



William J. Bowman

November 10, 1937 - October 12, 2017

William J. Bowman, 79 year resident of Gentry, Arkansas, died October 12, 2017, at Willard Walker Hospice, Fayetteville, Arkansas. Born November 10, 1937, in Peoria, Illinois, he was the son of Williams E. Bowman and Beryl Barnes Bowman. William was retired from the military serving in both the Navy and Army. He was a retired repairman for the telephone company and married Carolyn Ivey on June 1, 1986 in Bentonville, Arkansas. He was a member of the Telephone Pioneers and helped and worked with many handicap children.

He was preceded in death by his parent and sister Lucy Bradford.

Survivors include his wife Carolyn of the home; sons David Bowman and Lisa Anderson of Bentonville, Arkansas and Michael Bowman of Rogers, Arkansas; one granddaughter Kayla Bowman of Bentonville, Arkansas and brother Joseph Bowman of Bella Vista, Arkansas.

Memorial graveside services will be 1:00 p.m., Monday, October 23, 2017, at Fayetteville National Cemetery, Fayetteville, Arkansas.

Cemetery Details

Fayetteville National Cemetery

700 Government Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **23**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Fayetteville National Cemetery
700 Government Ave.
Fayetteville, AR 72701

Tribute Wall

ME

“ Bill was a friend to my late husband, Kirby Estes, and myself from the time he came to school at Fayetteville High sometime during our sophomore year. He was a kind and supportive friend for all those years. The last time I visited him and Carolyn, we looked at the old yearbooks from FHS and Helena; we laughed and recalled over sixty years of good times and bad that we had shared. He was an adventurer, an inventor and a character, definitely one of a kind. I remember when he built a privacy fence from scrap lumber from the Phipps Mill to keep his toddlers, David and Mike, out of harms way. I remember tearing down the old Hiwasse school for the lumber (what an adventure that summer held). I remember dancing with him at Jose O'Malley till closing time. I remember when he brought Carolyn to meet me for the first time and I baked 'mock apple' pie and we could not convince him it was not real apple pie. And I remember his 'twenty-second 'meller drammers' that left us all in stitches.

And I remember the 'bucket list'. I pray he got to the last item on that list; each one was another memory to savor and share.

Good bye, dear sweet friend. I cry, but I am not sad; I know you are off on another adventure that you'll tell me about the next time we meet.

Martha Hogan Estes

Martha Estes - October 23, 2017 at 01:21 PM

BH

“ "Little Bill" installed my first telephone in Bentonville, 1967. Years later I worked with "old Man Bill" in Bentonville. Will miss him terribly. Loved his many humerus stories. He had an amazing memory. He has it back now. Rest in peace, dear friend!!!

Betty (Pautlitz) Holland - October 20, 2017 at 11:12 AM

TH

“ Carolyn and the family, my sincere condolences for your loss. Bill was an awesome man. Always would go out of his way to help people. Never ever in the 30 years of knowing him did I ever hear anything negative about him. I was in the Navy with Bill, a Seabee in the det 1328. A lot of fawn memories we had with Bill. He took a liking to me back when I was just a pup and I will never forget the time when he made Chief, a little part of each of us felt we made it too. There was always a core of us together and it seems like the group gets a little smaller . I know I speak for a lot of Seabees that Bill leaves a big gap in a lot of hearts. I work in Kentucky and cant make the graveside but I'll be there with my fellow bees in spirit to honor him.

Tom Hatfield
BUC (SCW) T. Hatfield (ret.) "The Old Pros"



Tom Hatfield - October 19, 2017 at 08:08 PM

LH

“ Carolyn, David, and Kayla,
I have fond memories of Bill, I remember when he and I went eagle watching at Horse Shoebend, and around some poultry houses, I think north of Gentry, a very cold day, but a day I will remember as long as I live, we both used our video camera and I believe he got some better videos than I did. And we all remember our birthday parties. He will be greatly missed by all.

Larry & Doris...

Larry Hanner - October 16, 2017 at 06:02 PM



“ *We are so sorry to hear about Billy. We enjoyed him stoping by with his dogs for a visit. Will miss him*
LEE @ SUE TRUITT

Lee Truitt - October 15, 2017 at 06:53 PM