



Bill Floyd Hankins

April 20, 1933 - May 23, 2014

Interlochen - Bill Floyd Hankins, 81, of Interlochen, passed away May 23, 2014. Bill was born on April 20, 1933 in Greenfield, Oklahoma to his parents the late Richard Bryant and Annie Bonness (Loard) Hankins.

Bill married his beloved wife, Helen (Mountford) on January 19, 1963, and the couple shared 51 years of marriage together and raised their two children.

Bill was a military veteran who served his country for two years in the U.S. Army. He earned a teaching degree and was a middle and high school teacher in San Diego, CA., and San Paulo Brazil.

He finished Graduate Studies at Michigan State University, then taught at the Lansing Boys Training School before working for the Department of Social Services at the State level.

In 1990 he followed his dream and opened an Art Gallery and custom frame shop in East Lansing. In 2010 he and Helen retired to their cottage on Green Lake at Interlochen. There he followed his passion of listening to the music created at Interlochen and gardening. He was an active member of Grace Episcopal Church in Traverse City.

Bill is survived by his wife Helen; a daughter Tracy Hankins; a son Andrew (Leisa) Hankins; grandchildren, Eli, Zachary and Allison; sisters, Edna Damsen and Betty Nelson; sisters-in-law, Billie Hankins.

He is preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Claude and Fred Hankins.

Bill's sudden death was from a massive stroke, and in lieu of flowers please consider sending a donation in his memoriam to Grace Episcopal Church's Jubilee House Outreach Ministry, 341 Washington St. Traverse City, MI., 49684.

A memorial service will be held at Grace Episcopal Church on Saturday, May 31, 2014 at 11:00am.

Please feel free to share your thoughts and memories with Bill's family by visiting <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>

Arrangements for the family have been entrusted to Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Events

MAY **Memorial Service** 11:00AM

31

Grace Episcopal Church

341 Washington, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

Comments



“ We were sorry to hear of Bill passing! It has been so long since we have seen him. Our prayers are with the family. Love and God's Blessings to you all, Lucille Edwards and family.

Irene Pellouso - July 02, 2014 at 10:30 PM



“ Dear Helen, Tracy and Andrew,

I was saddened to learn about Bill's death. Please accept our sincere thoughts and condolences. The tribute in the Lansing City Pulse was glowing but from my perspective it missed the part of Bill's life when he was the best advocate for kids in the state - a role he played with grace and humor and vision.

He was a great man. We will miss him.

Mark and Ellen Sullivan

J. Mark Sullivan - June 06, 2014 at 01:07 PM



“ Dear Helen and family,

We are saddened to hear of Bill's sudden death. While we haven't seen you and Bill in several years, we often think of you both, especially when we look at the art work that he beautifully framed for us. Bill was one of the few people in this area that I knew well and could always find amenable to discussing just about anything -- art, politics, the local scene, and things happening at work. We will miss him and what he represented, a good friend and a true gentleman who promoted the finer things that life had to offer.

Gary and Nancy Howitt

Gary and Nancy Howitt - May 31, 2014 at 07:58 PM



“ It was very sad to hear of his passing Bill was a caring out going just a great person I and my husband got to know him at jubalie the lord and angels are with him definately.

nikki - May 31, 2014 at 07:07 PM



“ Dear Helen,
It is will great sadness that I hear this news. Bill was one of the nicest, most intelligent people I've had the pleasure to know. I am fortunate that I had the opportunity to get to know you both over many great conversations at the gallery. His appreciation and knowledge of art was admirable. That was a difficult time in my life and having the nurturing, inspiring atmosphere of the gallery gave me hope and comfort. Both of you, since that time, have been near and dear to my heart. I will always remember Bill's smile. It made me think he had a secret no one else knew. God bless you and your family. You are in my heart and prayers.

Lesley Kleiber Kitts

lesley kitts - May 31, 2014 at 04:57 PM



“ Helen, we share your loss of a man with whom we enjoyed working on human services issues and a delightful person with whom to share ideas, interests and insights. We treasure our friendship with you folks and raise a toast to one neat, positive, valued and valuable contributor to our common lives. Please know that we are thinking of you as you confront your loss.
Judy Martin and Lynn Jondahl

Judy Martin and Lynn Jondahl - May 30, 2014 at 04:13 PM



“ To Helen and family Tracy and Eli and Andrew

I was informed of Bill sudden death last pm. I always admired and respected Bill. He was a loving husband and generous , honest , giving , very respected man who one could look up to in many ways. He was also creative and kind to all and will be deeply missed. Helen if there is anything you need please ask . I WILL ALWAYS BE THERE FOR YOU.. Love to all George Kleiber

George Kleiber - May 29, 2014 at 01:48 PM



“ Dear Dear Helen. Sergei and I think of you often. Every wall of our house holds art and frames that you and Bill prepared for us. Our prayers are with you at this time of loss. jmc

James McClurken - May 27, 2014 at 03:49 PM



“ 'Mr. Hankins', Bill, was my favorite teacher at the Escola Americana de Campinas. He taught our art classes and once took our class to the Bienal in Sao Paulo and to this day (some 50 years later) I still remember the art work in detail! He was one of the people responsible for my BFA in printmaking and drawing. I also remember baby sitting his daughter and son and playing 'Take Five', over and over, on the Hankins' record player....Thank you for many lessons, amazing and kind teacher. Love to you Helen....
Cathy Michel

Catherine Michel - May 27, 2014 at 10:20 AM



“ Dear Helen,
Bill's art gallery was just the best as it was visiting with him and making decisions about framing and art. We will always miss our dear husbands Bill and Dan. Sending love and sympathy, Amelia Musser

Amelia Musser - May 27, 2014 at 08:14 AM



“ A dear, dear man that will certainly be missed by many. It was always a joy to bump into Bill & Helen around town. Warmth and joy exuded from the two of them together. Sending you much love, Helen.

Diane Samarasinghe - May 26, 2014 at 01:58 PM



“ Dear Family,

I worked closely with Bill when he was in the DSS Central Office involved in child care policy issues. At the time I was a young inexperienced legislative aide working with Rep. Dave Hollister on the same issues. Bill was absolutely wonderful to work with. He was patient, kind, light-hearted and always treated me as an equal. I highly respected him and his work. I lost touch with him in the mid 80s when I moved to Traverse City but was delighted to run into him a few times through the years, including one time in TC. I am so happy he was able to follow his dreams with the shop and retirement up-north. He was a wonderful person and I'm sorry for your loss.

Dorene Radke-Boyd

Dorene Radke-Boyd - May 26, 2014 at 12:22 PM



“ Dear Helen, I was so sad when Aunt Bellie told me about uncle Bill passing. Growing up I had a lot of good times with him. He would take Ronnie and I in his white MG up to bass lake for the day. One of us had to take turns sitting in the back behind the seats. We didn't mind because we always had a great time. He would always work in some of life's lessons always a teacher even then. He was patient, kind and thoughtful, also a very loving kind of man. I always loved being around him. Aunt Helen was a great addition to our family she shared a lot of the same values and love for family that uncle Bill did. I will miss you always
Love Elizabeth Hankins Phillips Daughter of Claude and May Hankins

Elizabeth Hankins Phillips - May 28, 2014 at 07:56 PM