

# FEERICK FUNERAL HOME

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## William "Bill" P. Dixon

(August 02, 1939 - February 08, 2015 )

Dixon, William P. "Bill"

Of Whitefish Bay, passed away February 8, 2015 at Froedtert Hospital with his wife Dixie by his side. In his last days he received that which he cherished most – memories, laughter, tears, and love from his wife, children, and grandchildren.

Bill was born in Peoria, Illinois and grew up in nearby Washington, Illinois. He was a standout athlete at Washington High School, earning a scholarship to play basketball and baseball at Bradley University in Peoria. At Bradley, he excelled in baseball, earning selection to the Missouri Valley Conference All-Star team and the Scholastic All-American team. In 1961, Bill married Bradley classmate Dixie (Boardman). Bill played professional baseball in the San Francisco Giants organization for four years, ultimately settling in Decatur, Illinois after playing for the Decatur Commodores in 1964. In 1964 he was inducted into the Bradley University Athletic Hall of Fame.

He earned a Master's Degree in Educational Administration from the University of Illinois and subsequently served as a teacher, baseball coach, and Dean of Students at Stephen Decatur High School for 20 years. Bill returned to his love of wood-working and craftsmanship as the sole proprietor of Bay Pine Enterprises when he relocated to Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin. Grandchildren eagerly awaited his "official" business meeting each year, during which Bill shared his creative, playful year end stock report and awarded dividend spending money for the famous Black Bear Lodge vacations.

His quiet nature could not mask the deep love he felt for his wife, children, and grandchildren. Bill coached Little League baseball for years and led or supported numerous Boy Scout, YMCA, and Youth Hockey activities for his children. He also spent countless hours sharing his wood-working craft on numerous projects with his grandchildren.

He served his country from 1961 to 1968 as a Specialist of the U.S. Army Reserves National Guard.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Dixie; son, Kent (Diana) of Carol Stream, IL; daughter, Kelley (Bob) Dunn of Clarendon Hills, IL; his beloved grandchildren, Patrick, Ryan, Tyler, Grace, and Jessica; and dear niece, Heidi (Arno) Fritz. He was preceded in death by his dear son, Kurt Eric.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A celebration of his life will be held on Saturday, March 14 at Central Christian Church, 650 W. William St., Decatur, IL. There will be a Visitation at 10:30 AM followed by the service at 11 AM. In loving memory of Bill, contributions in his name may be sent to: Trees for Tomorrow, 519 E.

Sheridan St., Eagle River, WI. 54521

The family wishes to thank Dr. Brian Lewis, Dr. Peter Rossi, and the staff at Froedtert Hospital for the extraordinary care they provided and genuine concern they showed to Bill Dixon over the past year.