



William David Clynes

November 2, 1927 - October 8, 2020

Clynes, William D. "Bill" Bill Clynes, a loving family man and touchstone in the local commercial construction community passed away in the loving care of N.C. Little Hospice, Edina MN, on October 8, 2020. A service in celebration of Bill's life will be held at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Edina on June 7 at 11:00 AM. Inurnment will be at Lake Nebagamon Cemetery on a future date. You may join a livestream of the service via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ststephensedina/>

Survived by son David, sister Mary Alice (Fosse), nephews Tom (Lynn) Crowley, Joe Crowley and niece JoAnne Makely and untold loving family and friends. Bill is preceded in death by his loving wife of 63 years Lois and two daughters (in infancy), a brother John (in infancy) and parents Dennis J. and Anita D. (Pierce) Clynes.

Born in Milwaukee WI on Nov. 2, 1927, Bill grew up in Niles Township (now Skokie) IL. As high school years were WW2 times, Bill and his family moved around the country as his father built facilities in support of the war. During summer in Provo UT Bill picked peaches on local farms. In Sunset Beach CA Bill was a riveter on C47 and A26 airplanes at Douglas Aircraft. Returning to Niles Township for his last year, Bill graduated high school in 1945. Immediately afterwards Bill attended Northwestern University, Evanston IL for a portion of a year and then accepted his invitation from the US Army in 1946.

After basic training in Ft. McClellan AL, Bill graduated from Officers Candidate School and was commissioned a 2nd Lt. at Ft. Benning GA in 1947.

While attending Army Engineer School at Ft. Belvoir VA Bill met his future bride, the lovely Lois Lindquist. With WW2 over, Bill was sent to Korea to serve in the US Army of occupation. Stationed in Taegu, Bill's predominant role was as Company Commander of C Company, 6th Engineer Combat Battalion, with responsibility for an engineering utility detachment added later. During this time many special letters crossed the Pacific between Bill and Lois. After finishing his military service in Korea in 1948, Bill accepted his discharge before hostilities began on the Korean Peninsula in 1950.

After military service, Bill attended Purdue University as a member of Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering in 1953. Bill and Lois were married February 7th of that same year in Brainerd MN. Married life began in Chicago IL, then projects with George A Fuller brought Bill and Lois to Milwaukee WI, Indianapolis IN, (where son David was born), Lorain OH and finally Minneapolis where Bill served as on-site manager for construction of the Northwestern National Life building (now Voya Financial 20 Washington), "Bill's Building" in 1963. Desiring to stay in one place to raise their son, Bill changed jobs and the family settled in the Minneapolis area. Retiring in 1993 from C. F. Haglin and Sons, Bill had a very successful 40-year career in the commercial and industrial construction industry, making many good friends along the way.

Although outwardly a bit stoic at times, Bill's faith community held a significant place in his life. Bill and Lois were active in Cursillo. Bill was warden at St. Alban's Episcopal Church. At St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Bill was a faithful member of his Cursillo 4th day group and most recently especially enjoyed the community of Wednesday night dinners with parish families and kids. In his later professional career and continuing well into retirement, Bill

was an esteemed member in good standing of the Pearson's Wisdom Table in Edina where much knowledge and joy was exchanged with good friends almost every weekday morning for many years. Bill joined Edina Rotary in 1976 and would be the first to say his life was much richer for having done so. Holding the office of president in 1983-84, Bill led the district Ambassadorial Scholar program from 1988 to 1995. In this role Bill arranged for local advisors for some 50+ graduate students from all over the world. Lois and Bill hosted frequent dinners and gatherings with these mentored students that generated wonderful friendships - many lasting to today.

David wishes to thank Bill's primary care team headed by Dr. Cummings, the caregivers at Abbott NW Hospital and the special care of N. C. Little Hospice in Edina. In lieu of flowers please direct any memorials to: the Children's Ministries of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, N. C. Little Memorial Hospice or the charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Crematory

2610 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Previous Events

Gathering

MAY 30 (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436
(952) 920-3996
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Service

JUN 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
4439 W. 50th Street
Edina, MN

Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Webcast in memory of William David Clynes



Washburn-McReavy - June 04, 2021 at 12:30 PM

KW

“ Bill had a mischievous smile and a dry wit, which seemed to make him younger than his actual age. Sometimes I didn't catch his humor until later on in the conversation! Our family met Bill, Lois and David at St. Stephen Episcopal Church. They lived their faith and it was a focal point of their lives, a godly example to us and our young son at the time.

Bill was always so thoughtful of Gary and me as fellow army officer veterans. He was the first person to invite us to a Veteran's Day luncheon in our new state of Minnesota after we had arrived in the Twin Cities from Fort Leavenworth, Kansas after 20 plus years of military service on 3 continents and many US states. We had a lovely time sharing service stories on that Veterans Day.

And then, I got to see Bill in the flag atrium of the Minneapolis VA on at least one or two occasions, because we both received veteran benefits there. I was probably the only time I ever recognized a familiar face in that large VA waiting area.

We give thanks for having known Bill and Lois, for their hospitality, and for their son, David, who became the youth mentor for our son John while we were members of St. Stephen's Church. I feel badly that Gary and I are just now discovering who we lost to death last year in 2020 while we were sequestered.

I do love this obituary photo of Bill. It is how I remember him. You can see his playful, impish smile and I imagine he is still keeping the cloud of witnesses in wonderment.

Katherine and Gary Wilhelm

Katherine Wilhelm - July 22, 2021 at 04:57 PM