



William Joseph Ley

January 15, 1931 - July 1, 2022

William (Bill) Joseph Ley, age 91, passed away peacefully on Friday, July 1, 2022, at Wesley Woods in Newnan, GA surrounded by his family.

Born in Covington, KY, on January 15, 1931, to the late George and Margaret Ernstes Ley, Bill grew up in Greensburg, IN. He was a graduate of Greensburg High School. He received his BS from Xavier University and his MBA from Georgia State University. He served in the U.S. Army and was a veteran of the Korean War. His comptroller/accountant career took him to Atlanta where he met and married the love of his life, Merle, eventually selling his beloved Austin Healey to support their soon-to-be growing family.

Bill was hardworking, patient, gentle, honest, and humble. He had an infectious smile accented with a twinkle in his baby blues and a great sense of humor. He also was an avid reader, history buff, family historian, boater, fisherman, investor and loved a good cold beer with a great conversation. He never forgot a kindness. A man of strong Catholic faith, Bill served many years in the Knights of Columbus. Above all, he had an unquestionable love for his family.

After retiring, Bill and Merle enjoyed life on the road in their RV. They were full time travelers and visited 49 states, Canada, and Mexico. Settling on the Florida gulf coast, they enjoyed many years of beautiful sunsets before

moving to Newnan, GA to be closer to family in 2019.

Along with his parents, Bill is preceded in death by his brother, Bob Ley (Jean), and grandson Jackson Ley. He is survived by his wife, Merle Zellner Ley; children, Tom, Beth Quick (Scott Quick), Jim (Nancy), Jonathan (Beth); grandchildren, Jake Quick, Zach Quick, Joe Ley (Jessica), Kris Ley, Katie Ley, Avery Ley, Ansley Ley, Addison Ley, and one great grandchild Henry Ley. Bill is also survived by his brother, Dick Ley (Lil); sister, Betty Burkhart and many wonderful nieces, nephews and extended family.

The family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Wesley Woods and Homestead Hospice for their care in his final days.

A memorial service celebrating the life Bill lived will be Thursday, July 7, 2022, at 10:00 AM in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson Street, in Newnan, GA with Rev. Darcie Jones officiating. The family will receive friends from 9:00 AM until service time at the funeral home. Casual Dress. A fall graveside service will take place in Bill's hometown of Greensburg, IN.

In Lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Bill's name to St Jude's Children's Hospital online at www.stjude.org/donate. Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.mckoon.com.

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory 770-253-4580

Cemetery Details

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263
care@mckoon.com
<http://www.mckoon.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 7. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Memorial Service

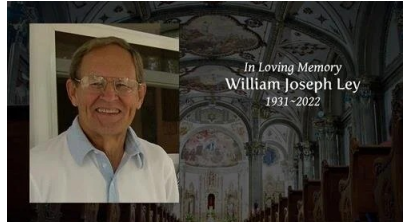
JUL 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel
38 Jackson Street
Newnan, GA 30263

Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of William Joseph Ley*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - July 07, 2022 at 12:02 PM



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Webcast in memory of William Joseph Ley*



McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory - July 07, 2022 at 07:48 AM

NS

“ I worked with Bill during the Holly Farms/Tyson transition. Dedicated and super smart. He not only helped me during the transition but on a personal level- took me to the local library to learn about Value Line investments- which continues today.

My wife (Laura) and I caught up with Bill and Merle in Key West in 1999 to tour the Dry Tortugas. They had retired and were enjoying the camping life.

We've shared his investment knowledge with many - his legacy lives.

I'm sure all of you know what a well respected/knowledgeable man he was industry wide.

Neil Sidden

Neil Sidden - August 15, 2024 at 04:17 PM

TT

“ Searching the internet for folks in my past, I stumbled on this. I worked with Bill, or I might say that Bill tolerated me, at my first job out of college at a place called Arkansas Poultry in Batesville, AR. I didn't know what I was doing really, and he was a veteran. To be honest, I did not know his field of expertise was accounting...he was the plant manager, so I thought he might have been an industrial engineer or something like that. Anyway, I remember him as a nice fellow. One strange thing that I remember is this - he wore khaki pants and Red Wing boots, and I thought that was the coolest thing. I immediately bought a similar pair of Red Wing boots, but never looked as good as Bill did in them. He was 26 years older than me. Well, the pictures in this obituary tell the story of a life well lived by a man who loved his family. Thanks for letting me share, and I'm sorry for your loss. - Tommy Tucker, Batesville, AR

Tommy Tucker - January 24, 2023 at 03:58 PM

JL

“ Bob loved his wonderful Brother so much! We really enjoyed spending time with Merle and him. Fond memories of sharing a precarious drive down a narrow dirt road to the bottom of a canyon in Mexico to spend time in the little town of Batopilus (sp?). Scary ride, GREAT company, charming old village. Bill, I know you and Bob are rejoicing in heaven and that's wonderful but you are missed so I send my love and prayers to all who know and love you here.
Your Sister-in-law, Jean

Jean Ley - July 06, 2022 at 06:27 PM

SG

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Merle. I always enjoyed visiting with Bill. He always had a smile on his face.

Haynie and Sandy Gourley

Sandy Gourley - July 06, 2022 at 01:05 PM

BB

“ Rest in peace my wonderful brother.

Betty Burkhart - July 04, 2022 at 02:44 PM