



William Dale Stevens

NOV 8, 1929 - MAR 11, 2015



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FLORAL HAVEN

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William Dale Stevens, son of Floyd Wayne Stevens and Flossie Arvilla (Northulp) Stevens was born in Topeka, Kansas on November 8, 1929 and departed this life in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 85 years, 4 months and 3 days. He graduated from Topeka High School in 1947, and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Kansas State University in May, 1952. He entered the US Army in the fall of that year and, after basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, was sent to the Engineer School at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, graduating first in his class in Water Supply. Upon transfer to Korea, he was assigned to the 2nd Engineer Construction Group, serving successively as Spare Parts Clerk, Soil Laboratory Analyst, and Supply Sergeant for Group Headquarters. When discharged in 1954, he held the rank of Staff Sergeant. He accepted a position as Chemist at the D-X-Sunray refinery in Duncan, Oklahoma; then was promoted to Process Engineer. During this period he learned programming and was transferred to corporate headquarters in Tulsa to work in the Manufacturing Department's computer group. In 1960, he accepted a position in the corresponding organization at Skelly Oil Company as a Process Economics Engineer. With the formation of Skelly's corporate Computer Department in 1967, he was named as Technical Assistant to the Department Manager, later becoming Manager of the Scientific Applications Division. During the successive mergers of Skelly with Getty Oil Company and Texaco Inc., he continued in various positions until, at his retirement on January 1, 1994, he was in charge of the entire Tulsa Data Center, as Director, Information Systems. An avid reader, his personal library currently consists of over a thousand volumes, and almost that many magazines. He was extremely interested in science fiction, both its content and its history, and reviewed it for several nationally circulated periodicals. Some of his reviews and articles appear in half-a-dozen books, and his reviews have been cited on numerous paperbacks. He was a member of



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SHARE Inc., a nationally known computer users group, for over 30 years and served on its Senior Management team and Board of Directors for most of that time, finally retiring from active participation in 1995. He was also active in the Green Country Water Garden Society, serving on its Board and publishing its newsletter in 1997 and 1998. He and his wife displayed their ponds for several years, during the Society's Annual Pond Tour. They also maintained a highly successful web page, offering advice on water gardening. He was a member of Intertel, an international high IQ society, and served successive terms as International General Secretary. He was in charge of the Intertel Acceptance Committee for over 25 years. He considered himself to be a remarkably fortunate man. He is survived by his wife, Elva, of the home; two sons, John and wife Janine of Baltimore MD, and Charles and wife Anne of Fargo, ND; two step-sons, Mike Batson and Brian Paul, of Tulsa, and nine grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Donald, Dean and Victor; one sister, Lyla Sligar. A visitation will be held March 16th at Floral Haven Funeral home between 6:00 and 8:00 PM Services will be held March 17th at Floral Haven Funeral Home at 10:00 AM. Graveside services will follow at 2:30 PM at Ewing Chapel Cemetery in Stilwell, Oklahoma.



Tribute Wall

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CH

Charles posted:

Lylene, you were always very special to Dad. I treasure the time I got to know you better when I lived in Lawrence. Love, Charles

March 17 at 1:08 PM

RM

Robert Marks posted:

Remembering Mr. Stevens...thanks for being a leader, setting the example and being one of those dads in the neighborhood that was always around. Everytime I take out that Texaco pen I think about you giving it to me some 25 or 30 years ago. Rest in peace sir.

March 17 at 5:16 AM

AP

Allison Bishop-Page posted:

Lit a candle in memory of William Dale Stevens

March 17 at 4:23 AM

LC

Lylene Critchlow posted:

To all the family— I'm so sorry for the loss of your dad, your husband, your friend. You all knew him as the funny, smart, truly intelligent man that he was, and .he was loved by you all. But to me, well, to me.....my Uncle Billy was my hero. He was 10 years older and I thought him to be the most wonderful uncle in the world. Although I had other uncles, Bill was the youngest of them all, and who, evidently, thought having a small little girl idolizing him was either terrific, or he was just very tolerant and patient because...well, because for one thing, he could tie shoes — mine! Over and over again. He could pick you up and swing you in the air, he could play hide and seek behind grandma's sofa or in grandpa's garden, we could walk to the store all by ourselves! .He could play the piano and I could sit on the same piano bench and watch. As I said, he was my hero and I thought him awesome...always have, always will. I love you, Uncle Billy.... Lylene

March 16 at 3:48 AM



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SW

Shirley Wilkie posted:

I, too, have great memories of working with Bill back during the late 60's when he was Manager of the Scientific Apps Div. We also carpooled from the old Wagon Wheel neighborhood to the Skelly/Getty/Texaco Building. Great guy, a gentleman and a scholar. Elva, my sincere and heartfelt sympathies are yours at this time.

March 15 at 6:21 PM

JD

John Davis posted:

I always enjoyed working for Bill, in the mid 80's, and his sense of humor! The lack of formality in the office and beyond, and especially those annual SHARE conventions. I will miss you, Bill. I still have the coffee mug you gave me, that says "CEO of Diddly Squat"! And, Elva, I will be thinking of you a lot in the coming weeks. John & Sherry Davis

March 14 at 2:58 PM

SU

Susan posted:

I always enjoyed Bill's stories and the way he loved picking on Grace. He had such a wonderful sense of humor. I call Wanda's family, my extended family and Bill and Grace are part of that family. My heart aches for Grace and all my extended family that have to endure this loss. We will still have lots of smiles and laughs with all the happy memories he has left for us. All our love, Susan and Wayne

March 12 at 4:19 PM

JJ

Jan Jones posted:

The laughs we have all shared. We thank God , Grace brought you into our lives. Jonesey, Jan and John

March 12 at 2:28 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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