



Glenn Wm. "Bill" Bowen II

November 22, 1951 - October 21, 2021

Live simply – Laugh often – Love deeply.... this script is written above the front door of our home and describes very accurately the core of my husband, Glenn W. "Bill" Bowen II. Bill passed peacefully into heaven Thursday, October 21, 2021.

Large in size, large in humor, large in generosity and large in tender love...Bill was loved by his family from the day he was born, November 22, 1951, in Quincy IL. That family love includes his parents (the late) Glenn and Luella Bowen, brothers Terry Bowen (Beth), Albany IL and Mitch Bowen (Vicki), Overland Park KS; nieces, Tara Read (Dave), Kara Brownrigg (Tanner); and nephews, Tony Bowen (Jen) and Bradley Bowen (Elise); as well as eight great-nieces and great-nephews.

Bill was loved by my family the first time they met, nearly 50 years ago. Those loves include (the late) John and Sarah Jones, Cathy Jones (late, Ron), nephew Matt Jones (Kim) and their daughters Cameron and Kara all of Huntsville AL; one deceased niece, Alison Breaux (Tommy); Sandy Jones Brooks (Don) Elgin SC, and nephew Jonathan Brooks (Mary) of North Falmouth MA.

Bill was blessed by the love of many friends, who became family...especially (the late) Syl and Betty Herman and their daughters, Stephanie Schmitz and Angela Herman. And he was adored by our two exchange students, Francesco Zavettieri of Domodossola, Italy and Justus Wurst of Bersenbruck, Germany, who kept him inspired and young at heart.

He was the adopted "Uncle Bill" to many, including our traveling baseball boys, Joe Leiker, Dan Wilson, Kevin, Matt, and Adam Weaver and Michael Dupigney Leigh. And he was cherished by his Holy Name "tracksters," as well as our goddaughters, Amber (McKinley) Schulz and Jessica (McKinley) Rinkes.

And me, his wife, Barb...my rock, who teased me to the 'nth degree, but made me feel safe in every storm, especially this one. Bill was my shining star these 46 years and now the brightest for me in heaven. He worked hard and played hard and I was lucky enough

to enjoy the ride alongside. Whether spending time on the Mississippi River, cheering on his beloved Cubbies and KC Chiefs, riding his Harley, playing with and hugging his adoring pups, skiing in Keystone, walking the beaches in Florida, or just working on a good physical challenge, he made it all fun!

Bill's academic background included a BA in Science, from Millikin University, Decatur IL and an MS in Chemistry from Xavier University, Cincinnati OH. He was employed by the BNSF Railway 35 years, retiring in 2011.

The service honoring Bill's life will be Friday, November 19 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Topeka KS.

Per his wishes, Bill has been cremated and his ashes will be scattered on his beloved Mississippi River.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Bill's memory are suggested to St. Joseph Catholic Church, Lowman United Methodist Church or Helping Hands Human Society and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV **19**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
227 SW Van Buren Street
Topeka, KS 66603

Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Glenn Wm. "Bill" Bowen II*



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - November 11, 2021 at 05:08 PM

VB

So sad to hear of Bill's passing. I went to high school with Bill and remember him always smiling and always so happy and kind. My condolences to his family.

Vicki Bly - November 18, 2021 at 08:06 AM



“ *Glenn Wm. "Bill" Bowen II*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM

“ Mrs. Bowen,

I would like to offer you my condolences to you on the loss of your husband.

You may not recall me, but we meet years ago at one or two of the LMOA meetings in Chicago. I consider Glenn one of my close dear friends and I would like to tell a few brief stories of the memories I have of Glenn outside the committee work and the papers we co-authored. Glenn retired from the BN/SF the same year I retired from GE.

At the meetings Glenn and I would often do a few things without the other committee members. Before his knees gave out we would take time out at the LMOA meetings to go for a nice 3, 4, or 5 mile run along the lake front and just talk about family, sports or whatever came up. Sometimes Glenn asked to meet at 6:30 AM in the Hilton hotel lobby to walk several miles to a place he liked in Chicago for breakfast. Again we would talk about a variety of things and sometime we even got in a few discussions on locomotives.

One of the meetings was in Naperville and we went for a run. Only a few miles into the run I twisted my ankle only to find out when I got back home it was broken. I should have listened to Glenn; he wanted me to have it X-ray there. That night the group went out for a group dinner and I stayed in and ordered room service. Glenn did not forget his running buddy. He had a beer sent to my room to help with the pain.

Another memory was of the LMOA FL&E committee meeting in Salt Lake City. It was scheduled to start Monday morning. Well Glenn called me up and asked if I could arrive Friday night and we could go skiing Saturday and Sunday. Well I told Glenn I do not know how to ski. That did not deter Glenn. His response was you mean you live in Erie PA and with all the snow you get there you do not ski. He offered to pick me up at the airport and be my chauffeur for the weekend. I still declined and insisted that I do not ski. He said you did not ski and he talked you into taking four of ski lessons and I could do the same. Well with that additional arm twisting I agreed. It was a lot of fun, but I do not like heights and did not like going up the mountain on the ski lift. Glenn had a big laugh at my fear of the lift and the steep slopes. At the end of the day at Snow Bird Glenn did state the downhill slopes at Snow Bird were far more challenge than at other resorts, so Sunday we went to Park City ski slopes.

I could go on about the many good times we had outside the business part of the meeting, Glenn was a good friend!

*Dennis W. McAndrew
8711 Hamot Road*

Waterford PA

Dennis W. McAndrew - November 24, 2021 at 12:56 PM

LH

“ Bill, thanks for the memories; the great parties with our family-you added so much levity, all the ball games, coaching girls AAU basketball, tipping a few- er more than a few, eating hamburgers from the Cozy Inn, Bo and the cast and the list goes on--Bill you were the life of the party--you lived well--you played hard--we need more people like you!

