



## William "Bill" E. Day

August 16, 1946 - October 28, 2020

William Edwin "Bill" Day, a longtime Bluffton, Indiana, resident, passed away on October 28, 2020, in his Roanoke home following a slow decline in health in the last 15 years.

Bill was born August 16, 1946, in Wells County Hospital, Bluffton, to Birdena N. (Voigt) and Charles E. Day. He was the valedictorian of his 1964 graduating class at Liberty Center High School and played basketball for the school team. He played on the team that famously held back Swayzee High School in a 1964 regional game that went into nine overtimes, setting the Indiana tournament overtime record in high school basketball that stands to this day. He was one of the players who valiantly kept that record-setting game going after the team's star player fouled out.

Bill graduated from Manchester College in 1968 and earned an MBA in finance from Harvard University in 1973. He worked as an accountant (CPA) for most of his professional career, including for Elizabeth Arden (New York City), Eli Lilly and Company (Indianapolis), and Town and Country Chevrolet, now Gates Chevy World (Mishawaka). He was an assistant professor of accounting at Manchester College, now Manchester University, from 1980 to 1984 and an associate professor from 1989 to 2006. During that time, he also was an independent accountant and continued to work in this field until his death. Clauser Furniture, owned by his lifelong friends Fred and Beth Clauser,

was one of his most loyal and tenured clients of nearly 30 years. A faculty office recently was named in his honor in Manchester University's Chinworth Center, the new home of the Gilbert College of Business, donated by the Doug and Linda Kroll family.

A lifelong avid sports fan, Bill seldom missed football, basketball or baseball games while teaching at Manchester. He also enjoyed cross country and tennis meets and at one time served as Manchester's tennis coach. During summer months, he traveled throughout the entire U.S., attempting to visit and attend games at every minor league baseball field in the country, an elusive goal as the number of fields grew exponentially with the rising popularity of minor league ball. He collected players' caps from each team he visited, and his collection of these caps may be unparalleled. He also enjoyed train travel and strived to cover every foot of passenger train rail in the country. In later life, he became a proud University of Virginia sports fan where his daughter, Allison, graduated from in 2017 and now works.

A member of the Liberty Center Baptist Church, he served as a deacon chair, finance secretary, and auditor until his death. This was his childhood church that he rejoined during his retirement years. In 2018, Bill achieved another lifetime goal, visiting Israel and the Holy Lands. His faith was extremely important and he attended Bible studies, Sunday school, and most church events if the doors were open and could usually be seen in a suit and tie. Palm Sunday was his favorite religious holiday. His preferred Bible was the King James version, which he read aloud everyday as a form of speech therapy after his stroke in 2005.

Bill is survived by his daughters Anna in South Bend and Allison in Charlottesville, Virginia, and his sister Joyce (Dennis) Accavallo of Bluffton and his sister-in-law Pam Day-Meadors. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Kent Day.

Family will receive friends from 12 to 2 PM Saturday, November 7, 2020 at the Liberty Center Baptist Church, followed by funeral services at 2 PM with Pastor Aaron Westfall at that location. Burial will take place at Mossburg Cemetery immediately after the services.

The safety of the family and all visitors is our utmost priority. For everyone's safety, we ask that you practice social distancing. Masks are required for viewing and services. We appreciate your cooperation and patience.

The family requests, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions to Liberty Center Baptist Church or Children's Hemiplegia and Stroke Association (CHASA) – an organization that benefited his daughter, Anna, who survived a stroke at birth, [www.chasa.org](http://www.chasa.org).

Funeral arrangements have been made through the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the Day family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Mossburg Cemetery

1300S 550W  
Liberty Center, IN

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 7. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Liberty Center Baptist Church  
3091 West Cherry Street  
Liberty Center, IN 46766

## Funeral Service

NOV 7. 2:00 PM (ET)

Liberty Center Baptist Church  
3091 West Cherry Street  
Liberty Center, IN 46766

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William "Bill" E. Day*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - November 07, 2020 at 11:42 AM



“ *William "Bill" E. Day*

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September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Truly saddened to hear of Bill's passing. He was a terrific Professor and a very interesting guy. We discovered we shared a love for sports, especially baseball and basketball. We became friends and he was crazy enough to be part of our May Day Bicycle Race team. For many years after I moved south we stayed in touch. I will never forget Bill showing up in Georgia when he learned I had opened my own sports bar & grill. He was making a summer trip around the country visiting baseball parks. Bill even brought me a Orioles Jersey and an autographed picture of Brooks Robinson. Both found a place on the wall of my business. And we both made it to Buffalo to watch the MC Spartans play for a National Championship. R.I.P. my friend... you may be gone but you will certainly not be forgotten*

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**Bill Jones** - October 12, 2021 at 04:18 AM

RE

“ I am many fond memories of Professor Day, most of them surrounding his interest in the Manchester baseball program. His presence at our games and interest in the student athletes impacted all of us. It was great to know that he cared. Over the last few years I was confident I would see him at at least one game a year. And, I did. It was an honor to visit them him each of those times. I will miss seeing Bill at the ball field.

