



William "Bill" Robert Pugh

August 19, 1938 - January 13, 2026

William Robert Pugh, age 87, of Bloomington, Indiana, passed away on January 13, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

William was born on August 19, 1938, in Bemidji, Minnesota, to Robert and Jane Pugh. He met the love of his life, Barbara (Mann) Pugh, while attending Indiana University Bloomington, and they were married on August 6, 1960, in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Bill graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine in 1963 and proudly served in the United States Air Force, achieving the rank of Captain. He served in Vietnam as a Flight Surgeon and was the recipient of multiple military decorations in recognition of his service. After completing his residency in Otolaryngology at Washington Hospital Center, Washington, D.C., he joined the practice of Geiger, Sibbitt, and White, where he practiced as an ENT physician for over 50 years. Bill retired in 2018 after completing his final surgery at the age of 80. During his career, he served as Chief of Surgery at Bloomington Hospital, helped found the Bloomington Surgery Center, where he served as CEO, and was accepted as a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a distinction reflecting his professional excellence and dedication to patient care.

A passionate aviator, Bill loved to fly and owned his own airplane. In addition

to flying for personal enjoyment, he also piloted flights for Cook Medical, combining his love of aviation with service to the Bloomington community. He and his family traveled to many remarkable places, including Alaska, where they flew along the Alaskan Highway. His grandsons especially cherished taking turns in the copilot's seat. Bill was appointed to the Board of the Bloomington Airport and greatly enjoyed spending his spare time with fellow pilots.

Bill is survived by his wife of 65 years, Barbara Pugh; his children Robert (Janeen) Pugh, Mark Pugh, and Shawn Ardizone (Tom); his grandsons William James, Matthew, Andrew, Luke, William Eugene, and Robert Pugh; and his great-grandson, Hudson Pugh.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Col. Robert and Jane Pugh, and his brother, Larry Pugh.

A celebration of life will be held at Allen Funeral Home in Bloomington on Saturday, April 18, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. A memorial service officiated by Pastor Tom Ellsworth will begin at 4:00 p.m.

Memorial donations in honor of Bill may be made to the Boys and Girls Club of Bloomington: <https://bgcbloomington.org/donate/>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR 18. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Memorial Service

APR 18. 4:00 PM (ET)

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4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
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Tribute Wall

RH

“ So sorry to hear of Dr. Pugh's passing in January 2026. He was a very caring and helpful Friend -- will be missed at the Monroe County Airport and Cook Aviation. Before we formulated the Cook Medical Clinic for our employees, Dr. Pugh would be so kind to see me as I always had some sort of upper respiratory issue going on. He always knew just what medicine might help. A True Friend !! He is very busy helping God in Heaven with those that need his medical help and kindness. Peace and Love to All in the Family --
Rex Hinkle, Cook Aviation Inc.

Rex Hinkle - April 16 at 02:43 PM

KB

“ Kirby and Ana Barnes purchased the Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses for the family of William "Bill" Robert Pugh.



Kirby and Ana Barnes - April 15 at 04:36 PM

KB

“ Kirby and Ana Barnes planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Robert Pugh.

Kirby and Ana Barnes - April 15 at 04:36 PM

FN

“ I remember him seeing me as a physician at Sibbitt and Geiger. I was a child with endless tonsillitis, until Dr. Sibbitt removed them finally. Those doctors were always so kind and caring. I am sorry to hear of his passing.

Faith Nicholson - April 03 at 04:09 PM

DC

“ Dean and Sharon Cofield planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Robert Pugh.

Dean and Sharon Cofield - February 23 at 12:29 PM

DC

“ Dean and Sharon Cofield purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William "Bill" Robert Pugh.



Dean and Sharon Cofield - February 23 at 12:29 PM