



William "Bill" Thompson

November 3, 1927 - March 25, 2024

William "Bill" F. Thompson

Born November 3rd, 1927 in Allentown, PA. Passed away March 25th, 2024 in Coon Rapids, MN.

Survived by loving wife and best friend Shirley May Thompson, Daughters Kathy Thompson Franklin, VA, Karen Thompson Franklin, VA, Stepchildren Richard Nelson (Margaret) St. George, UT, Timothy Nelson (Barbara) Ramsey, MN, Susan Small Andover, MN, 9 grandchildren, 10 great grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Spent a life long career of 48 years in public service. Served 2 years in the US Navy in WWII, was a firefighter in Allentown, PA for 20 years, was Fire Chief in Allentown, PA for 4 years, was Fire Chief in Coon Rapids, MN for 15 years, and ended his career as the mayor of Coon Rapids for 7 years. While being the mayor of Coon Rapids, there were many new capital improvements made in Coon Rapids - a new city government center, a new police facility, a new senior community center, a new fire station on Egret Blvd, and the remodeling of one other station.

He was a member of many community service organizations; Rotary, Lions, Red Cross, Chamber of Commerce, American Legion, and a member of the

VFW.

He was a member of many government organizations; International Association of Fire Fighters, International Association of Fire Chiefs, President of MSFCA from 1987-1988, Vice President of the Great Lakes division from 1984-1987, Lobbyist for MN State Fire Chiefs from 1986-1991, board member of the Association of Metropolitan Municipalities, member of the League of MN Cities, Chairman of the Legislative Committee for the North Metro Mayors Association, and a board member of the Mercy Hospital Foundation.

Received the C.C. Ludwick Award in 1999, presented by the League of MN Cities for Distinguished Municipal Service. To receive this award, you are nominated by your peers in this occupation.

After retiring, he was a snowbird for 16 winters in Largo, FL.

His hobbies include some traveling, reading non-fiction (history), coin collecting, golfing with old friends, and spending time with family.

Preceded in death by his parents Theodore and Vivian Thompson, 4 sisters; Dorothy, Eloise, Betty, Vivian, and 5 brothers; Joseph, Clifton, Clarence, Edward, and Jim.

Funeral service to be held Friday, April 12th at 11 AM at the Washburn-McReavy Coon Rapids chapel, 1827 Coon Rapids Blvd. Visitation 1 hour prior. Private Interment at Morningside Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Morningside Memorial Gardens

11800 University Avenue NW
Coon Rapids, MN 55448

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Chapel Service

APR 12. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (CT)

Coon Rapids Chapel
1827 Coon Rapids Blvd.
Coon Rapids, MN 55433

Tribute Wall



“ Washburn-McReavy Funeral Chapels created a Chapel Service for William "Bill" Frederick Thompson in memory of William "Bill" Thompson



Washburn-McReavy - March 27, 2024 at 04:36 PM

LB

“ We were blessed to know Bill and Shirley as neighbours in Lincolnshire Estates, Largo, Florida. We were fellow snowbirds. We extend our sincere condolences to Shirley and family. Lily and Chris Boldy, Ontario, Canada.

Lily and Chris Boldy - April 03, 2024 at 08:42 AM

NO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Noah - April 01, 2024 at 11:35 AM

JB

“ Bill was my boss, my mentor and my friend. During the years that he was the fire chief and I was the union president we had many opportunities to clash and butt heads, but that never happened. Bill was older, wiser and patient with my [enthusiasm]. That was the mentorship part of our relationship. I have always been grateful for that and have carried those [life lessons] with me throughout my life ----- Thanks Bill.

Captain Jeffrey O. Brennan, Retired

JEFFREY O. BRENNAN - March 31, 2024 at 12:07 PM

KW



kathy Thompson Williams - April 01, 2024 at 06:31 PM

JP

Bill was our Fire Chief, Mayor and my friend. I greatly appreciate his legacy as a leader and his involvement in our community. I will miss his sense of humor and genuine drive to succeed.

Rest in peace my friend until we meet again.

John Piper, Fire Chief CRFD

John Piper - April 03, 2024 at 05:11 PM

KW



kathy Thompson Williams - April 05, 2024 at 12:34 PM