



Major William Mark DeWitt

September 12, 1959 - May 24, 2019

On Friday, May 24, 2019, Maj. William Mark DeWitt, loving husband and father to three daughters, passed away at the age of 59.

Born on September 12, 1959 in Cleveland, OH to William Gray and Mary (Herrmann) DeWitt. He was known as Mark by his family & Bill by his friends. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1977 and served as tank commander of Bravo Company for the 4/67 1st Armored Division during the Gulf War. Following his discharge from active-duty, Bill became a Physician's Assistant. Looking for a new challenge, he started his own medical consulting company in 2005. In those years, his love for the military never wavered and he joined the Army National Guard and served during the Iraq War.

Bill was a devoted family man, consummate soldier, lover of UT football (Hook 'em!), and grill-master.

He truly enjoyed John Wayne westerns and military movies, which he always watched with his daughters over the years. It didn't matter to him if he had watched them so many times before, he always found a way to explain the real meaning and relevance of that part of history that was being represented. He loved his country and he was proud of his many years of service in the military.

College football was one of Bill's greatest passions. Never has a man owned more burnt orange clothing than Bill. He wore his UT gear year-round and during football season you knew it was game day by the constant barrage of text updates on the score.

Originally known for his succulent, smoked Thanksgiving Turkey, over the years Bill's grilling repertoire grew to include the perfectly cooked ribeye or NY strip (your choice) and a beef Wellington that cut through like butter.

Bill's imposing figure, deep voice, and reserved demeanor could easily give the impression to those who met him for the first time that he was rather a serious and formal

person. It only took a few interactions to notice it was his warmth, generosity, and love for his family and friends what defined him. He loved to laugh and make others laugh whether through his sketchy impersonations, animated stories or ridiculous jokes.

He was always available to suture up hand wounds from consistent acts of stupidity or when pushed, proffered more elaborate medical advice than “if it’s not falling off, you’re fine”.

Consistently clad in a battered Airborne hat, tea-stained Whataburger go-cup and epically dad-style Sperry topsiders, Bill had a penchant for including military lingo into his daily conversation. So in typical Bill fashion, he has “popped smoke” and is Oscar Mike to heaven.

Bill was preceded in death by his father, William, and his mother, Mary. He is survived by his wife Sandra, his three daughters, Elaine, Erin and Mia of Austin, TX; his brother Henry and his wife Diane of Aromas, CA; his sisters Mary DeWitt-Dia of Arlington, VA and Sarah Ganswindt of Jackson, WI; and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at St. Helen Catholic Church in Georgetown, TX on Saturday, June 29th, 2019 at one-thirty in the afternoon. A military funeral service will be held at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen, TX on Monday, July 1st, 2019 at two o’clock.

The family would like to specially thank the nursing staff from Inpatient Care at St. David’s Medical Center at Round Rock, and the nursing staff at Compassus, for their incredible commitment to Bill’s care. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to the American Cancer Society through www.cancer.org.

Cemetery

Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery

11463 State Highway 195
Killeen, TX, 76542

Events

JUN 29 Memorial Service 01:30PM

St. Helen Catholic Church
2700 E. University Avenue, Georgetown, TX,
US, 78626

JUL 1 Graveside Service 02:00PM

Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery
11463 State Highway 195, Killeen, TX, US,
76542

Comments



“ Mark will always be remembered as a brave soldier, loving father and husband and humanitarian in his work as a physician's assistant. I know Aunt Mary and Uncle Bill would have been very proud of him. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at the Memorial Service today. God Bless You All.

elizabeth herrman - June 29, 2019 at 12:33 PM



“ Querida Sandra, que Dios derrame muchas bendiciones sobre ti, Mia y familia. Que sepas que estamos cerca de ti, a pesar de la distancia, para darte nuestro apoyo incondicional en cualquier momento. Te queremos mucho. Verónica y Eduardo.

Verónica Montero - June 29, 2019 at 12:19 PM



“ Love Liz Herrman purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Major William Mark DeWitt.



Love Liz Herrman - June 29, 2019 at 11:38 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Major William Mark DeWitt.



