

Dr. William (Bill) F. Purkey

December 12, 1932 - October 3, 2020

Dr. William (Bill) F. Purkey, 87, of DeBary, FL entered the Lords rest on October 3, 2020. He was the 8th of 11 children born to John B. and Annabelle Purkey in Knoxville, TN. After serving his country in the U.S. Navy for 2 years he attended Olivet Nazarene College where he received a Bachelor's in Education. He went on to earn his Masters in Education at Stetson University, and his Doctorate in Education from Nova University.

He began his teaching career in Kankakee, IL. After moving to Orlando in the early 1960's he taught at Colonial High School before becoming an instructor on the Public Broadcast System, Channel 24 while also serving as Assistant Director of the Orlando Planetarium. His love for the classroom led him to Valencia Community College where he thoroughly enjoyed engaging his students for the next 26 years. After retirement he returned to his native TN with his wife Marcia to live out his childhood dreams on their farm. They recently returned to Florida to be close to family.

Bill is survived by his wife Marcia, son David, daughter Jill, grandson Cole, beloved niece Patty, and numerous other nieces and nephews.

Services are pending at this time.

The family of William (Bill) F. Purkey invites you to leave a message of

condolence on the Tribute Wall created in his memory.

Tribute Wall

SM

“ I came to work for Bill as a caretaker but I take with me so much more. I am amazed with the strength and devotion this couple shared. They are strong in facing all of life's perils. Their unconditional love was seen in a smile, I bet he's looking down and saying "when is Marcia coming home?" -- "when Marcia is done with all God's work". Sleep sweetly, gentle man.

Susan Merrifield - October 12, 2020 at 08:54 PM

JL

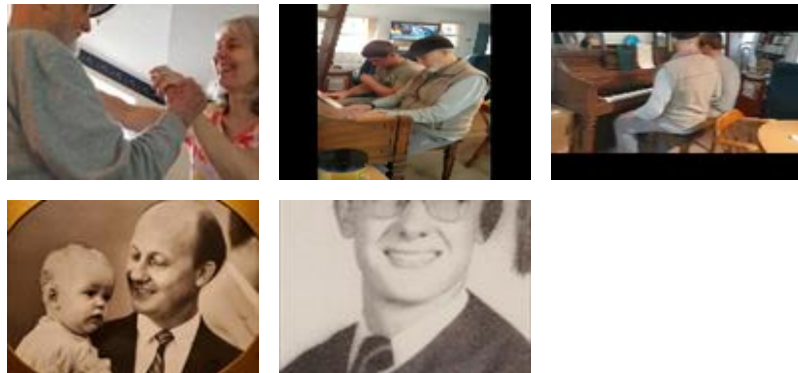
“ My heart goes out to you at this time. You know I am here if you need anything. Just give a little shout out and I'll come over and I'll even bring some wine.



Jeri Anne Lovett - October 07, 2020 at 10:45 PM

JL

“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Jill Leasure - October 07, 2020 at 06:28 PM

JL

“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Jill Leasure - October 06, 2020 at 06:42 PM

LM

He was a wonderful man who will be truly missed. Blessings and prayers for you all❤️

lindi moore - October 07, 2020 at 05:38 PM

JL

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Jill Leasure - October 06, 2020 at 06:37 PM

JH

I will always remember the day Bill "came home" from the Navy, I went out to meet him as he walked toward my Grandparents home. He had on his "whites" and his sea bag in hand as I ran out to meet him. Never will forget!

james r Headley - October 07, 2020 at 02:30 PM