



William "Bill" R. Denlinger

January 4, 1939 - April 24, 2023

Our beloved father, William R. Denlinger (Bill) passed away at the Springfield Masonic Campus on Monday, April 24, 2023. He is now with his late wife of over 60 years, Ellen Hanes Denlinger, who preceded him in death in 2021. William R. Denlinger (Bill) was born in Springfield, Ohio on January 4, 1939 to parents William Wilt Denlinger and Marcella Lytle Denlinger. Bill leaves behind his three children, William J. Denlinger (Bill), Katherine Denlinger Denney, Kevin T. Denlinger, along with their spouses, seven loving grandchildren and one great grandchild; all will cherish their endless fond memories of him. Bill Denlinger was a fourth generation "William" within the family, which settled in Enon in the early 1800s. He upheld a long tradition of Denlinger men helping in the community, serving on town committees, attending church, helping grow the athletic boosters, hiring and training many young adults to work at the store and to grow as individuals. In addition to a community history, he is a graduate of the first class of Greenon High School. He then attended Wittenberg University. Bill always juggled simultaneous careers. He balanced running a family business, Denlinger Hardware & Sohio, while working within various departments for International Harvester/Navistar. Upon leaving Navistar he worked at WPAFB for a federal housing contractor. Later, he and Ellen moved to Roscommon, Michigan for several years enjoying lake life, new neighbors and family, before returning to Ohio when Ellen became ill. William was a member of the Masonic Yellow Springs Lodge 421 and 32nd Degree Mason of the Valley of Dayton Scottish Rite. The fellowship and the

oath of the Masonry were dear to him.

Bill was a passionate reader, and perhaps as a surprise to many, a passionate writer of poetry. In particular he liked to write poems to his wife Ellen.

He was also known to be a very active person with trouble sitting still for long. This was a characteristic that worked out great for an active parent. Bill never missed a single ballgame for his three children, and also played on his own bowling and softball teams for years. There were many happy weekends spent boating and fishing at Indian Lake. Hours were spent playing driveway basketball or softball out back with the neighborhood children. In his down time, Bill took long walks down Rocky Point Road with one of his many loved golden retrievers.

Bill was still active at the Masonic Community, working out in the gym until his last few months of life. Bill continued his love for sports and knowledge, watching every event he could on television, mixing in a little bit of Jeopardy and the game channel. He continued to follow Wittenberg and Cedarville basketball and the University of Dayton football.

Bill knew many people and had many acquaintances, but he held a handful of life long friendships particularly close to his heart including the late Tom Denney, Bill Young and Ted Stute. He spoke recently about how hard it is for seniors to be the last left behind among their peer group, and concluded his life by writing a poem about the subject - adding "I miss my family and friends but know I must remain strong to reach the end." He is now at peace.

William R. Denlinger had requested a simple graveside service, to be held at the Enon Cemetery on Friday, April 28 at 2:30. All friends and family are welcome to gather. Please do not send flowers or plants. Instead, consider a small donation to a Golden Retriever Rescue in your area, a local Humane Society or animal welfare organization of your choosing.

Adkins Funeral Home, Enon, is assisting Bill's family with his final wishes.

Cemetery Details

Enon Cemetery

6013 Dayton Springfield Rd
Springfield, OH 45502
(937) 864-2881

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 28. 2:30 PM (ET)

Enon Cemetery
6013 Dayton Springfield Rd
Springfield, OH 45502
(937) 864-2881

Tribute Wall

PS

“ Some of my oldest memories of living in Enon include the Denlingers.

Of course, seeing Bill Sr. at the Hardware Store / Gas Station and Bill Jr coaching my 1st Baseball Team with Bobby Wise when they were only Juniors in HS. In the mid 70s's Kevin and I playing down the street at Grandma and Grandpa Denlinger's house or hanging out at the Little League Fields.

Finally, forever impressed on my mind, was looking over during our Greenon Basketball games, and there was Bill Sr. watching the game courtside on his chair next to the entrance to the little gym - no matter how intense the game, to see Mr. Denlinger (Bill Sr) was always a boost !!

The world is definitely a lesser place without Bill and Ellen, I will always remember the care and love they gave their family, their community and the countless kids' lives they touched.

We pass our greatest sympathies to Kevin, Kathy and Bill Jr and all of the Denlinger Family-- may the Lord hold you in his hands and fill your hearts with his peace, during these most difficult days.

In love and grace, Phil and Lisa Scott

Phil Scott - May 02, 2023 at 09:42 AM

KP

“ We moved to Enon in 1962 when I (Kathy) was 4 years old. I have many fond memories of 3 generations of Bill Denlingers. Young Bill and my brother Casey Hall played on many sports teams together and yes our dads never missed any games because they often coached together. Bill and Ellen were wonderful people, they both were so kind and made you feel loved. I have memories of grandpa Denlinger helping out down at the store, he too was always so sweet to all of us kids. Bill, Kathy and Kevin, we send our love and prayers at this difficult time. Karan, Kathy and Casey Hall

Kathy Paulick - April 26, 2023 at 08:39 PM

BP

“ Mr Denlinger or as I called him(Mr Dingaling) lived on green vista and my family lived on Ionic cr. I used to go over to their house and talk to the two of them quite often when i was little. I have so many fond memories of both of them and they were friends of my parents. So sorry to hear of his passing. Prayers for all the family

Becky (Jones) Pfeilsticker - April 26, 2023 at 05:05 PM

SD

“ My favorite uncle growing up. Vacations together as a family stayed over at their house when I was young. Fun times.

sherri Dooley - April 26, 2023 at 10:44 AM

LP

“ Bill and I were cousins and he was four years older. I remember playing tag and hide and go seek at our Aunt Gladys's home. Later in life, my late husband and I shared many good times when we visited from San Diego. We always went for ice cream! I wished we had lived closer. With loving memories, Mary Elizabeth (Libby) Pendleton

Libby Pendleton - April 25, 2023 at 09:41 PM

BS

My mother Monica married into another branch of the Denlinger family when I was in grade school. I remember Bill's dad hired me one summer to wash the windows in the gas station. I can still see Bill and Ted racing around town on their bicycles joined by my stepbrother Freddie when he would come to visit. You were fortunate to have Bill, I'm sure he will be missed, condolences for all.

Bonnie Siler - April 28, 2023 at 06:54 PM