June 28, 2019 at 09:28 PM



“ I only met Bill once but that was enough to feel like I was an old-time friend. His jokes and laughter was contagious and his hospitality made me feel welcome! I guess it makes sense because he was a Longhorn after all. Enjoy the freedom from pain and God will watch over your family with us helping along the way.

Michele McKay



Michele Leah McKay - June 26, 2019 at 09:08 PM



“ Querida Sandra:

Que triste noticia. Los recordamos siempre con muchísimo cariño y en estos momentos tan duros les enviamos a ti y Mia de corazón todo nuestro apoyo. Bill fue alguien excepcional y nunca olvidaremos su forma de ser tan generoso, alegre, con sus historias inigualables que nos mantenían al borde de la silla y nos hacían reventar de risa, y sus consejos siempre acertados y sinceros. Las comidas deliciosas que preparaba, lo especial que era con Mia. Los momentos que compartimos sin duda son de los mejores recuerdos de nuestros años en Austin.

No podremos estar ahí para el servicio pero por favor recibe un fuerte abrazo con todo nuestro cariño para ti y Mia, que Dios les conceda tranquilidad y fortaleza.

Iovana, Allan y Sebastian

Iovana Moreno - June 25, 2019 at 03:28 PM



“ GUNNER, SABOT, TANK!

Identified

Up

Fire!



I.D. - June 18, 2019 at 07:36 PM



“ Queridísima amiga Sandra, en estos momentos de dolor infinito las acompaño muy de cerca a ti y a Mia, les envío todo mi cariño y el de Mauricio, la Trini y Juaco.

Lamentablemente no tuve la oportunidad de conocer personalmente a Bill, pero sin duda lo conocí a través de ustedes, un hombre "grande" en el más amplio sentido de la palabra, dedicado por completo a su familia, protector, fuerte en sus convicciones y gozador de tantas cosas, como no olvidar la referencia de ustedes y otras personas a su preparación de carnes asadas. También lo conocí de alguna manera a través del inmenso amor que

Mia expresaba respecto de su papa, sentí que la adoración que ella transmitía por el solo podía ser reflejo de un padre muy devoto y acogedor, como los hay pocos.

Formaron una hermosa familia y a pesar de la muerte, ese núcleo perdurará por siempre en ustedes, solo el tiempo suavizará poco a poco la tristeza de la separación.

Espero estar cerca de ustedes en la vida que sigue, porque la familia que uno elige son los amigos, y aquí estaré para lo que ambas necesiten y compartir juntas, las quiero mucho.

Cecilia Aguirre V.

Cecilia Aguirre - June 14, 2019 at 08:43 AM



“ As a former next door neighbor, Bill always had a smile to share along with a big hello and a few words of wisdom. Our deepest sympathy to his family.
The Mire family



c mire - June 14, 2019 at 08:27 AM



“ What a wonderful tribute! I feel like I know him a bit better after reading that beautiful obituary. And I am so so sorry for your loss. His humor, his selfless care for others, his devotion to his team, even his silly impressions and grilling expertise! -- I'm sure all and much more will be greatly missed. I'm sad I didn't get to spend more time with him in our lives -- He sounds so much like his Uncle Hank (my dad). I wish I could be there at the service, but will be holding you all in my heart. God Bless, Mark(Bill)'s cousin Margaret (Herrman) Rhine.

Maggie Herrman Rhine - June 13, 2019 at 09:15 PM



“ Mary DeWitt-Dia sent a virtual gift in memory of Major William Mark DeWitt



Mary DeWitt-Dia - June 13, 2019 at 07:54 PM



“ I AM NOT THERE

Do not stand by my grave and weep

For I am not there.

I do not sleep.

I am a thousand winds that blow.

I am diamonds that glint on snow.

I am the sunlight on ripened grain.

I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning hush

I am the swift uplifting rush of butterflies in joyous flight.

I am the soft stars that shine at night.

Do not stand at my grave and cry.

I am not there.

I did not die.

Mary DeWitt-Dia - June 13, 2019 at 08:00 PM



“ Sedewitt lit a candle in memory of Major William Mark DeWitt



sedewitt - June 12, 2019 at 10:59 AM



“ 3 files added to the album Tribute Wall



sedewitt - June 11, 2019 at 04:42 PM