



## William Parcels Jr.

July 15, 1943 - May 16, 2022

William Howard Parcels, Jr., 78, Topeka, Kansas, passed away peacefully on Monday, May 16, 2022, after a courageous battle with Parkinson's and Autoimmune Hepatitis.

William, Bill to his family and friends, was born July 15, 1943, in San Antonio, Texas, to William and Mary Parcels, Sr. On August 14, 1965, he married his beloved wife of 56 years, Mary Patricia Howerton, in Petersburg, Virginia.

A resident of Topeka for over 50 years, Bill possessed a great passion for his Savior, Jesus Christ and his family.

Bill served as a Pilot and Engineer in the Vietnam War and retired after more than 25 years of service to our great nation as a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army. He worked as a Civil Engineer and Pilot for the Kansas Department of Transportation for over 45 years. Bill was a devoted husband and father who never missed his children's activities, enjoyed volunteering in several capacities at First Baptist Church of Topeka and had a passion for fixing things.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, sister Joan Evans, nephew, Brian Evans and granddaughter, MacKenzie Parcels. He is survived by his wife Pat Parcels of Topeka; son, William Parcels III and wife, April of Castle Pines,

CO; son, Mark Parcels and wife Cristina of Boulder, CO; daughter, Tammy (Parcels) Sanders of Topeka; son, Shawn Parcels and wife, Loree of Overland Park, KS; son, Norman Parcels of Topeka; sisters-in-law, Donna Inge and Jo Ann Smiley of Richmond, VA; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Bill was 'Grandpa' to his beloved grandchildren, MacKenzie, Hannah and Caleb Parcels, Cassandra Clark, Ella, Matthew and Annelise Parcels, Lily and Halle Sanders, Isabella and Alexandra Parcels.

A celebration of Bill's life will be 10 a.m. Saturday, June 18, 2022, at First Baptist Church in Topeka, Kansas. Inurnment will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you consider a donation to the First Baptist Church, 3033 SW MacVicar Ave, Topeka, KS 66611, or online at <https://onrealm.org/firstbaptisttopeka/-/form/give/now>

Condolences may be sent online to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church  
3033 SW MacVicar Ave  
Topeka, KS

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Parcels Jr.*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Bill was a great guy! I always enjoyed visiting with all of you at 1st Baptist. I will not be able to be at the service on Saturday morning because I will be at 1st Lutheran at another funeral and I am ushering for it. You will all be in my thoughts and prayers. Sending you all big hugs and lots of love as you get through these tough times! 😊🙏❤️*

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**Linda Anderson** - June 17, 2022 at 11:34 AM

BP

“ Of course I have several memories of dad. He was an honest, hard working, family man. He taught me that the truth will always be my guide. He taught me that love is easy to give and easy to accept. He taught me that working hard for something makes that achievement more meaningful. He taught me how to sail a boat. He taught me how to drive a car. He taught me how to work on a car. He and grandpa were the impetus behind my love for flying, which I turned into a career.

Although I didn't realize it's importance at the time, now I'm thankful that he turned down an Army promotion so he could stay closer to home and continue to make it to his kid's activities. He was always very involved in our lives. Camping. Canoeing. Baseball. Football. Skiing. Swim meets. Scouts. You name it, he was there. And isn't that the point?! To be 'there.' To be present. I think someone once said that, being 'present' is the greatest gift. That was dad's best gift to us.

Thank you dad, for so many things. You were a wonderful teacher. I'm sure I didn't thank you enough along the way. But I hope you saw the impact of your lessons by seeing how I've lived my life. And I hope I can continue to pass your lessons on to my children. I love you dad! Please give MacKenzie a hug and a butterfly kiss for me. Until we meet again. ❤️

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Bill Parcels - May 25, 2022 at 02:21 PM

SP

“ We met you and your precious family when our oldest child, Jon started kindergarten at Bishop Elementary School. Your wife, Pat, mentored our family about many volunteering possibilities at school and we began taking turns taking care of each other’s toddlers. We remember celebrating your 50th wedding anniversary at Lake Shawnee and spending so much time catching up on the years. The antique car that you and Pat rode in that day will always be a special memory. Bill you loved working on those old cars! We are so saddened by knowing that you have passed on and will no longer be here on earth but we look forward to that wonderful day that we can see each other again. Our deepest sympathy to Pat and your dear family, Stephanie and Ruben Perez

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**Stephanie Perez** - May 22, 2022 at 05:01 PM

ET

*i remember Bill from many years ago at good old PHS (Petersburg High School). Heath Thompson {ne Ellis),*

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**Emily Heath Ellis Thompson** - May 29, 2022 at 02:04 PM

MT

*Patsy, I’m sorry to hear about the passing of Billy. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Classmate of you both-PHS 61 Margaret Ziegenfuss Terrell*

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**Margaret Ziegenfuss Terrell** - June 01, 2022 at 01:54 PM

SS

*Patsy, so sorry to hear about Bill. Many fond memories of our time in Petersburg and riding around in the old car that he rebuilt (which I understand he kept for many years!). I’m thankful for the time I got to visit with the two of you several years ago on one of my trips through Kansas. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Stu Spero*

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**Stu Spero** - June 20, 2022 at 08:43 AM