



William D. Charlton

November 2, 1928 - November 2, 2021

William (Bill) Delbert Charlton passed away on his 93rd birthday, November 2nd, 2021. Bill was born to parents, Earl Edward and Marie Anna (nee Zehringer) Charlton, in 1928 in Wabeno, Wisconsin, a small town in the north woods of Forest County. Bill had two beloved older siblings, Earl Allen and Mae Athene (May), who predeceased him. Bill was May's "little buddy," and, hence, called "Bud" (later "Uncle Bud") by his family. It was in Wabeno that Bill learned to love nature and all living creatures. Bill would roam the forests around Wabeno with his first dog, Duke, and the neighborhood cats would follow him on his way home from school. Everybody knew Bill and Duke in Wabeno. Duke would ride in the bed of Earl's (Bill's dad) truck with his front paws on the cab.

Bill moved as a teen-ager with his family to Milwaukee, where he graduated from high school. He received his degree in electrical engineering from Marquette University. At Marquette, Bill was introduced by his sister-in-law, JoAnne Lampe-Charlton, to the love of his life, Mary Lou Jones, whom he married in 1953 in Los Angeles.

Bill's first engineering position was at North American Aviation, where he worked as an electrical engineer on the XB70 (an experimental bomber). He

subsequently moved to Marquardt, where he worked on small thrusters, used to position the Lunar Orbiter for the Apollo missions and, later, for the Space Shuttle. Marquardt awarded his daughter, Patricia, with a scholarship presented by astronaut Sally Ride.

Bill was a Knight of Columbus for over sixty and a founding member of St. Joseph the Worker Church. Bill loved being a Knight of Columbus and was proud to be a Knight of the Fourth Degree. Bill worked many KOC activities while his six children attended school at St. Joseph's - including fish fries, pancake breakfasts, bingo nights and the KOC carnival booth. In his later years, Bill and his wife, MaryLou, would set-up coffee and donuts for Sunday early Mass at St. Josephs.

Bill loved hiking, camping, horseback riding, and even dancing. He travelled to Europe, China, Tibet and throughout the United States and Canada.

Bill had an acre property near his home where he kept horses, a pony, goats and chickens. He was there every morning—like clockwork—to make sure all the animals were fed and watered. His beloved dogs are Charlie, his Brittney spaniel; Robbie, his border collie; Toby, his rescue (also known as "Big Foot"); and Wilber and Ringo, the border collie twins.

Bill is survived by daughters, Irene Charlton and Patricia Charlton (with whom he lived); daughter Mary Charlton and her partner, Mike Cohen; daughter, Rose Ballard and her husband, Alan; daughter, Helen Charlton; and son, William Gerard Charlton. His grandchildren are Christopher Leon and his wife, Sabrina (great grandchildren Shaun and Isabella); Candace Leon-Stealey and her husband, Anthony Stealey; Michelle Leon; and Max Leon. Bill is remembered fondly by his many nieces and nephews, and his dear sister-in-

law, Joanne Lampe-Charlton.

Visitation will be at Utter McKinley Mortuary in Mission Hills on Monday, November 22nd, at 1:00 p.m. with rosary following at 2:00 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Tuesday, November 23rd at St. Didacus in Sylmar at 10:00 a.m. The Knights of Columbus Honor Guard will be in attendance. Burial will follow at San Fernando Mission Cemetery, where Bill and his wife, Mary Lou, will be interred together. The family asks friends and relatives, in lieu of flowers to make a donation in Bill's name to an animal rescue or wildlife foundation.

Cemetery Details

San Fernando Mission Catholic Cemetery

11160 Stranwood Ave
Mission Hills, CA 91345
(818) 361-7387

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **22**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PT)

Utter McKinley San Fernando Mission Mortuary
11071 Columbus Avenue
Mission Hills, CA 91345
(818) 361-4751
<https://www.uttermckinley.com/>

Rosary

NOV **22**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

Utter McKinley San Fernando Mission Mortuary
11071 Columbus Avenue
Mission Hills, CA 91345
(818) 361-4751
<https://www.uttermckinley.com/>

Funeral Mass

NOV 23. 10:00 AM (PT)

Saint Didacus Catholic Church
14337 Astoria St.
Sylmar, CA 91342

Burial

NOV 23 (PT)

San Fernando Mission Catholic Cemetery
11160 Stranwood Ave
Mission Hills, CA 91345
(818) 361-7387

Tribute Wall



“ *William D. Charlton*

October 07, 2023 at 09:33 AM



“ *William D. Charlton*

October 05, 2023 at 03:41 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Rose Ballard - March 30, 2022 at 06:04 PM



Bill and his dogs, Robbie and Charlie, at Mammoth Lakes, California

Rose Ballard - March 31, 2022 at 12:45 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Rose Ballard - March 30, 2022 at 06:03 PM

RB

Bill relaxing at home.

Rose Ballard - March 31, 2022 at 12:39 AM

RB

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Rose Ballard - March 30, 2022 at 06:02 PM

RB

Bill and his dog, Charlie

Rose Ballard - March 31, 2022 at 12:14 AM

TF

“ *The Welcenbach Family purchased the Multicolor Bright Sympathy Floor Basket for the family of William D. Charlton.*



The Welcenbach Family - November 15, 2021 at 08:41 PM