



William A. Zerface

February 14, 1937 - May 12, 2011

Bill died Thursday, May 12th, 2011 peacefully surrounded by his loving family. He had suffered a short battle with cancer.

Bill was born in Logansport, IN, to parents Maurice P. Zerface and Myrtle A. (Williams) Zerface, now deceased. Also deceased is his wife Judy C. (Puckett) Zerface.

Bill is survived by his six children Lori D. Stapleton (Phil), Terri Jo Smithson, Juli Anne Forrest (Metro), Michael M, Zerface (Judy), Brandon Zerface (Sarah) of Florida, Bob Zerface. Ten Grandchildren and eight Great-Grandchildren. A brother James P. Zerface (Wendy), Nashville, TN, 2 nieces (Janie Zerface (Jason) and Kazzie Zerface, 1 nephew, Cris Zerface). Also survived by an Aunt Mildred "Mickey" (Williams) Crouse (Bob), of Florida.

Bill graduated from Monticello Roosevelt High School in 1954.

Immediately after graduation he joined the Navy and served until 1958. While in the Navy, he learned and taught Russian. Bill was honor man for his company and spent two years on Guam Naval base while serving in the Secret Service.

Bill graduated from Indiana University receiving a bachelor's degree in English 1962 and received his Masters in Library Science in 1975. While in school he worked at the Indiana University Library and Cascades Golf Course.

Bill retired from Indiana University in 1999 (28 years of service) and was the University's Contract Negotiator.

He loved Indiana University Basketball and was an avid 'Cubs' fan. He also had a passion for writing and was a bi-weekly writer for the Herald-Times Newspaper. Bill wrote his last article about his Chemo-Club.

Bill and his brother Jim Zerface wrote Country Music and had a number of hits including 3 top 10 songs on Billboard. You Lift Me Up to Heaven was recorded by Reba McEntire who credits the song as launching her career.

Memorial contributions can be made in honor of Bill Zerface to the Olcott Cancer Center in Bloomington, IN. These contributions will go towards cancer research --and a

cure!

His good friend Bob Hammel wrote: Bill moved me with the first of his witty, perceptive columns during his period as a regular volunteer columnist with the H-T. I'm not sure that I did it with any of the others, though I should have on a few, but I dropped him an immediate note telling him how much I liked that column and looked forward to future ones. I mentioned I'd like to meet him for lunch. That worked out, and we became friends, with regular lunch get-togethers. An hour or so of wide-ranging, laugh-filled conversation always happened. We found we had mutual friends, from his growing-up days in Monticello. Every time I found him delightful, with a great twinkle to augment his dry, genuinely funny wit. When I read his typically understated final column, I should have done more than just enjoy his humor and style, should have grabbed the phone and re-initiated our lunches. I missed that chance, just as I continue to miss those old lunches -- and just as he missed out on what might have been his true calling. The guy could really write. Funeral services for Bill will be held Monday May 16th 2011 at 2:00PM at the Allen Funeral Home 4155 South Old Highway 37. Visitation will be held Sunday May 15th 2011 from 4:00PM until 6:00PM and Monday May 16th 2011 from 12 noon until the time of the service at 2:00PM, also at Allen Funeral Home. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.allenfuneralhome.org.

Tribute Wall

TE

“ I didn't know Bill Zerface. I read (and enjoyed) his community columns in the Herald-Times. One of his columns particularly touched my life. My husband had left me in December 2005 and a couple very dear friends had died in 2005 and 2006. I was pretty down, but Bill's Summer 2006 column in which he wrote about the marriage of his daughter and the passing of his wife helped lift my spirits. He quoted Dr. Seuss: "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened." I clipped and saved the column. They (Bill and Dr. Seuss) were right. To Bill's family and friends: My thoughts are with you, and I'm sure that having known Bill brings you many smiles. --Terri

Terri Greene - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

CC

“ Lori, Terri, Juli & Mike - We just found out about the passing of your dad, we did not know he was ill. We just wanted you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time in life. We know that you all will be a source of strength for each other as life moves forward. Please give each other a hug from us and please give your mom a hug from us as we send her our love. Sincerely - Chuck & Cindy

Chuck & Cindy Smith - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

JB

“ To Bill's family from old Monticello High School classmates of '53 and '54: We were saddened to hear of your loss and wish to extend our deepest sympathy. Our hearts are heavy and we pray that God will comfort you and your wonderful memories with him will sustain you during this difficult time. Although we have only visited with him 2 times in the past 57 years, we are grateful for the time we spent with him and renewed friendships. The world is poorer now without Bill in it. Shalom

Jack and Barbara Howkinson - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

NC

“ My prayers and thoughts are with you all! I have such wonderful memories growing up and spending lots of time with the Zerface family! Terri was (is) my great friend and her family was my 2nd family as they were for so many others. I remember Bill was always around smiling quietly in the background while all of us girls were wildly talking and laughing! My heart goes out to you as you grieve in your loss. May God's grace give you peace.

Nancy Wichman (Nonweiler) - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

BJ

“ Terri and Lori, I am so very sorry about your Dad. Just always keep in mind he is in a much better place and no longer suffering. Take care and God bless you, and your families.

BJ McElroy - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

AN

“ I am sorry for the loss of a wonderful man! He was always nice and kind to me, when I would babysit for the boys. Being able to just stop by the house and say Hi to Bill and Judy was just a pleasant experience.

Brandon, I am truly sorry for the loss of your father, he was truly a good man!

May God Bless,

Angela (Fritz) Reed

Angela Reed - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

CI

“ My prayers and thoughts are with each of you. Bill was a wonderful friend to me and a wonderful Grandpa to Jordan. Jordan and I will miss him dearly and will always keep both him and Judy in our hearts.

Lori - thank you. Brandon and Bobby please let me know if you ever need anything - you are always in my thoughts and prayers.

Cindy Sherfield - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

RA

“ Family of Bill Zerface, especially Lori and Terri, the two I remember best, so sorry to read about your dad. I read his last article in the paper and was shocked to read about the diagnosis. I enjoyed all his writings in the paper and wished he could have continued writing when it was time for someone else to write for that column. I know you have good memories to hold on to.

Ruth Ann

ruth ann roberts - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

CA

“ Lori: So sorry about the loss of your daddy. I didn't know him, but I truly enjoyed his writings in the newspaper. He seemed like someone I wish that I had gotten to know. Love and prayers to you and your family. Carla

Carla Hedges - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

SA

“ to my dearest friend Terri and her family- I can only remember the laughter at your house growing up, the funny man your father was! You all had the gift of "the face" and was a Zerface trade-mark! I will always think of him only with a smile, he left a wonderful legacy with the four of you- he was as proud of you all, as you were him! I find it a priveledge to have been a part of your family in those high school years- lots of great memories! just know I am thinking of all of you at this time- prayers are with you, Sally

Sally Scott - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

MR

“ Lori and Phil, So sorry for the loss of your father. Our prayers are with you and your family. Mike and Randy

Michael and Randy Allen - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

LI

“ I'm so sorry to hear about your dad's passing, I didn't know he was ill. I had spent many weekends over at the Zerface's and Bill would always make me laugh. He was so passionate about his song writing and was very good at it. He loved his family and made me feel like I was one of his girls. My prayers are with all of you at this time of your loss.

Signed,

Lisa (Arthur) Murphy

Lisa Murphy - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM

PA

“ To the Zerface family:
We send our sympathy to the Zerface Family. We are very lucky to have Brandon in our family now and love him very much. I am sure that all of Bill's pain is gone and he is writing music with Judy by his side.

Patricia Fee - March 22, 2013 at 08:19 AM