



William Irl Martin

July 8, 1923 - May 20, 2018

William Irl “Bill” Martin passed away peacefully on Sunday, May 20, 2018. He was born in Marshall County, WV on July 8, 1923 to Irl William and Virginia K. Travis Martin.

Bill married his high school sweetheart, Garnet Amelia Sole on December 24, 1941, in Shadyside, Ohio. She preceded him in death in 2011. Bill was a WWII Veteran, serving in the Navy aboard the U.S.S. Memphis from 1942 until his honorable discharge in 1945. After his military service, Bill settled his family in Michigan, eventually moving to Ford Lake (Ypsilanti) where his family grew to seven children. Bill worked for the Ford Motor Company. He and Garnet provided a wholesome country home where the family could thrive. They created wonderful memories of swimming, boating, horseback riding, archery, camping and ice skating. In 1967, with three children still at home, Bill and Garnet left Ypsilanti to become House Parents at a children’s home in Indiana, where they cared for ten orphans. Later, Bill and Garnet moved to Wyoming to be near their eldest daughter and her family. From this base Bill and Garnet spent many winters on the road, working with RVICS (Roving Volunteers in Christ’s Service), a group of retirees who would caravan to various church camps throughout the southwestern states, doing small repairs and construction projects. This occupied many years until they moved back to Michigan to be close to their children and grandchildren here. Bill’s family would describe him as outgoing, enthusiastic and joyful. His grandchildren remember him as a Scoutmaster, Sunday school teacher, basketball coach

and fishing companion. They enjoyed his company. Bill also had a lifelong passion for the game of golf. Left to cherish his memory are his children Marguerite (Richard) Remington, Leesburg, FL. James (Rory) Martin, Prescott Valley, AZ. Nancy (Kit) Moran, Milan, MI. Linda (Paul) Rosser, Manchester, MI. Patricia Tyson, Crawfordsville, IN. Scott Martin and Kimberly Blanchard, Three Rivers, MI. And Elizabeth Norris, Milan, MI. Bill and Garnet had 16 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and 9 great-great-grandchildren. Bill is also survived by his sister-in-law Gertrude Stewart, Elkhart, IN and many nieces and nephews who will miss him greatly. A celebration of Bill's life will be scheduled at a later date. To leave a memory you have of Bill, to sign his guestbook, or for more information please visit www.rbfhsaline.com.

Cemetery Details

Washtenong Memorial Park

3771 Whitmore Lake Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
<http://washtenongmemorialpark.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *William Irl Martin*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *We remember Bill so very fondly when we went to church together in Ypsilanti and even in the following years when they worked at the Children's Home. I was surprised to see Bill at the Saline Evangelical Home when I went to visit Mom (Elnora Crockett) several years ago. He even came down to the visiting room when I came to play my dulcimer and listened for 1/2 hr our so before having to leave for another activity. His charm and smile were just as I remembered them. It was great to see him again. We didn't know about his birthday party that year or would have gone. Bill was a warm dedicated Christian man and we were pleased and proud to call him friend. Blessing and condolences to his family. May the Lord give you comfort and wonderful memories. In Christ, Lester & Kathy (Crockett) Livermore*

Kathleen (Crockett) Livermore - June 08, 2018 at 04:02 PM



If you are to read this, contact me at hawgzfan78@gmail.com. I have pictures of Bill at the barracks during WW2 with one of his friends. I can send you pictures if you'd like.

Jack Winger - January 28, 2020 at 10:46 PM



“ *What a wonderful legacy your dad leaves behind. I am so grateful to have had both your mom and dad in our lives. They were both such blessings to us, and many others. God bless you with comfort and peace. With love, Betty Peters*

Betty Peters - June 03, 2018 at 03:25 PM

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“ *The article in the Saline Post was a great tribute to your father. I'm so grateful for people like your Mom and Dad. They make the world a better place. You were lucky to have them in this life and will be joyous to see them again in the next. Blessings to your family in such a hard time.*

Liz - May 30, 2018 at 08:33 AM