*Rick Espeset*

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**Rick Espeset** - November 09, 2020 at 08:42 AM

BL

“ What a pleasure and blessing of mine it was to get to know Bill this past year. He was an encouragement to me in many ways. We had some long talks about our faith and prayed for one another. This morning while reading scripture these verses I believe summarized what Bill tried to achieve while on this earth. Isaiah 11:2-3, "The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him; the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding; the Spirit of counsel and of power; the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord; and he will delight in the fear of the Lord." Bill knew this earth was not his permanent home, rather he was just passing through. My sincere condolences to his family, but be rest assured he is rejoicing as a new creation in God's presence.

*Boyd Leichty*

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**Boyd Leichty** - November 07, 2020 at 07:11 AM

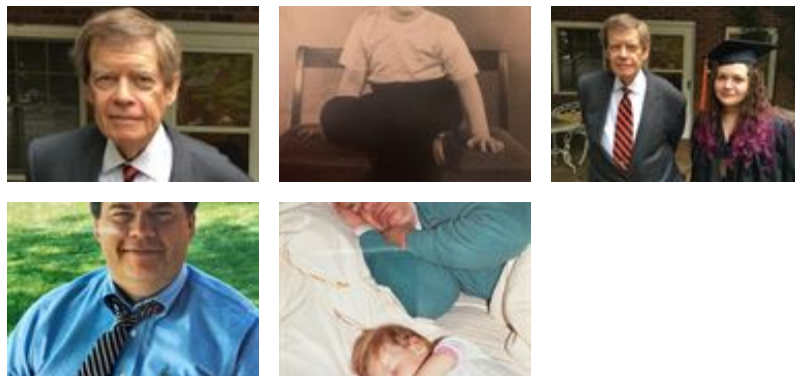
SS

“ I hired Bill for our financial controller for the Gates Automotive family. He later worked for my family, Samson dealership. Bill became a close friend to my entire family. Bill's life beliefs were always a great example to us. He was not only one of most intelligent person that I have known, one of the nicest. Great Memories! Sam Sweeden

sam sweeden - November 06, 2020 at 11:30 AM



“ 76 files added to the album LifeTributes



Thoma/Rich,Lemler Funeral Home - November 06, 2020 at 10:46 AM

RH

“ I would like to share my sincere sympathy with Bill's family. I attended Manchester College and graduated in 1969. Bill was an amazing guy and we had some great times together. It was nice to read of his many accomplishments during his lifetime and his return to Manchester College.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Hahn (Mishawaka, IN)

Richard L. Hahn - November 06, 2020 at 08:58 AM

MH

“ I played Softball with Bill for New Life church team in the early '90's . So sorry to hear of his passing .

Mark Hopkins - November 05, 2020 at 10:46 PM

LZ

“ Bill was a shy, kind, caring, generous, and knowledgeable witness for our God and Lord. He was also a deacon. My forever love and thanks for his part in my going to Israel in 2019. I offer love and prayers to his family. 💕💕

Lana Zoll - November 05, 2020 at 08:57 PM

GM

“ George and I want to send our sincere condolences on the loss of your dad. He was a quiet, but powerful, smart man. You were blessed to have him as an example of integrity and perseverance. We will always cherish our memories of him and are so thankful that our paths crossed serving our Lord together. Sending love and prayers to your family. May you feel the peace and comfort of God as you go through this difficult time together. You are loved,  
Cindy and George Mong

George and Cindy Mong - November 05, 2020 at 04:13 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of William "Bill" E. Day.



November 05, 2020 at 02:08 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" E. Day.*



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November 05, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ *My sympathy to the entire family upon Bill's death. Have known him since high school and attended the 9 overtime game, cheering for Liberty Lions, when the four Southern Wells high schools came together to go to the Regional game, even though we went to Petroleum!! Several from Chester and Jackson joined to make a bigger cheer lock than Liberty had high school students!! Also attended Manchester the same years he did!  
May you all cherish your memories and find peace knowing he is now without pain in Heaven.  
Barb (Baker) Overdeer*

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**Barb Overdeer** - November 04, 2020 at 05:39 PM



“ *Joyce,  
Our sympathy and love to you, your family, and Bill's daughters.  
Dave and Tami Hulvey*

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**Tami Hulvey** - November 04, 2020 at 02:21 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I will keep you and your family in my prayers.*

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**Jerry Czarski** - November 04, 2020 at 11:27 AM

BN

“ Allison, Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family in your time of sorrow.

*Brian & Susan Newman*

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**Brian Newman** - November 02, 2020 at 04:21 PM

RL

“ Allison, God Bless you and your family. I am so sorry to hear of your loss. We will keep you in prayer.

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**Ruth Lawrence** - November 02, 2020 at 01:24 PM

MS

“ Allison, I want you to know that I will continuously keep you and your family in my prayers. I was so happy to meet your dad on the bus when you brought him to sporting events.

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**Minnette Stroud** - November 02, 2020 at 12:28 PM

GZ

*Allison, please accept my deepest condolences for your loss and take heart as you go through this difficult situation.  
God bless you and the entire family during this horrible time .  
Zelee and Helen*

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**Gay Zelee** - November 02, 2020 at 05:36 PM

RF

*We were and are friends of the family for many years!! We will miss him greatly!!*

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**Richard and Carolyn Stinson and family!!** - November 05, 2020 at 11:43 AM

TE

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



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**Teri Eller** - November 02, 2020 at 12:18 PM