



William Edward Rogers

November 15, 1949 - January 6, 2020

William Edward Rogers, of Fredericksburg, passed away January 6, 2020 after a long bout with cancer.

Bill's adventurous spirit and his curious and expansive worldview were born of a childhood spent variously in Lima, Peru, San Francisco, and northern Virginia. He graduated from Yorktown High School and the University of Virginia, and he remained, to the last, a devoted Wahoo.

Over the course of Bill's working life, he embraced new and sometimes unexpected opportunities, becoming quite possibly the only person in American history to drive a moving truck, carry mail for the US Postal Service, own a car stereo business, and sell home furnishings. No matter the job, Bill believed that hard work was its own reward, a value he impressed upon his children. Bill was no workaholic, however. He also loved reggae music, a passion cultivated over numerous trips to Jamaica with good friends, and he relished walking 18 holes of golf. A few years ago, he realized a long-held dream when he played a round at Pebble Beach.

More than anything else, Bill viewed his family as his greatest accomplishment. Bill and his wife, Wendy, who celebrated 49 years of marriage in October, raised three children—Bryan, Adam, and Emily—and in recent years, Bill enjoyed spoiling his five grandchildren. Bill was a prolific online shopper, especially after acquiring an iPhone, but he wasn't much for wrapping gifts. If it didn't fit in a gift bag, he would just hand it to you.

Bill's life was marked by change, but as Terence Mann said in *Field of Dreams*, "The one constant through all the years . . . has been baseball." As a child, Bill loved Willie Mays and the Giants, and after moving east, he rooted for the Senators. His middle years were spent wandering in the wilderness with the Orioles, but since the return of baseball to D.C. in 2005, he has been a Nationals die-hard and reveled in their recent World Series victory.

Unlike the World Series, Bill's bout with cancer was ultimately unwinnable, but like his

beloved Nats, Bill Rogers stayed in the fight. He faced his illness with courage and remained a loving husband, father, and grandfather until the very end. He will be missed.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate donations to Empowerhouse (www.empowerhouseva.org).

A celebration of life will be held in the near future. For updated service information and to send his family online condolences, please visit foundandsons.com.

Comments



“ Wendy, Tom and I send our deepest condolences in the passing of Bill. It seems just like a few years ago when we all lived in Surreywood. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Tom and Kathy Wolf

Kathy & Tom Wolf - March 01 at 08:35 PM



“ I worked with Bill for a short time at Interlude Home. “Million Dollar Bill” was well respected in the business. My condolences on your loss.

Regards, John Aull

John Aull - January 21 at 04:12 PM



“ Wendy, we Ocean Hillers are so sorry to hear about your loss. Let us know when you are down here. In the meantime, sympathy and love to your family. Betsy Price

Elizabeth Price - January 17 at 11:39 AM



“ You don't know me and I didn't know William. I wish I HAD! He must have been a beautiful person!

At times like this, it seems that words leave a lot to be desired. However, after reading about William, I felt I wanted to share what my daddy taught me years more than 70 years ago. He said, that as long as we keep the happy memories of our loved one alive in our heart and share them with others, they can never really leave us. You obviously have many happy memories of William. Share, laugh, remember. He would want that and he will be present with you where ever you go. Also, remember grief never ends... but it changes. It is a passage, not a place to stay. Grief is not a sign of weakness nor a lack of faith. It is the price of love. You and your extended family are in my prayers at this time. carol sparbel ;-)

carol sparbel - January 12 at 06:54 PM



“ Dear Wendy,

I was recently looking up old classmates on the internet and came across Bill's obituary. I am so sorry to have learned of his passing and know that this is a very difficult time for you and your family. My deepest sympathy and condolences go out to all of you. I knew Bill quite well when we were young and know that because of his generous spirit, effusive personality, keen intellect and caring personality he will be sorely missed.

Bill was my best friend at Williamsburg Junior H.S. and Yorktown H.S. in Arlington, Va. We met each other playing county baseball and played on the same teams- Arlington Motors and Citizen's Bank. He was the best catcher and I was one of the pitchers for both teams. We hung out in the rec. room at his house on Nottingham St. listening to his MoTown collection (The Supremes were his favorite!) and I dreamt with him about playing professional ball. We even confessed to one another our crushes on our English teacher at Yorktown. Later, I grew to admire Bill for his ease and confidence in engaging in debate. When college separated us I still managed to have a few beers with him and some buddies in D.C. bars during summer breaks until our paths went separate ways. Oh how I cherish those memories! Oh how I loved his electric blue Camero!

Bill was part of my adolescence and I'm so lucky to have had him as a friend. I'm a richer person for having known him.

So long buddy. I'll miss him.

With Kindest Regards, Wendy.

Gregory Indyke

Gregory Indyke - July 05 at 04:00 PM