



William Fred Gosnell

FEB 24, 1944 - APR 13, 2024



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FLORAL HAVEN

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William Fred Gosnell lost his brave battle with Parkinson's Disease on April 13, 2024. He is survived by his wife, Bobbie Carlene, his three daughters, Mary Ellen Gosnell, Katie Anne Edwards, Emily Ruth Dowd, and a son, John William Gosnell, along with seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Bill was born on February 24, 1944 in Vancouver, Washington and raised in Anchorage, Alaska, and Seattle Washington. He served in the US Marine Reserves and worked for 32 years in the Seattle Fire Department. For most of those years he was a leader in the International Association of Firefighters, Local 27, AFL-CIO. Upon his retirement in 1996 the Washington Council of Firefighters Awarded him lifetime membership in the IAFF as recognition of his decades long service to the union.

Bill was a master woodworker and built a beautiful home in Pawnee, Oklahoma after he and Bobbie retired. He served as Manager of the Pawnee Chamber of Commerce, he was a founding member of the Royal Black Bear Fjord Society, and hosted the annual Norwegian Constitution Day dinner. Additionally, he and Bobbie were lifetime United Methodists. In the Pawnee Church, Bill was dubbed the "potluck King". But for all his accomplishments, Bill Gosnell will be most remembered for his kindness, his decency, and above all his sense of humor and quick wit. To paraphrase Oklahoma's Favorite Son, Will Rogers, Bill never met a person he didn't like.

There will be a private, family only service.



Tribute Wall

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Karen And Ed Calton posted:

I am so sorry to hear of Bill Gosnell's passing. He was such a sweet man to visit with at church this past year. He had a wry sense of humor. I always felt better after talking to him. My deep sympathy to his wife Bobbie and his children. ❤️ Karen and Ed Carlton

April 23 at 6:28 PM



Fred Hoke November 29 at 11:16 AM

Bill would come by the station to have coffee with us and visit. He would share his stories from his career in Seattle and we sat there like children listening to them. We all truly enjoyed our time with him when he would come visit. His company and his stories will be and already have been missed. Broken Arrow Fire Station #5



Kathy Buford April 24 at 7:32 PM

We just learned today of Bill's passing. I remember his kindness in 1981 when he invited my future husband Jerry and I to their house for thanksgiving. It was such a kind gesture and we had a great time. My family enjoyed spending holidays together at Station 2 with Bill and family. Firefighters are an amazing group that support others. Now healing for Bobbie and family. He left a big legacy. Kathy and Jerry Buford



Memories only last if you share them

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



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