



## William J. "Bill" Matthews

June 29, 1944 - September 30, 2023

William J. "Bill" Matthews age 79, of Bloomington passed away Saturday morning September 30, 2023 at the Indiana University Health Bloomington Hospice House. He was born June 29, 1944 in Del Rio, Texas to Harold K. Matthews and Bishop Marjorie Swank Matthews.

He was a 1962 graduate of Alma High School in Alma, Michigan and went on to work with Lobdell—Emery Manufacturing in Alma, Michigan and Corydon, Indiana for over 30 years , culminating in a position as plant manager.

Outside of work, Bill served on the Board of Directors of the Highland Scottish Festival in Alma, Michigan. Bill was also the Chairman of the Parade Committee of the Highland Parade for ten years and served on the Board of Directors of Lobdell-Emery Credit Union for two years. Most of all, he enjoyed his role as a Boy Scout Leader, inspiring several young men to become Eagle Scouts through the years. Bill was a caring individual who always strived to improve his community and help others. He had a deep passion for making a positive impact on the lives of those around him.

Bill was an avid golfer, a voracious reader and thoroughly enjoyed genealogy studies. He excelled at card games and all forms of puzzles, and loved putting his "useless knowledge" to work at the local Trivia Night.

Bill had a strong faith and was an active member of the First United Methodist Church and St. Mark's United Methodist Church, both located in Bloomington, Indiana.

He was preceded in death by his parents and by his first wife of 56 years, Sandra Kay Matthews in 2021.

He leaves behind their children, Robert Matthews (Cheryl), of Grand Haven, Michigan, daughter, Lori Matthews (Kim Ecenbarger) of Bloomington, Indiana, and Gregory Matthews (Angela) of Bedford, Indiana; Grand children, Jacob Matthews, Bailey Gilmore (Devon), Kimberly Diaz, Brandon Diaz, Kaylee Brown, and Antoinette Brown; brother, Steve Matthews (Deborah) and sister, Shelly Lenz (Dan). He was also predeceased by his sister Sandy Matthews.

Bill had a second opportunity for love and will be deeply missed by his loving wife, Susan Richards Matthews, her daughter Michelle Bissell (Abram) and her grandchildren Ella and Ava. While their time together was brief, they enjoyed traveling, dancing, and sharing stories with friends at the local Bloomington Elk and Moose lodges.

A Gathering to Celebrate Bill's life will be held Sunday, October 8, 2023, from 1 PM - 4PM in the afternoon for visitation and a brief service to follow at 4:00 PM -5:00 PM at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old State Rd. 37 Bloomington, Indiana.

It was Bill's wish to be laid to rest in his hometown of Alma, Michigan. A graveside memorial will be scheduled at a later date.

Online condolences, photos, and memories may be shared with family and friends at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com).

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that contributions be made to the Bloomington Community Kitchen in honor of Bill's memory.

# Previous Events

## **Celebration of Life Gathering**

OCT 8. 1:00 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>

## **Celebration of Life Service**

OCT 8. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

JG

“ Bill will always be close in our hearts, as a brother in-law to both of us, We have many great memories of him that will live on in our lives! May he rest in peace. We hope & pray that his family finds comfort knowing he is at peace now. Love Jerry & Vauna Glisson



Jerry Glisson - October 04, 2023 at 10:21 AM

TM

“ I met Bill when we were both going through radiation treatment for our cancers. We continued to meet for breakfast for a couple of years after. We got to know each other, even through the loss of his wife, he was always up beat and interesting to converse with. He will be greatly missed. RIP.

Tucker J. Madawick - October 04, 2023 at 10:11 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William J. "Bill" Matthews.

October 04, 2023 at 09:14 AM



“ Bill always “cheated” when playing cards, but I never held it against him! :) Jokes aside, I’ll always remember Bill as a gentleman, with a big heart and a wonderful sense of humor. His legacy lives on... so many great memories. ❤️

Jeremy Ecenbarger - October 04, 2023 at 09:13 AM

BJ

“ I had the great pleasure of getting to know Bill Matthews only within the last few years. Bill served with distinction as a member of the Board of Directors of The Golf Club at Eagle Pointe. He was a calm, dependable leader on whom we could always rely for kindness and wisdom. I will miss Bill's soothing presence, his ready warmth and smile, and his gentle, guiding hand. Rest well and peacefully my friend. May God's peace be with all of Bill's family as they cherish their memories and learn to live without his presence in their lives.

*Bill Jonas*

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**Bill Jonas** - October 03, 2023 at 02:10 PM

PW

“ Bill was my best friend Rob's father. I have many fond memories of him all the way back to when Rob and I were in High School. He was always at our cross-country and track meets cheering us on. As we grew older, I would get to see Bill frequently as Rob and I joined the National Guard and served together for many years. Bill was extremely proud of all his children and grandchildren. He had a warm smile and handshake or hug for everyone he met. He'll be forever missed and never forgotten. We love you Bill!

*Pat and Janine Wilk*

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**Patrick and Janine Wilk** - October 03, 2023 at 12:19 PM

WB

“ We are saddened to learn of Bill's passing. Our time together revolved around girls softball in Alma. Bill and Sandy were always found at games when Lori was catching and hitting. He was a perfect parent fan because of his quiet supportive tone. His smile was consistent and his kindness was ever present. Condolences to the Matthew's family, especially Lori whose participation on our softball teams was an example of a gifted athlete, whose personality resembled Bill's. RIP Bill. You will be missed. Cheryl/Bill Bupp

William Floyd Bupp - October 03, 2023 at 08:34 AM

KM

I was privileged to have Bill and Sandie as my neighbors. I witnessed Bill's remarkable kindness and integrity as Sandie's illness overtook her. It is cruelly ironic that just as he was ready to start a new chapter, he became ill himself and those fresh joys were snatched from him. Yet he remained strong and retained his refreshing sense of humor up to the end with no trace of the bitterness most of us would surely have felt. He was a great friend and the best neighbor anyone could ever wish for.

Kevin Murphy - October 04, 2023 at 06:55 AM

RW

I have known Bill since we were students at Alma High School. During all the ensuing years he maintained a connection. Throughout his life he was a gentleman of the highest order. His sense of humor and positive spirit has been a beacon for all who knew him, and our memory of Bill will continue to provide guidance. He remains.

Robert Woodland - October 04, 2023 at 10:29 PM

AR

Rich and I loved Bill and enjoyed spending time vacationing, antiques, golfing and going to wineries. We both feel a huge loss in our lives. RIP Bill, you were one of a kind.

Alta and Richard - October 08, 2023 at 11:23 AM