



William Francis Burns

September 6, 1938 - March 21, 2023

William Francis Burns, 84 years old of Lake Villa, IL passed away on Tuesday, March 21, 2023. He was born in Wellsville, NY on September 6, 1938, to the late Francis and Ruth Burns.

Bill was married to his wife Betty for 64 years. Betty was Bill's first date. They attended the junior prom together. Later, Bill began a 30 year career at Abbott Medical and started his own computer company as a challenge. He was active in sports his entire life, including wrestling at his beloved Notre Dame and managing the Boston Red Sox minor league level A team. He also expanded the Waukegan Youth Boxing Club and became a national level judge for boxing. Later years involved golfing with friends. Bill managed to play golf in all 50 states and several foreign countries. He enjoyed sailing in the Chicago to Mackinac races and crewing sailboats across the Atlantic Ocean.

Starting with the 1968 Mexico Olympics, Bill and Betty traveled to over 53 countries, many of them more than once. Bill enjoyed planning the trips as much as actually traveling. After retiring from his computer company, Bill filled his days with volunteering at Prince of Peace Church. He also helped on many local, state, and national political campaigns.

He was preceded in death by his parents; daughter Teresa (Dennis) Bunsen,

sisters Patricia Wilson and Marilyn Adams.

Bill is survived by his wife Betty; daughters Roxanne (Tracy) Vatter, Karen Burns and Lilynn (Paul) Kattner; grandchildren Savannah Vatter, Jacob Vatter, Steven Peklay (Priscilla Kersey), Christopher Peklay (Zach McHardy), Kaelen Kattner, Joshua (Nicole) Kattner, Emily Kattner and Erin (Eric) Taylor; 5 great grandchildren; son-in-law Dennis Bunsen and sister Barbara (David) Carter.

Visitation will take place on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, from 4:00 - 7:00 pm at RInga Funeral Home 122 S. Milwaukee Ave. Lake Villa, IL . Family and friends are asked to meet directly at church on Thursday, March 30, 2023, for mass at 10:00 am at Prince of Peace Church 135 S. Milwaukee Ave. Lake Villa, IL. Burial will follow at Ascension Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers donations to Lake Villa Historical Society 223 Lake Ave, Lake Villa, IL 60046; Lake Villa Township Lions Club P.O. Box 441, Lake Villa, IL 60046 or Prince of Peace Church 135 S. Milwaukee Ave. Lake Villa, IL 60046 would be appreciated.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **29**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Ringa Funeral Home
122 S. Milwaukee Ave.
Lake Villa, IL 60046
info@ringafuneralhome.com
<http://www.ringafuneralhome.com>

Funeral Mass

MAR **30**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Prince of Peace Catholic Church
135 S. Milwaukee Ave
Lake Villa, IL 60046
(847) 356-7915

Burial

MAR **30** (CT)

Ascension Catholic Cemetery
IL Route 137 and Saint Mary's Road
Libertyville, IL 60048

Tribute Wall



“ *William Francis Burns*

October 04, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *I valued Bill's common sense, commitment to principle, and plain spoken honest personality. He taught many of us the value of pragmatism, and taking measured action that will produce results over holding unrealistic expectations. I will personally miss his contributions to our political discourse.*

Peter Karlovics - March 30, 2023 at 03:08 PM



“ *Betty & Family, our deepest condolences to each of you during this difficult time. May God give you peace & strength in the days ahead. Bill will be greatly missed.*
Paul & Julie Kenney

Julie Kenney - March 29, 2023 at 03:46 PM



“ *Betty and Family, I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Bill. There will be an empty spot in Lake Villa Restaurant. I rarely went in there that you two weren't sitting at your table or visiting other tables. Rest in Peace Bill.*

Suzi Schmidt - March 29, 2023 at 02:36 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Francis Burns.*



March 27, 2023 at 09:34 AM



“ *Dear Lynn, Karen and family- I was so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. Please know you are all in my prayers at this difficult time and hoping that the memories you hold in your hearts will sustain you.*

*Sincerely,
Diana L. Killian*

diana killian - March 26, 2023 at 01:45 PM



“ *Bob and I are so very sorry for your loss. We loved him too!! Hugs and prayers sent your way!!*

From Barb & Bob Oilschlager - March 26, 2023 at 01:08 PM



“ *Karen Burns purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of William Francis Burns.*



Karen Burns - March 25, 2023 at 08:31 PM

CT

“ Sorry to learn of Bill's passing. I worked with Bill for many years at Abbott and always enjoyed his knowledge and company. Condolences to the family.

Charles G Turner - March 24, 2023 at 01:00 PM

JS

“ So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family Betty.

Jean Smuda

Jean Smuda - March 24, 2023 at 11:46 AM

BM

“ My condolences to the family, he was my hunting buddy while visiting Pennsylvania during our deer season, we walked many miles in the earlier years making drives to move the deer, then in later years we rode around the roads finding places that were easier to sit and wait them out, One year we climbed a to a spot on Rudy Ridge very early in the morning and we sat there until noon and had not seen anything, so I went back to Bill and said let go in for lunch. He asked if we were coming back to the same place, I said yes if he wanted to or we go elsewhere, he said he would stay put and asked if I would bring lunch back to him. I went back to camp picked up a lunch for him but found him pacing instead of sitting still, i could see a different look on his face and asked what was wrong, it was then he told me he had a black bear visit him while I went to lunch and it had passed by him at 10 feet. But then he told me that the reason he stayed was he was not going to climb the hill again. I will still miss my friend and hunting partner. RIP Bill.

Bud Miller - March 24, 2023 at 05:09 AM

ZM

“ I was so fortunate to get to meet him and become a part of the family. His gentle smile and kind words made me feel so welcomed.

Zach J McHardy - March 23, 2023 at 10:43 PM

BH

“ The world lost a great man in Bill Burns. Bill was one of the finest men that I have ever known. Been friends for 63 wonderful years with the Burns family. Our friendship started in Wellsville, NY. Bill was just like part of my family or the brother I never had. Love you and Betty both. Willy you will be sadly missed.. Love to the Girls and Dennis too your all in my prayers. Give Terri a kiss for me.

Beverly Hopkins - March 23, 2023 at 08:31 PM

TN

“ He hired me at Abbott and we always had a great working relationship He inspired so many people - he will be missed.

Tom Noller - March 23, 2023 at 07:15 PM

JD

“ Betty and family, so sorry to hear about Bill. I worked with him at Abbott. Lots of good memories from that time...more than just work. And I know he will be missed. Hugs and prayers to you and your family, Judy Derra

Judy Derra - March 23, 2023 at 06:04 PM

MO

“ Sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He will be in our thoughts and prayers. Bill & Mary Lou Obenauf

Mary Lou/Bill Obenauf - March 23, 2023 at 03:18 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William Francis Burns.*



March 22, 2023 at 10:53 PM



“ *He was a great man and will be sorely missed missed by all that knew him. From the Hardy's to all the Burn's family, our deepest condolences.*

Timothy Hardy - March 22, 2023 at 09:58 AM