



William E. Waldo

May 10, 1922 - June 30, 2011

William E. Waldo, 89, was born on May 10, 1922 in Boone, Iowa, to Lucien Harold and Amanda Elizabeth Waldo. At the age of two, he moved with his family to a farm near Polk City, Iowa. Bill graduated from Polk City High School in 1939 as the class salutatorian. He enlisted in the Marine Corp on January 6, 1942, at the beginning of World War II. After boot camp at the Marine base in San Diego, California, Bill was shipped overseas to the South Pacific for 27 months and participated in the battles of Kwajalein and Enewetak in the Marshall Islands.

After contracting a tropical disease in Samoa, he was transported to Oakland, California, for treatment and, after recovery, met the love of his life, Evelyn Pedersen, while on a 30-day leave in Iowa. Bill and Evelyn were married in Klamath Falls, Oregon, on September 3, 1944 and the following December, Bill was transferred to Camp Pendleton in California, joining the many other Marines preparing for the invasion of Japan. He was shipped overseas again in August of 1945 and landed in Pearl Harbor on the day the first atomic bomb was dropped on Japan. As a consequence of that event, his mission was changed and he was instead sent to a naval air station in Maui, Hawaii. Bill was finally shipped stateside in December of 1945, honorably discharged and arrived home on Christmas Eve, 1945.

In August of 1948, Bill and Evelyn, with their two young daughters, moved to Fort Collins. After working in various occupations in Fort Collins, he was a partner in Pedersen Brothers' Construction from 1953 through 1968, at which time he enrolled in Colorado State University, getting his degree in 1971. Thereafter, Bill was hired as a building inspector for the City of Fort Collins, becoming the Chief Building Official for the City in 1975, retiring in 1982.

After retirement, Bill and Evelyn had many happy years together, continuing to enjoy dancing, family get-togethers, camping, fishing, hunting, gardening and church activities until Evelyn's death in 2003.

Bill was fortunate to meet Alberta "Bert" Becksted, with whom he spent six happy years of companionship traveling, dancing and spending time with their large families.

Bill was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church in Wellington, which recently made him a lifetime honorary elder.

Bill is survived by his six daughters, Linda Schneider Chuck, Lana Emery John, Lucia Liley Bill, Cynthia Conklin Leo, Susan Harris Glen and Pam Cheatham Mark, and one son, John Waldo Becky. Another son, Mark, predeceased him. Bill is also survived by 18 grandchildren and 28 great-grandchildren with each of whom he had a close, playful and teasing relationship.

A funeral service will be held 10 a.m., Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at River of Life Fellowship, 3161 E. County Rd. 62e, Wellington, Colorado. A graveside service with military honors by the Fort Collins All Veterans Honor Guard will follow at 2 p.m. , Wednesday at Grandview Cemetery.

Donations in Bill's name can be made to Pathways Hospice in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Ft. Collins, CO 80524.

Comments



“ Dear Waldo Families, What a great life your father had with wonderful memories and a loving family. We are so sorry we missed his funeral but our son's family from Hong Kong were here for our little family reunion. I will always remember your Dad saying to me every time he saw me about falling out of his truck in my teens. Best wishes to you to remember all his great qualities and super smile. He will be missed but not forgotten. Sincerely~~Larry & Becky Modlin

Modlin Family - July 09, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Hello Pammy: We are so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. I'm sure he's enjoying the glorious life of God but it still hurts so much to be without his loving presence for a time. We love you so much and are praying for you and your whole family. Love, Doug, Cynthia, Ian and Nina Christie XOXOXOXOXOX

Cynthia Christie and Christie family - July 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Lucia, I'm very sorry to hear about Bill's death. He was a good man and fun to be with, even at work. My condolences to you and your family. Best. John

John Arnold - July 06, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ My sympathy goes to the Waldo family, and my friend, Lucia Liley. Bill was a good man....a life well lived.

Paul Eckman - July 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ As longtime friends of Linda and Chuck Schneider we heard stories of Bill Waldo and his huge, thoughtful, caring influence on this most exceptional family. His reading especially impressed us as guiding future generations while they move into the future. Our condolences to all the family. Love, Jane and Rich

Jane and Rich Thompson - July 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ This is to extend my condolences to the family of Bill Waldo, who is to have his funeral service on this Wednesday. I want them to know that I thought the world of their Dad. He was a very special person, a wonderful friend for my father, Jim Wingate, and just a totally good person. I'm so sorry for your loss, and extend special thoughts to Linda, Lana, Lucia, John, June, Susan and Pam. With fondest regards and memories, Debbie.

Deborah Wingate Schante - July 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Our deepest sympathies to Mr. Waldo's family. We know he will be greatly missed.
Larry and Lorraine

Larry and Lorraine Rushing - July 05, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Bill will be missed! So sorry about your loss. He had been our neighbor for several years and you could always look forward to a visit with Bill. He had some good stories.
Marc and Jo

Marc & Jo Allard - July 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ We were both sadden to hear of Bill's death. I always looked forward to seeing him as there was always a smile and a hug. Our sympathy goes out to the family along with our prayers. Faye & Ron

Faye and Ron Lockner - July 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ So sorry to hear of your loss, we all will be thinking of you. this is a favorite of mine. Not, How Did He Die, But How Did He Live? Not how did he die, but how did he live? Not what did he gain, but what did he give? These are the units to measure the worth Of a man as a man, regardless of birth. Not, what was his church, nor what was his creed? But had he befriended those really in need? Was he ever ready, with word of good cheer, To bring back a smile, to banish a tear? Not what did the sketch in the newspaper say, But how many were sorry when he passed away. - Anonymous let us know if we can do anything. Your neighbors, Colleen , Kenny & Ken

Colleen Pettit - July 02, 2011 at 12:00 AM