



## William Donald Dawson

November 19, 1942 - October 17, 2019

William Donald Dawson was born on November 19, 1942 in East Bernard, Texas and passed away on October 17, 2019 in Huntsville, Texas.

Bill moved to Huntsville during Jr. High and excelled in sports during his high school years. He lettered in baseball, basketball, and football. He also became good friends with Evelyn Fitzgerald and finally asked her on a date their senior year. Their first date was to the prison rodeo October 16, 1960 with Bo Didley in concert.

Bill and Evelyn both attended Sam Houston State and married their senior year. After graduation, Bill started a long and successful career with the YMCA of The Greater Houston Area. During his 37 year career with the Y, Bill and Evelyn raised their two sons while living in Channelview, Conroe, Friendswood, and Pearland. As Bill transitioned into retirement, he and Evelyn returned to Huntsville where he became involved with Master Gardeners of Walker County. He enjoyed lots of times with friends and family in his many vegetable gardens over the years. Bill loved time outdoors, and throughout his life he enjoyed hunting, fishing, and spending time with those he loved.

During retirement years, Bill and Evelyn were members of the Riverside United Methodist Church, where he served in several leadership roles. Bill believed in living out his faith everyday in his actions. He focused on the teachings of Jesus Christ and was an honest man who loved people.

The most precious thing in the world to Bill was his family. He wanted to attend all the activities he could from sports and concerts, to church plays and

birthday parties, he loved to watch his loved ones in action. That quality time with family motivated him to host biannual reunions with his sons' families. These always included fun activities but focused on fellowship with meals and games together. Bill could call Texas Bingo like none other.

Bill is predeceased by his parents Wylie J. Dawson and Lillie Reimer Dawson, along with his brother Jim Dawson. He is survived by wife Evelyn, son Mike Dawson and his wife Reba, son John Dawson and his wife Cindy, sister Sandra Switzer and her husband Michael, sisters-in-law Patty Dawson and Anne Clancy and husband Harold, and father's wife Marj Dawson. Grandson Justin Dawson and wife Kathy, granddaughter Amanda Moseley and husband Brent, grandsons Cooper Dawson and Jack Dawson. Great grandchildren Beaux Dawson, Zoie Moseley, Lance Moseley, Blake Dawson, Bella Dawson, Emma Moseley, Avery Moseley, and Dawson Moseley.

Donations in Bill's memory can be made to-

Riverside United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 744, Riverside, Texas, 77367

Master Gardener Scholarship Fund, 102 B TAM Road, Huntsville, Texas  
77340

# Cemetery Details

## Riverside Pioneer Cemetery

First street past FM 980 & Hwy 19  
Riverside, TX

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT **21**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

OCT **21**. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Donald Dawson*

November 15, 2022 at 08:33 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Donald Dawson.*



October 20, 2019 at 10:58 PM



“ *I remember playing with Billy Don on Sunday afternoons at Granny and Gramp Reimer's house. I also remember how caring and positive he was. He shall be greatly missed. I also remember him running with my dad in a marathon in Huntsville.*

*Betty Myers*

**Elizabeth Myers** - October 20, 2019 at 04:01 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of William Donald Dawson.*



October 19, 2019 at 10:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William Donald Dawson.



October 19, 2019 at 10:57 AM



“ Well another of the HHS Class of 1961 has been called home. Recall playing football in jr. high with the new kid, Bill. Two skinny guys out there on that field of hard dirt and rocks. Renewed our friendship at class reunions. What a nice guy! Honorable man. Bill was loved by many. I will miss him, too. Rest in Peace my friend. God Bless Evelyn & the Dawson family.

Ron Cowling, Sr. - October 19, 2019 at 06:47 AM



“ Sincere condolences to Evelyn, Anne and the family. Loved Jimmy when he lived with Ron and me. I know Bill must have been a lot like his brother. I thought very highly of Mr & Mrs Dawson also. Bill's family will be in my thoughts and prayers .

Beverly Conner Niederhofer - October 19, 2019 at 12:27 AM



“ Billy Don was always so tolerant of this pesky cousin. He patiently taught me the baseball rules and would even let me bat in those cousin games at Gramp and Granny's. He never made me feel dumb or insignificant. I will always treasure those days. RIP Billy Don.

Janis Reimer Manuel - October 18, 2019 at 10:06 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of William Donald Dawson.*



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October 18, 2019 at 09:21 PM



“ *A man of integrity is how I would describe my brother, Billy Don. Honorable, understanding, caring, humorous, and always there for his sister. He and Evelyn shared many trips with mother and myself.....Galveston, Marble Falls, Carthage. We would laugh and enjoy ourselves so much. I have many memories that I cherish. It's with certainty that this time apart is temporary. We will be reunited for eternity!*

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**Sandra Switzer** - October 18, 2019 at 08:07 PM



*Praying for the family 🙏🙏🙏*

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**SHIRLEY ARCHIE** - October 19, 2019 at 01:21 AM



*Evelyn and family, I am so sorry for your loss. I have so many wonderful memories of interactions with the Dawson family during my junior high and high school years. Our parents were close friends, so we spent many evenings enjoying good food and sharing funny stories that usually revolved around happenings at Leppergator Lodge, the rustic camp house on our parents' deer lease. All 5 of the Dawsons were delightful people, but the thing I remember most about Billy Don was his friendly, easygoing personality and his great sense of humor. Even as we aged, I always enjoyed running into him at events because he was so pleasant and funny. I will miss him. Sending prayers to the family.*

*Jo Ann Larrison Wright*

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**Jo Ann Wright** - October 20, 2019 at 11:30 PM

PD

“ Billy Don was a very special part of our family & great example to my boys as they grew up. He & Evelyn always made a point to come watch my grandkids perform whether it was singing or playing sports or twirling batons & birthday parties. We had many fun competitions...he was an ace at playing card games & passed that on to myself & my grandkids. He & my boys spent many wonderful years hunting & working at Leppergator Lodge. We loved him very much & will miss him tremendously 💔❤️🙏 Rest In Peace Billy Don!!

patty dawson - October 18, 2019 at 06:02 PM



“ Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Donald Dawson.



October 18, 2019 at 05:26 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Donald Dawson.



October 18, 2019 at 02:48 PM

MH

“ *M Hyvl sent a virtual gift in memory of William Donald Dawson*



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**M Hyvl** - October 18, 2019 at 12:04 PM

LF

*When I think of Bill the first thing I think of is kindness. He was a true gentleman. No matter how busy he was, he always had time to chat. I will miss bumping into him at the plant sales and around town. Rest in peace. Prayers for his family and especially Evelyn.*

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**Linda Wells Farmer** - October 18, 2019 at 02:50 PM

KH

“ *Bill Dawson was a friend, mentor, and consummate YMCA professional.  
I enjoyed working with him in Houston, and still remember his patience, wisdom, and humor.  
May God comfort and bless the Dawson family.*

*Ken Harris*

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**Ken Harris** - October 18, 2019 at 11:20 AM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of William Donald Dawson.*



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October 18, 2019 at 11:18 AM

MC

“ *Bill was such a GREAT guy from such a GREAT family.  
We have 3 beautiful cypress trees that Bill gave us many years ago  
as twigs.  
We pray for his family.*

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**Mark Chalker** - October 18, 2019 at 09:08 AM

PW

“ *Bill was a remarkable man and I am so privileged to have known  
him. Bill was an asset to our community in too many ways to count.  
His sense of humor was infectious and he's someone you wanted to  
know and have as a friend. He will be missed. Paula White*

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**Paula White** - October 18, 2019 at 08:19 AM