Chief Master Sergeant Ellis E & Dixie Carr Tilton.

Growing up in Denison Texas, he attended Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

and gave his life to Christ at the age of 12.

He married Carolyn Denise Holcomb April 25th, 1984, at the home of his Brother Rev Byron Tilton who officiated the ceremony and his wife Sharon who hosted the small event.

They raised three children together Erica Nichole, Erin Michelle and Tyler Andrew. The girls gave them four grandsons Jacob Andrew, Dylan Scott, Curtis James, and Porter Hayes.

Bill and Denise lived in Denison Texas for the first year of marriage. He worked baling hay as a kid, working at KFC, Piggly Wiggly then at Kroger for 12 years. He applied for a law enforcement job with Garland Police Department, served 26 years until his retirement in 2011. He was awarded multiple honors throughout his career. After moving to Garland in 1985 he became a member New Liberty Baptist Church until his passing.

During the time he worked at Kroger he applied to the Dallas Police Department. Once approved, he went for his physical, shortly after was diagnosed with cancer. Then in 1985 moved to Garland to begin his much-anticipated law enforcement career. It was long overdue, due to his cancer diagnosis at the age of 22. Given only 6 months to a year to live. It was an unknown cancer in 1976. They treated him with massive amounts of radiation. He was treated over a 2-year span and was told due to that heavy treatment he would be unable to have his own children and not live beyond the age of forty. It was unknown to the doctors that God had another plan for Bill's life.

Our daughter described it best saying, "I think God just decided to put a pin in it for now in 1976. He knew then that there was a young lady with two young girls that needed a hero. If that was enough then came a big bouncing baby boy of his own in 1985. In July 2024 God removed that pin."

In July 2024, the doctor told Denise the radiation that saved his life at the age of twenty-two is taking him from you now.

God's plan for Bill was complete on August 16th at 12:50am. As their three children and Rodeo watched their dad and mom in his last moments loving and comforting one another unselfishly, eyes locked in on one another until his eyes closed in death.

Bill was preceded in death by his sister Doris Chapman, father Chief Master Sergeant Ellis (Bill) E Tilton, his mother Dixie Carr Tilton.

He is survived by his wife Carolyn (Denise) Tilton, Daughter Erica Nichole Taylor (Ken), Erin Michelle Taylor, Tyler Andrew Tilton. Brother Ellis (Howard) Tilton (Gail), Sister Phyllis Ashlock (Don) of Canton TX, Sister Connie Nuzum (Bob) of Ohio, Brother Byron Tilton (Sharon) of Caddo Mills TX. Grandsons Jacob Andrew, Dylan Scott, Curtis James and Porter Hayes. Numerous nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and friends. In addition, he was survived by his beloved German Shepherd Rodeo Joe, however only by one week August 23rd, 2024.

In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to St Jude's Children's Research Hospital or to your local animal shelter.

Tribute Wall

JT

“ Bill was my best friend from 1st grade. We attended Mount Pleasant Baptist Church together, played football and track in school. I worked for Kroger with Bill. Bill and his brother Byron spent many days at my house with my brother Don and myself as we also spent time at their house. We played football, basketball and even boxed when he got boxing gloves for Christmas. We rode horses and everything else that boys do at that age. I relocated with my job and only saw Bill once many years later. I never met Sharon and his family , but I wanted to express my condolences to his entire family. He was my best friend that I will one day see again, in Heaven.

Jerry Tropp - September 02, 2024 at 07:01 PM

JT

Carolyn , not Sharon.

Jerry Tropp - September 02, 2024 at 07:03 PM

CT

Thank you, Jerry he was so happy to see you that day.

Carolyn Denise Tilton - February 04, 2025 at 04:45 PM

AP

“ My heart with with you and all the family. Billy was a neighbor of ours for years and we attended church together. He will be missed so much by you all.

Ann Shields Pierson - August 31, 2024 at 04:27 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Distinctive Life Cremation and Funeral Services - August 30, 2024 at 04:58 PM

MN

So sorry for your great loss. Love, Mollie Nicholson

Mollie Nicholson - August 30, 2024 at 11:16 PM

LN

Beautiful, I know this was emotionally difficult to put together.

Leon Nicholson - August 31, 2024 at 12:16 AM

D(

Wonderfully done sorry for your loss but what memories

Dena Hill (Gaines) - August 31, 2024 at 03:53 PM

KE

Beautiful tribute to Bill. Lots of wonderful memories to cherish. Prayers, hugs & love for you & all the family! 🙏🙏❤️❤️

Kathy Eddings - August 31, 2024 at 11:45 PM

CS

We have always loved all of the Tilton family so very much. We have so many happy memories of all during years at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. All of the Church families had a special bond and the Tilton family were like family to us. Heaven is truly growing sweeter all the time. ❤️. Love, hugs, prayers...

Cindi Sutton - September 01, 2024 at 09:11 AM

JD

Sorry for the loss of your husband May your family gain strength everyday. Love the Duckworth and Smith Family

Joana Duckworth - September 15, 2024 at 12:27 PM

SD

I'm so sorry. Lots of love 💕

Sharon Dennis - September 16, 2024 at 09:34 AM

LT

So sorry. It's so hard losing a sibling. Lots of love and memories.

Lynda (Stephens) Tilden - September 16, 2024 at 01:47 PM

CL

I am so sorry for your loss Denise. Bill was one of my best friends. He was a good man. I know you will miss him terribly. 💙

carolyn Gouge Lay - September 25, 2024 at 11:01 PM

BT

Sorry for your loss. God bles!

Bob Tillman - October 15, 2024 at 12:12 PM