



William Thompson Bell

April 3, 1928 - July 28, 2017

William (Bill) Thompson Bell, beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather and friend to many, passed away in Huntsville, Texas after a short illness. Bill was born on April 3, 1928, and passed away July 28, 2017 at the age of 89.

Bill married the love of his life, Margaret Louise Nelson, on October 12, 1949. Bill and Margaret had five children and had been married 43 years at the time of her passing. Bill was predeceased by son Gary Alan Bell, daughter Elise Gaye Bell Brasic, two brothers and three sisters.

He is survived by son Vince Bell and wife Sarah, daughter Shary Bell, daughter Elaine Bell and husband Howard, three grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He is also survived by brother Robert Bell and wife Nell of Lufkin, Texas, numerous nieces and nephews, and long-time friend Bonnie Bell of Huntsville, Texas.

Bill was born in Nacogdoches, Texas and graduated from Nacogdoches High School. He then went on to graduate from Stephen F. Austin State University with dual Bachelor of Science Degrees in chemistry and mathematics. After graduation, he joined Schlumberger Technology Company and went to work as a field engineer in South America. Schlumberger soon discovered Bill had a very creative mind and was a problem-solver, which brought him to Houston Headquarters to manage one of their engineering groups. His creativity was again quickly recognized and he was chosen to be the head of the Mechanical

Engineering department. During his tenure in the engineering department, some of this creativity resulted in several United States patents. Some of the tools developed from those patents are still in use today in the oil field. In seven decades, Bill generated a total of 52 United States patents.

Approaching retirement age, Bill was requested to supervise the design and building of the Schlumberger Rosharon/Sandy Point facility. After completion of this project, he chose to retire from Schlumberger after 34 years. However, Bill didn't really retire. He consulted for some years, and trained many in the industry throughout the world. He also started a business, got it making a profit, and sold it. He next began W.T. Bell International, Inc. (WTBI), which is a very successful on-going business engaged in the development and manufacturing of specialty explosive products for the international petroleum industry. Bill continued to work improving and developing new products for the company until two weeks before his passing.

Bill was a kind and very generous person both with his time and knowledge. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to someone who was down and in need. He was a devoted father and friend who loved the Lord, and will truly be missed by all who knew and loved him. We know that he is in Heaven, and is working diligently on designs to make it an even better place.

A memorial service celebrating his life will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 5, 2017 at Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home, 1700 Normal Park, Huntsville, Texas 77340, 936-295-7300.

In lieu of customary remembrances, the family requests, with gratitude, that memorial contributions in his name be directed to the charity of their choice.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

AUG 5. 2:00 PM (CT)

Sam Houston Memorial Funeral Home - Huntsville
1700 Normal Park Dr.
Huntsville, TX 77340
(936) 291-7300
belinda@shmfh.com

Tribute Wall



“ *William Thompson Bell*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Nice friend*

ann fox - September 19, 2020 at 10:32 PM



“ *Mr. Bell will be remembered for his brilliant mind and kind heart. Although I only knew him a few years, I have been fortunate to have cared for many of his employees, and I know he was loved and respected. God bless his family and friends. Darrel Wells MD*

Darrel Wells MD - August 05, 2017 at 01:08 PM



“ *David Zoda lit a candle in memory of William Thompson Bell*



David Zoda - August 04, 2017 at 11:02 AM



Bill will be missed. A donation was made to the Conroe ISD Education Foundation in memory of Bill to encourage education and innovation. David Zoda and Family

David Zoda - August 04, 2017 at 11:06 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of William Thompson Bell.



August 03, 2017 at 10:49 AM



“ *DynaEnergetics purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray* for the family of William Thompson Bell.



DynaEnergetics - August 03, 2017 at 09:34 AM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray* was purchased for the family of William Thompson Bell.



August 01, 2017 at 07:14 PM



“ *FP Machine and Employees purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray* for the family of William Thompson Bell.



FP Machine and Employees - August 01, 2017 at 01:12 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Thompson Bell.*



August 01, 2017 at 11:05 AM



“ *Although known as "Bill" to friends at work, to nieces and nephews of the Bell clan he was always "Uncle Thomp". Early memories of impressible kids tend to focus on his adventures: the incident with the printing press; the cracked airplane propeller on the wall; foreign nationalization of a side venture in disinfectant chemicals. Only later did his high standing and respect in the oil service industry become apparent. Discussing technical highlights at his 80th birthday party was a pleasure. By then, he had also assumed the mantle of the calm, steady clan leader that now passes to Uncle Robert.*

David Bell (nephew, - A.W. Jr.)

David Bell - August 01, 2017 at 09:04 AM



“ *A New Sunrise Spray was purchased for the family of William Thompson Bell.*



July 31, 2017 at 05:06 PM

TG

“ Please accept my sincerest condolences on the passing of Mr. Bell. I would like to share a short story. I work for Schlumberger and in 1985 I had an opportunity meet and travel to Argentina with Mr. Bell. Just starting with the company I was not yet familiar with shape charges but with the week I spent with Mr. Bell I learned a lot. He even brushed me up on my Spanish speaking and I'm Mexican. One thing I knew real quick is that I was blessed, to travel with Mr. Bell, a man well respected. (Short story) We were in a building in Buenos Aires and had to take the elevator up. Well too many people got in that the elevator, and it got stuck between floors. Mr. Bell said, Gonzalez I think you better lighten the load, so I jumped out and elevator went up. What an adventure and excitement it was to know and be with Mr. Bell.

Mr. Bell you will be missed, god bless you and your family.

Tony

Tony Gonzalez - July 31, 2017 at 03:33 PM



“ *Vivid Recollections* was purchased for the family of William Thompson Bell.



July 31, 2017 at 02:49 PM