



William (Bill) James

May 31, 2014

James, William (Bill) Passed away on Saturday, May 31 due to complications from cancer. Bill battled cancer the way he lived life: full of optimism and quiet determination. Bill lived the life he wanted and he lived it to the fullest. He was a teacher for nearly 34 years, most of that spent at Hopkins North Junior High. A favorite among the kids, "Mr. James" was voted best teacher several times. Bill was a born teacher and was especially suited to junior high kids: he was patient and easy-going, had a great sense of humor, and was hard-of-hearing. Bill liked to say that he lived in Minnesota for the four seasons, and he had activities suited to them all. Bill's favorite thing to do in Minnesota was camping in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. A veteran of nearly 200 trips, he guided groups of students and adults. And finally, Bill was a loving family man. Bill and his wife, Judy, were married for 47 years. He is survived by his wife, Judy; his daughters, Jidana and Erika (Michael); his grand- daughters, Clair and Paige; and his large, and much-loved family and friends. A memorial service will be at 11:00 AM Thursday June 5 with visitation beginning at 10:00 AM at Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel, West 50th St and Vernon Ave at Hwy 100. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you donate to Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness (www.friends-BWCA.org).www.Washburn-McReavy.com Edina Chapel 952-920-3996

Tribute Wall

BO

“ Bill made my years at North Junior High more joyful with his wonderful sense of humor and his calm demeanor. Whenever things got tense, he quickly reminded me that adolescents are biologically crazy---the best medicine for junior high teacher's stress. He will be missed. Thinking of Judy and the entire family,
Beth Ocar

Beth Ocar - June 05, 2014 at 09:04 AM

PD

“ If stars in the heavens represent those who are no longer with us and their brightness is an indication of how much each contributed toward the betterment of others, there must be a new and very brightly shining star above. Bill's positive nature always brought enjoyment to our lives. He enriched everyone he touched and will be missed very much. Our condolences to Judy, the kids, the rest of Bill's family and the many others who will miss a fantastic guy.

Pat and Chris Dolan - June 04, 2014 at 09:38 PM

TL

“ I'll always have fond memories of Bill. We shared similar interests in fishing, hunting, and appreciating the outdoors, and he told great stories about his times in the BWCA or in the deer woods. Hopkins also loses a great teacher with Bill's passing.

My sympathies to Judy and the kids,

Todd Lesarbeau

todd lesarbeau - June 04, 2014 at 06:00 PM

