



MSgt William M. "Bill" Bass, Jr., USAF (Ret.)

May 26, 1944 - March 6, 2020

Bill Bass, age 75, of San Antonio, TX went peacefully to join the Lord on Friday, March 6, 2020. He was born May 26, 1944 in Americus, Georgia but he was a Texan at heart.

Bill was raised in rural South Georgia in many locations, some areas with no names. His family finally settled in Albany, GA. He was a 1963 graduate of Albany High School. He joined the United States Air Force right out of high school. Basic training at Lackland Air Force Base was the first time that he lived outside of Georgia. The culture and lifestyle of Texas suited him. He met his wife, Jean Simmons, at Albany High School in 1960 when her father was stationed to Turner Air Force Base in Albany, GA. They were married after he finished his basic training on February 28, 1964 at the home her parents in San Antonio, TX. Bill and Jean had just celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary a week before his passing.

The US Air Force sent the young Bass's to Castle Air Force Base, CA. The first of their 4 children was born in December of that year. In 1966, their second daughter was born also at Castle. He was also was stationed at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma City, OK. In 1969, Bill was sent to DaNang Monkey Mountain, Viet Nam. He is listed as a combat veteran though he worked with the communications unit and his rifle was broken and never fired a shot. After he returned to San Antonio, TX the family increased by their first son. After a few years he was sent to Kinsbach Air Station in Landstuhl, Germany. His group was stationed in a cave at the bottom of a mountain. Up

the mountain in 1974, at Landstuhl US Army Post, their second son was born. After returning to the states, Gentile Air Station, Kettering, OH, the family joined University Baptist Church in Dayton, OH. In 1977, Bill Bass accepted the Lord as his personal savior. He had been raised in a Primitive Baptist home and salvation was done slightly differently, but he had been going to Southern Baptist Churches with his family once he left Georgia. He loved studying the Word. Because he worked shift work, he could not always be in church. But there was no doubt that he believed whole-heartedly.

After Ohio, he spent a year in Kwang-ju, South Korea and finished his military career at Lackland Air Force Base, he had come full circle. He retired from the US Air Force in 1984 and then went to work for a brief time at DataPoint as a trainer. When DataPoint closed, he went to work for the US Civil Service, down the hall from his last desk as an Air Force Instructor. He spent the next 25 years in the civil service positions as an instructor and part of the team that created Joint Base San Antonio.

In 1985, the young Calvary Hills Baptist Church voted to make Bill Bass a deacon of the church. He served as a deacon until his health deteriorated and he had to change to Deacon Emeritus in 2018. Bill Bass was blessed with a servant's heart.

He loved his wife, children, family, God, church and all things John Wayne. Because of Bill Bass, his children and most of his grandchildren can quote many western movie lines. Just an hour before his passing he saw his last John Wayne movie, The Quiet Man.

He was a proud member of the Boy Scouts of America and earned the title Air Explorer. In the 1980's he was a den leader.

He was preceded in death by his parents, William M. Bass, Sr and Hazel E. Woolsey Bass of Albany, Georgia and his sister Cathy Bass.

He is survived by his loving wife, Jean Bass of San Antonio, TX; daughter and son-in-law, R.L. "Becky" Chadwick and Mark Chadwick of San Antonio, daughter and son-in-law, Melissa E. Bass and Michael Payne of Haleiwa,

Hawaii, son and daughter-in-law, Mitchell W. Bass and Billie Jo Hughes Bass of San Antonio, son and daughter-in-law, Wesley J. Bass and Treena D. Meeks Bass of Moore, TX.

His grandchildren Mark D. Chadwick II (Taylor, TX), Lauren V. Dumale Dragoo (Fredericksburg, VA), Ariel R. Chadwick Kellogg (College Station, TX), Bronwyn C. Chadwick Payne (Bryan, TX), Jared A. Dumale (San Angelo, TX), Deanna M. Bass (San Antonio), Emily J. Bass (College Station, TX), Samantha K. Bass (Moore, TX), Ethan R. Bass (San Antonio), Matthew P. Bass (Moore, TX)

His great-grandchildren Elizabeth M. Chadwick (Taylor, TX), Daisy-Kay E. Dragoo (Fredericksburg, VA), Andrew C. Chadwick (Taylor, TX), Max Danger Dragoo (Fredericksburg, VA), Travis T. Kellogg (College Station, TX), Tobias A. Payne (Bryan, TX), Atticus G. Dumale (AZ), Joslyn D. Payne (Bryan, TX), Nathan J. Bass (Moore, TX)

His sister and brother-in-law, Eloise J. Bass Erwin and George Erwin (Americus, GA) and his brother Johnny M. Bass (Albany, GA).

He is survived by numerous sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces and nephews.

Bill asked that in lieu of flowers that donations be made to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Cemetery Details

Mission Burial Park North

20900 IH 10 West
San Antonio, TX 78257

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 14. 10:00 AM (CT)

Calvary Hills Baptist Church
910 West Loop 1604 North
San Antonio, TX 78253

Service

MAR 14. 11:00 AM (CT)

Calvary Hills Baptist Church
910 West Loop 1604 North
San Antonio, TX 78253

Tribute Wall



“ *Sad that I could not be there to show my respect to a colleague I worked with in my last seven years of active duty at Lackland.*

Condolences to the familys.

John E Thompson.

John Thompson - March 14, 2020 at 06:00 PM



I remember Bill from our first visit to Calvary Hills. He gave us a friendly greeting and kind words, as he did every service we attended. He will be missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. Blake and Denise Westerman

Blake Westerman - March 14, 2020 at 08:39 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Bill Bass*



William Bass - March 12, 2020 at 12:28 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of MSgt William M. "Bill" Bass, Jr., USAF (Ret.).*



March 12, 2020 at 10:49 AM