Barb, enjoy all the good memories you guys created as this will be your strength. There aren't many Bills! Love you guys, Larry, Jane, Holly, Erin, Thomas, John, Carmie & Kayls, the Hesse clan

larry hesse - November 20, 2021 at 10:55 AM



“ I knew Bill in High School. He had a happy personality and a smile for everyone. Sorry for your loss.

Sue Sterenberg - November 18, 2021 at 03:49 PM

RM

“ Barb, You and Bill will forever be special to the Muñoz family. We met you both thru the Mater Dei program and were blessed to have you both share your time and care with our son Tre. You were his “readers”! Long after he aged out of the program, you both continued to check in on him, because that is just who you both are. Two great souls, we were blessed to have known Bill. I hope it would put a smile on his face to know Tre is doing well attending college at KState, pursuing a business degree. Heaven gained a great Angel! Our prayers and love to you Barb. -Ryan, Rachel, Tre and Taliyah Muñoz



Rachel Munoz - November 18, 2021 at 08:45 AM

CL

“ Carol S Lane purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Glenn Wm. "Bill" Bowen II.



Carol S Lane - November 13, 2021 at 02:54 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Glenn Wm. "Bill" Bowen II.



November 11, 2021 at 12:05 PM

GL

“ Gene and I were very sorry to hear about Glenn's passing. Glenn was my boss at the Santa Fe over 30 years ago, and it was a real joy working for him. He was brilliant and kind and had a great sense of humor. I knew how special he was to you and you were very special to him. We were so thankful when he helped Gene one day install a landscape retaining wall. I remember the both of you taking me out for lunch on Secretary's Day -- it was a wonderful gesture! Thank you! Barb, look forward to the future and Heaven where you will see Glenn again. God bless both of you and your families.

Gene & Carol Lane - November 09, 2021 at 07:23 PM

JT

“ Barb,
Kellee and I are so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. You are in our thoughts and prayers!
Love, Kellee and Jim Tinsley

James Tinsley - November 07, 2021 at 10:26 AM

JB

“ *Barbie - We have so many fond memories that always put a smile on our faces when we think of Bill. He always had that same smile we see in this photo and nice words to say about everyone. Bill really "came of age" when he met and then married you. You were forever the brunt of his kidding, as his way of showing his eternal love for you. You are the best thing that ever happened to Bill.*

He enjoyed life to the fullest and our love and prayers go out to you.

*In loving memory,
Gail and Jim Baumgartner*

Jim Baumgartner - November 03, 2021 at 09:01 PM

GH

“ *Dear Barb,*

Please know you and your family are in my prayers. I hope your wonderful memories give you comfort and strength during a very difficult time.

*Prayers,
Gladys Holmes*

Gladys Holmes - November 01, 2021 at 02:14 PM



“ *Golden Garden Casket Spray was purchased for the family of Glenn Wm. "Bill" Bowen II.*



October 31, 2021 at 04:06 PM

BK

“ *I was so shocked and saddened to hear of Bill's passing. My heart hurts for you Barb, and his family. He was a wonderful man . May your fond memories sustain you through this difficult time. Barb Keck*

Barbara Keck - October 30, 2021 at 11:22 PM

AW

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Adam Weaver - October 29, 2021 at 08:54 PM

TA

“ Sam & I are so very saddened to learn of Bill's passing. We are thinking of you, Barb & all of those close to you. Bill was such a “bright light” and someone you instantly liked. We will miss him. Love & hugs to you.

Tammy & Sam Austin - October 29, 2021 at 07:53 PM

JS

“ Dearest Barbie, Mike and I are grief stricken to hear of the loss of your love and our dear college friend! Such memories flood back at a time like this, your wedding would be one highlight!! The “stolen” Cold Duck and the infamous tie Mike bestowed upon Bill that night to name a few! Our love, hugs and prayers to you Barbie at this time . ❤️ Bill watches and holds you tight now as he always will Barbie. 🥹

Jan Nd Mike Sterbenz - October 29, 2021 at 12:26 PM

VG

Our dear friend. Our hearts break for you. I am so glad we have shared some special times with you and Bill in recent years. It has been many years since our college days but neither of you have changed a bit. Still the best of people. Bill was a very special guy. A sweet and good soul. Generous with his time and love. He made people who knew him better. I know there are many many heavy hearts today, ours included. I wish we were not so far away so we could hug you tight. Know that our love, thoughts and prayers are with you today and the days to come.
Love you, Vicki and Jay

vicki and Hay Glynn - October 29, 2021 at 02:53 PM

KM

Barb, I am sorry to hear about Bill's passing. Your have our family's sympathy. Love, Ben and Klara

Klara Ketter Meseke - November 01, 2021 at 11:42 AM

RM

Barb, You and Bill will forever be in our hearts as such special people! We came to know you both thru Mater Dei and we were lucky to have you both assigned as Tre's "readers". We were blessed to have been matched with you both. You generously volunteered your time and even after Tre aged out of the program, you always continued to check on him. You will be proud to know he is doing well in college at KState! I hope that would make Bill smile in heaven. Thank you for sharing yourselves with our family. Heaven gained a beautiful soul. ❤️ Love, Ryan, Rachel, Tre, & Taliyah Muñoz

Rachel Munoz - November 18, 2021 at 12:02 AM

BF

“ Barb, I'm so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He was always so fun to be around. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.

Bobby Freeman - October 28, 2021 at 01:32 PM