



William E. Davis

May 16, 1933 - September 2, 2020

William E. Davis, 87, Topeka, Kansas, died Wednesday, September 2, 2020, at Aldersgate Village Assisted Living Facility.

Bill was born in Jackson, Ohio, on May 16, 1933, the son of William and Stella White Davis. He graduated from Jackson High School in 1951 and earned a BA in Geology from Ohio Wesleyan in 1955. Bill was member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. He served in the United States Air Force from 1955 to 1959, as an Air Force Pilot.

Bill was employed by Goodyear Tire & Rubber for 37 years and retired in 1996. He was a member of Crestview United Methodist Church, Masonic Lodge #90, Arab Shrine, LOH and Commander in 2015, Swinging Squares, Square & Compass and Goodyear Leisure Club.

Bill married Paulette Leichliter in 1957; she preceded him in death in 1997. He married Viola Ruth Davis on July 11, 1999; she survives. Other survivors include his sons, Mark (Kim) and Paul Davis (Paula); grandchildren, Erin Miller (Joe), Ethan, Sean, Dalton, Piper and Evan Davis; great-granddaughters, Fallon, Aubrey, and Eliza Miller and Addison Barnshaw-Davis; stepchildren, Richard D. Hill and Catherine Plummer; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral Service will be 11 a.m. Saturday, September 5, 2020, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, where visitation will be one-hour prior. Burial to follow in Memorial Park Cemetery, 6th & Gage Blvd in Topeka.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, masks and social distance are required.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Crestview United Methodist Church, and the Arab Shrine Hospitals, sent in care of the funeral home.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

3616 SW 6th Street
Topeka, KS 66606

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 5. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Funeral Service

SEP 5. 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William E. Davis*



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - September 05, 2020 at 10:50 AM



“ *William E. Davis*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *To the Bill Davis Family:
We were so sorry to read that Bill passed away. We both worked and retired from Goodyear, and stayed in touch with many retirees thru Leisure Club which Bill worked very hard to keep going. Our thoughts and prayers are with Ruth and all of the family.*

*Gene and Winifred Brewster
Silver Lake, KS*

Winifred Brewster - September 05, 2020 at 08:03 PM

BK

“ I’m so sorry to hear of Bill’s passing. He was a patient in our office for many years, and was always kind and thoughtful. He was a special person and will be missed. Thoughts and prayers to his entire family. Barb Keck, Gage Dental.

Barbara Keck - September 05, 2020 at 09:00 AM



Thank you for your kind words.

Kim Davis - September 05, 2020 at 06:50 PM

CO

“ Bill Davis, Billy to me was one of the most positive and upbeat people I have ever been fortunate to be around. He always went out of his way to be kind and make that added effort. Always generous of his time and in his efforts to share our families history. I so appreciated his support after my mother passed with his phone calls sharing family stories and his efforts in mailing family pictures. Billy Davis lived a life well lived!
You made a difference!
Chuck Oliver, son of Millie Oliver, grandson of Charlie Davis

Charles Oliver - September 04, 2020 at 08:42 AM



Thanks, Chuck. He thought very highly of you, your mom, and Allison.

Kim Davis - September 05, 2020 at 06:50 PM

EG

“ Bill always had a friendly smile and did so much for the Woman's Club. He will be greatly missed. Elizabeth Gilman

Elizabeth Gilman - September 04, 2020 at 08:01 AM

EM

“ My GRANDfather, who never would have called himself my step-grandfather, was an amazing man. I'm thankful that he was part of my life for over 30 years! He encouraged my love of reading and tried to teach me to whittle with a bar of Ivory soap (a complete failure). I will always treasure our memories and am relieved to know he is with my GRANDmother in Heaven!

Erin Miller - September 03, 2020 at 05:26 PM



You were NEVER anything less than his granddaughter, and he loved you and the girls dearly. He was so proud of you and Joe. Never doubt it.

Kim Davis - September 03, 2020 at 06:17 PM

SJ

Erin, believe me I told your mom just how wrong that obituary is in so many ways. If my husband passes before me my biological grandchildren will not be his step grandchildren but his GRANDCHILDREN

Sheryl J - September 03, 2020 at 06:51 PM

PD

I'm sure he didn't approve this obituary. It was not in his character to publicly dismiss any of his GRANDchildren or their families. He truly did his best to include them all at every opportunity.

Paula Davis - September 03, 2020 at 07:23 PM

SR

So many wonderful memories of Bill, Paulette, Mark and Paul coming to Jackson, Ohio to visit their grandparents and sharing so many of Paulette's FAMOUS Texas sheet cakes on Aunt Stella and Uncle Billy's from porch. He was a wonderful cousin and I will cherish the memories of our phone calls through the years. Rest In Peace, Dear Bill. May perpetual light shine upon your soul. Love, Susan

Susan Riepenhoff - September 03, 2020 at 08:15 PM

HE

Oh Erin❤️ Can you imagine him and grandma Paulette up there reuniting😍 love you and I'm so sorry for your loss! If you need to talk or cry call me😭

Heather - September 03, 2020 at 11:16 PM

VD

Erin - so sorry about the obituary. Bill wrote it himself back in 2005 and it probably didn't dawn on him at that time as to what he wrote. It is my fault for not correcting it. He loved you and your family very much and would never want to hurt you.

Ruth Davis

viola ruth davis - September 04, 2020 at 05:02 PM

KD

Bill loved his two sons and their families dearly. His family meant everything to him. This kind, caring, nurturing man claimed Erin as his granddaughter from the first moment he met her - she was 5 - and woe to the person who suggested she was not his or referred to her as a "step." That love encompassed his five natural grandchildren - Ethan, Sean, Dalton, Piper and Evan - as well. And when the first great-granddaughter was born in 2007, he was over the moon. He loved his four "little girls," and would have been ecstatic to know he also has a great-grandson and a new great-grand is expected in September. He spent as much time as he could get away with teaching his grands - to fish and to carve (first with a bar of soap, then with wood), about respect, kindness, love, and life in general - and just talking with them, not at or to them. Each "child" has at least one beautiful woodcarving made by Grandpa Bill that they cherish. He made memories with them that no one can ever take away. Bill was not a wealthy man in terms of finances or property. His value and worth were his wisdom, humor, and capacity to love unconditionally. No matter how hurtful or vindictive a person might be, Bill believed in turning the other cheek as he felt there was good in everyone. Simply put, he was a nice man with an unending ability to care for and about others. Sometimes to his detriment. If he considered you a friend, you could rest assured he would be there to lend a helping hand if and when it was needed. If you were his family, you simply knew he would be there, always, accepting you as you were and loving you unconditionally. Maybe with a stern admonishment, but you knew it was made because he truly and deeply cared about you. He made you feel special. His sons and their wives, his grandchildren and their spouses or significant others, and his great-grandchildren all miss him dearly. For nothing in this world is worth more or means more than love.

Kim Davis - April 06, 2021 at 09:23 AM