



William Oliver Morris

August 24, 1928 - January 5, 2023

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Bill Morris died peacefully on January 5, 2023, at his home in Longwood, Florida, surrounded by his loving family. Born August 24, 1928, in Brookhaven, Mississippi, he was the first of two sons to William and Pearl Morris. He graduated from the University of Mississippi in 1950 and served in the Air Force during the Korean War. He married Anne Bowie in 1952. After his discharge as a Captain in 1954, he began a 32-year career with Allstate Insurance where he pioneered automated underwriting. He and his wife moved several times, to Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit and Chicago again before he retired as Assistant Vice President for Personal Lines Underwriting.

Bill then moved to East Greenwich, Rhode Island, to be a consultant for Metropolitan Property and Liability Insurance. After his wife's passing, he moved to San Diego. He married Rowena Muller in 1992 and moved to Fairfax, Virginia, where he lived until moving to Longwood, Florida, in 2021.

Bill's favorite times were spent with the families of Rowena's three children: John and Debbie Muller, Valerie and Jim Walker, and Lauren and Eric Gibbs. The eight grandchildren dearly loved their Grandpa, whom they lovingly called "The King." He never tired of talking with them, reading to them, or playing with them, everything from Jenga to board games. Eric (wife Sarah), Stephen

(fiancée Jess) and Caroline Gibbs; Meredith, Charlotte and Jimmy Walker; and Sarah and Amy Muller all had a special place in his heart. The last big thrill in Bill's life was the arrival of his first great-grandson, Eric Paul Gibbs III (Trip).

Bill loved to travel. He and Rowena traveled extensively in the United States and visited five continents. He loved golf, Ole Miss football, and jazz, especially Pete Fountain and Elvis Presley ballads and spirituals. He was an inveterate reader and a dog-lover whom dogs instinctively recognized as a soft touch. With his wife, a Dame of the Order of Malta, he was active in the Order's charitable activities. For years they made semi-monthly visits to a nursing home and helped with Anointing Masses for the sick. He was a Eucharistic Minister in his parish for a term and was an altar server at Arlington National Cemetery 's Old Post chapel for years.

Bill was pre-deceased by his first wife Anne and his brother Hal. He is survived by his wife Rowena, his stepchildren and their spouses, eight grandchildren and one great-grandson as well as several nieces and nephews and their families.

Shortly before he died, Bill said he had had a wonderful life and thanked God every day for all the years he had lived. He never expected to live as long as he did!

The Funeral Mass will be held at Annunciation Catholic Church, 1020 Montgomery Rd., Altamonte Springs, Florida 32714 on Monday, January 16th, at 10:00 a.m. The funeral mass will be live-streamed - please check back on Jan. 16th for the link to the mass. Visitation will be held on Sunday, January 15th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at DeGusipe Funeral Home, 9001 N. Maitland Avenue, Maitland, Florida 34761. Burial will be private at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Catholic Relief Services for assisting victims of the war in Ukraine. CRS, 228 Lexington Street, Baltimore, MD 21201.

<https://na01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fyoutu.be%2F9CpOJuXclnY&data=05%7C01%7C%7C75170c3930604f0ec92f08daf439da9b%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C638090826558163545%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTil6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=PKSS6wunetqOJ6eh1LV8%2BoeGvNqgYZPPZ4Q%2FA0tWOUI%3D&reserved=0>

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **15**. 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

DeGusipe Funeral Home & Crematory Maitland Chapel

9001 N. Orlando Ave

Maitland, FL 32751

(407) 695-2273

todd@degusipe.com

<https://www.degusipefuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

AM

“ Our family won the lottery with having Bill as our beloved uncle...brilliant, loving, kind, generous, wonderful sense of humor, filled with integrity, remarkable work ethic and always so much fun! We will treasure wonderful memories of happy times shared with him. We loved him deeply and he will always hold a special place in our hearts. Keeping all who loved him in our thoughts and prayers. Much love, Anne

Anne Johnson Mallory - January 16, 2023 at 01:03 AM

LJ

“ Love, Laura Morris Jester purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William Oliver Morris.



Love, Laura Morris Jester - January 11, 2023 at 08:27 AM

LM

“ Love, Debra (Ted) and Michael Muller purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of William Oliver Morris.



Love, Debra (Ted) and Michael Muller - January 11, 2023 at 06:41 AM