



William S. Bill Riley

July 19, 2006 - September 2, 2006

William S. Bill Riley died peacefully in his home in San Antonio, TX on September 2, 2006, with his wife of 42 years by his side. He was born on July 19, 1921, in Beverly, MA to William James Riley and Anastasia Cheverie. In 1939, he graduated from high school in Nashua, NH with honors. He received an appointment to the Naval Academy, where he graduated in 1944 and was commissioned in the Navy, serving aboard the USS New Jersey during WWII. In 1949, Bill graduated from MIT with a Specialist Degree in Naval Construction and Engineering. He was a Lt. Commander when he left active service to work in the private sector.

He married Mildred Kearney in Jacksonville, FL in July 1943 and they had six children; William James, Lee Helene, Lynne Marie, Mark Stephen, Laura Ann, and Anna Louise. Mildred passed away in 1964 and Bill remarried a widow, Jane Barnhouse Morris, who had nine children from her first marriage; Nancy Jane, Elizabeth Ann, Mary Louise, William Howard, Carol Joan, Helen Catherine, James Gerard, Thomas Frederick, and Jean Marie. In 1966, Rebecca Jane was born, “an only child and the youngest of sixteen”.

Bill was a devout Catholic, who served God, his family, and many others throughout his life. After his service in the Navy, he was active in the Naval Reserve, while working as an engineering manager throughout his career. Bill retired from the UT System, MD Anderson Cancer Center, in 1990, where he worked as the Director of Engineering Planning and Construction. He was a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 9967, and also a

member of the USNA Alumni Association.

In addition to a successful management career, Bill continued his education and became a chemical dependency counselor. This experience complemented the insight he gained from 36 years of sobriety. He also worked as a teacher, counselor, program director and mentor in a number of service programs. For many years, he and his wife were active in a spiritual program called Retrouvaille, sponsored by the Church, to help transform troubled marriages into stronger unions. The last two years, Bill and his wife served as Coordinating Couple for the Retrouvaille of San Antonio Community.

Bill was preceded in death by his first wife, Mildred, a son, Thomas, and grandsons, Brian Bailey, Trace and Conner Riley. He is survived by his wife, Jane, 15 children, 38 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren, and many other loving family members and friends.

Tribute Wall

LL

“ Jane,
We are so saddened by your loss. You and Bill have touched so many lives with your stories, your sense of humor, the caring and giving you both gave to everyone you came in contact with. Your devotion to God and to each other was so awesome. Thos

Lyndon and Linda - September 11, 2006 at 12:00 AM

EL

“ We are blessed to have become acquainted with Bill and Jane through our working together with the Retrouvaille Program. They have been a very special couple in our lives both as friends and mentors. We will be forever grateful to God for having the oppo

Errol and Mary Grace Lemoine - September 07, 2006 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Dear Jane,

George & I only knew Bill for a short time but feel blessed that, by the Grace of God, he touched our lives. We had the privilege of meeting you both on our Retrouvaille weekend. We cannot put into words the difference Bill made in our li

George & Marilu Merlo - September 07, 2006 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ Extending our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your loved one.

Craig Salsbury

Director & Staff at Mission Park Funeral Chapels North - September 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ I know that God knew you. We love you and will miss you.

Ross Anzelone - September 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

AK

“ Mark -

Our sympathies are with you as you mourn the loss of your father. If the measure of a man can be taken by the measure of a son he has made, then your father was a great man.

Alan

Alan G. Kaufman - September 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

FK

“ Thank you, Mr. Riley. The world is a better place because you were here. I am a better man because I knew you.

Frank Kuhn - September 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Dear Jane and Family, Bill was a great man, and you know that! He touched us very deeply the first time we met you both on a Retrouvaille weekend in Atlanta. When we heard of Bills' illness we were saddened, not by his being called Home, but by how many

Lori and Joe McMurry - September 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ Dear Jane & Family,

Keith and I had the very distinct pleasure of meeting Bill prior to our Retrouvaille weekend in Jan/06 here in San Antonio. Words can not express how deeply your stories inspired us, and the impact he has had upon our lives. Indee

Katherine Sigler - September 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Jane and family, We are so sorry to hear about Bill. We will keep all of you in our prayers. My God bless you and hold you close at this time. Eternal Rest grant unto him Oh Lord, Let Your perpetual light shine upon him, and grant him peace. Love alw

Ricky and Cindy Dippel - September 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM

QL

“ Bill was an inspiration to all of us who had the privilege of working in Retrouvaille with him and Jane. His wisdom, sense of humor, and good heart endeared him to us. We will miss him greatly.

Quentin and Jo Lauer - September 06, 2006 at 12:00 AM