



Dr. William Spieth

March 10, 1928 - December 12, 2016

Statesboro, Georgia

Dr. William Spieth, 88, passed away Monday, December 12, 2016 at the East Georgia Regional Medical Center in Statesboro, GA. Bill was born in Phoenixville, PA. After high school, he was a professional baseball pitcher for three years, but gave it up and served 2 years in the U.S. Army. Bill served in the Korean War. He later graduated from Penn State University on the G.I. Bill in 1954, earning his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. He joined the faculty of then Georgia Southern College in the 1960s as a health and physical education professor and academic advisor to students. Bill also spent time as the head baseball coach (winning two NAIA national championships) and then became the first coach of the women's softball team, a position he held for 17 years. He retired from Georgia Southern in 1996 but remained active on campus, cheering on the Eagles with season football tickets as a booster club member and playing racquetball with his buddies until he had to have his knee replaced a few years ago.

Bill was a member of the Pittman Park United Methodist Church. He was a member of the American Legion Post 90.

Bill is survived by his wife of 36 years, MaryAnn McBairty Spieth of Statesboro; a son and daughter-in-law, Brad and Linn Spieth of Cumming, GA; a daughter and son-in-law, Valerie and Eddie Coppage of Middleburg, FL; step-daughter, Karen Wydock of Hazleton, PA; step-son, Bob Wydock of Spring Hill, TN; three step-sons and their wives, Edward and Iris Wydock, of Lititz, PA, Gary and Lori Wydock of Cape Coral, FL, and Jim and Marybeth Wydock of Lawrenceville, GA; four sisters, Ruth Custer of Oaks, PA, Helen Manney of Pheonixville, PA, June Henzie of Spring City, PA, and Joan Carl of Pheonixville, PA. He was also the proud grandparent of 12.

The family will receive visitors on Friday from 4:00pm until 6:00pm at Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home in Statesboro.

Funeral services will be Saturday at 11:00am at Pittman Park United Methodist Church with Rev. Bill Bagwell officiating. The body will lie-in-state at the church one hour prior to the service.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to Wounded

Warrior Project at woundedwarriorproject.org or by phone, 855-448-3997 or mail to: P.O. Box 758517 Topeka, Kansas 66675-8517.

Friends may sign the online register book at www.joineranderson.com

Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home & Crematory of Statesboro is in charge of arrangements.

Events

DEC 16 **Visitation** 04:00PM - 06:00PM

Joiner-Anderson Funeral Home - Statesboro
502 Miller Street Ext., Statesboro, GA, US, 30458

DEC 17 **Service** 11:00AM

Pittman Park United Methodist Church
1102 Fair Road, Statesboro, GA, US, 30458

Comments



“ Bill was a respected faculty member and coach. He was more than a colleague - he was a mentor and friend. Becky and I send our thoughts and prayers to the family. Sincerely, Becky and Charlie Hardy

Rebecca Hardy - December 18, 2016 at 10:08 AM



“ A tribute video has been added.



Joiner Anderson Funeral Home - December 16, 2016 at 11:26 AM



“ Wow! What a wonderful tribute to Coach Spieth. He was such a nice man. I hope to live my life to the fullest just as he did.

Beth Clifton - January 04 at 09:26 AM



“ So sorry to hear the news of Coach Speith's passing. I had Coach Speith for a Coaching Baseball class in 1968. I learn as much about the game of baseball as I did during my professional career. Tough guy but ALWAYS caring!! Thanks Coach! Bob Jones

Bob Jones - December 17, 2016 at 07:10 AM



“ I had Coach Spieth as a professor and was able to see him around Statesboro frequently. He always said hello and asked how I was doing. I respected all he did while working at Ga Southern. Sad to hear of his passing. My prayers and thoughts to his family.

Keith Roughton





“ I am so saddened to hear of the passing of Coach Spieth. I played softball for him from 1985 to 1989. He would get so frustrated with us sometimes, but still showed his support for us at every game! He was a great man and a true blue GSU EAGLE! My thoughts and prayers are with his family.

Debbie Tomkiewicz
Richmond Hill, GA

Debbie Tomkiewicz - December 16, 2016 at 06:41 AM



“ Coach Spieth awarded me a college scholarship to play softball for the Lady Eagles, the very first year it had University status. My sister walked on the team a few years before me and was the captain and had a scholarship too. I am sad to hear this but happy to share that I remember him well and see that smile under that ball cap as my memory. He put up with all of us, a tough thing to do...we must have been tough. Love and thoughts to his family and all those who played for him. He was a really good guy. I really remember his kindness mostly. Thank you for sharing his obituary, I did not know his like was so full. I am passing it on to other players who would want to know. I will remember my playing days with Coach Spieth fondly. Gretchen Koehler Mann Pitcher/ first Base 1989-1991.

Gretchen Mann - December 15, 2016 at 09:28 PM



“ DEAR VALERIE, I AM SO VERY SORRY ABOUT YOUR DAD'S PASSING. MY HEART IS BREAKING FOR YOU. IT WAS SUCH A SHOCK TO ME WHEN DAD DIED AUGUST 2011. CHRISTMAS IS SUCH A TERRIBLE TIME - YOU WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER . PRAYERS FOR YOUR FAMILY.

LOVE,
MARLEE CAREY -GEORGIA SOUTHERN '83



MARLEE CAREY - December 15, 2016 at 05:33 PM



“ Dr. Spieth, one of the most humble man and outstanding teacher I experienced at GSU. Got the opportunity to thank coach/Dr. Spieth for his influence in my life less than a month ago in Chic-filet. Thank you God for his witness here in Bulloch county

tom bigwood - December 14, 2016 at 07:42 PM