



William (Bill) Powell

March 14, 1931 - November 9, 2009

William Ray (Bill) Powell, 78, resident of Prescott, AZ since 1984, returned to his Heavenly Father on November 9, 2009. He was born to Louis C and Ella Dienstbier Powell in Ravenna, NE on March 14, 1931. He graduated from Ravenna High School in 1949. During his college years in Nebraska, he lettered in four sports; football, basketball, track, and golf. He remained a lifelong, dedicated Huskers fan. In his sophomore year, he made the decision to leave the light hearted life of a college student athlete, making the sacrifice to serve his country by joining the Navy during the Korean War. It was during that service in 1953 that he suffered a catastrophic brain injury, leaving him in a coma for 6 weeks, paralyzed on his right side, and unable to speak. After years of persevering through difficult, and sometimes excruciating rehabilitation in Naval and VA hospitals, he resumed his college work, transferring to Central Missouri State College in Warrensburg, Missouri. It was there that he met the love of his life, Marjorie Dunwiddie. They were married on March 7, 1957. Bill then graduated in 1959 with a BS in Business Administration. He served in VA hospitals in Omaha, Indianapolis, Memphis, Muskogee, and finally Albuquerque, NM, where he retired as the Chief of Prosthetics for the Southwestern Region in 1980. In 1981, he received Christ as his Savior and was changed for eternity. In 1984 Bill and Marjorie moved to Prescott, not to retire, but to begin a new chapter of service to their community and church. Bill served on the Prescott 20/20 Committee, Prescott Blind Center Board, the Prescott Evening Lions Club in various capacities including

president, later transferring to the Sunrise Lions Club, where he was involved with many community projects. He was a member of the Village Idiots, a neighborhood men's lunch group. At Willow Hills Baptist Church, Bill served as deacon and in many other capacities. As his health began to decline in 2006, Bill returned to the VA hospital system, this time as a resident in long term care. He continued to serve others, always finding the positive side, encouraging staff and fellow veterans alike. Survivors include his sweetheart of 52 years, Marjorie, daughters Julie Jenkins, Linda Kettles, son-in-law, Richey Kettles, honorary daughter Lori Wallace, honorary son Randy Goodsell, grandchildren Jessica Kettles, Cheyenne Kettles, and Sean Dolan. Brother Vern Powell, nephews Jeffrey, Robert, and Dave Powell, Scott and Bruce Dunwiddie,

The family is requesting that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to Willow Hills Baptist Church, 1071 Mogollon Road, Prescott, AZ 86301 or Four County Conference on Developmental Disabilities, 325 N Arizona, Prescott, AZ 86301.

Tribute Wall



“ *William (Bill) Powell*

January 30, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *It was my pleasure to know Bill for the last few years. I always enjoyed talking to him and teasing him about his "Huskers". He will be remembered and missed..and always in my thoughts.*

Al "banana man" Hague - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *I enjoyed visiting with Bill during visits from the Am. Legion Aux #6 in Prescott. We discussed the Huskers and I recently called him to be sure he had his TV on to watch the game. They don't seem to be on much anymore. Too bad the last game that the Huskers' played was not on TV. Bill would have enjoyed it.Nebr. beat Oklahoma. My husband and I often went to that game. Bill told me he played offense and defense in his Husker's days and played on the basketball team. Condolences to Marjorie, a very caring wife and family.
Jo Schreiber*

Joanne Schreiber - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *My Therapy dog Katja and I enjoyed our visits with Mr. Powell--He too enjoyed the visits- We will miss him as Katja loved when we got to his room or met him in the hall because of all the attention he gave her. Our condolences to his wife and family..*

Audree Stricker and "Katja" - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Our Chapter visits the Veterans in the CLC each month after our meetings. We've had many enjoyable visits with Bill and invited him to join our organization. He was seriously considering it but never submitted the applications we supplied him. We consider Bill an honorary member. We appreciated his upbeat, positive attitude and his great smile. We will miss him.

John McKinney - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ William (Bill) Powell

Richard M. Cesario - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ we have all lost a loved one. bill was a part of our va family . we loved him and will miss him daily i took care of him daily and i will miss him very much and in my mind i will always remember his favorite saying I MEAN TO TELL YA. MY PRAYERS ARE WITH HIS FAMILY PAT GREENE

Patricia Greene - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ We will all miss Bill. I will miss when he says "Hi Babe!" in the hall. He was one of a kind - a great guy and a hero to me.

Kathleen Williams - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ Uncle Bill was a kind and wonderful family man and was much beloved. He was a role model of perseverance through adversity through the honorable and loving way he conducted his life. He always maintained an upbeat sense of humor and was genuinely interested in the welfare of others. Uncle Bill never let his physical limitations influence the joy of life and love of family that he demonstrated throughout his life. My father, mother, brothers and I loved him dearly and he will never be forgotten. I will miss him, but I know he is with his maker now and free of pain or limitation. God Bless Uncle Bill.

Robert Powell - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ My name is Sandy Wilkinson and I am a member of Chino Valley Elks Lodge #2842, and several times a year my Lodge calls Bingo at the VA hospital facility and Mr. Powell would come and play and have desert later. It was my pleasure to sit with Bill and offer any help he might have needed. He always seemed to enjoy playing Bingo and our company.

Our Elks Bingo group went to the VA to play Bingo on November 6th and we missed having Bill there, not realizing his condition. We all would like to extend our condolences to Bill's family and tell them that we will all miss his smiling face at our future VA Bingos.

Sandy Wilkinson - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Having served the Powells as their rural mail carrier in the late 90's through 2003, I was saddened to see his announcement. We frequently visited at his mailbox on days he was able to come out; and he would offer helpful information with regards to my disabled veteran husband. After I was no longer carrying his mail, I would often see him at the VA Hospital where we would enjoy our chats with him. He was a wonderful and caring individual, and I just wanted you to know that someone besides his family will continue to remember him.

Sharon Lopeman - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM

FS

“ Thank you Bill for being a friend to Pervy and Me. If you had not been a match-maker I would not have had 11 years with Pervy. You will be missed by all that knew you.

Frances McCann Smith - November 09, 2009 at 12:00 AM