



Willie "Bill" Gordon Coley Jr.

MAR 1, 1941 - OCT 14, 2016



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FUNERAL HOMES
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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Willie "Bill" Gordon Coley Jr.

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Willie "Bill" Gordon Coley Jr. was born on March 1, 1941 in Vallejo, California to Gordon and Elizabeth (Roark) Coley. Bill grew up in Longview and attended Southward, Foster, and was a proud member of Longview High's class of '59. He attended Abilene Christian College and returned to Longview to work with his father at Longview Brass and Aluminum Co. Bill and his brother; Alton Coley owned and operated the family business until Bill's retirement in 2011. Bill married Sandra Godwin on March 31, 1961. They spent the next 54 years together and raised two girls. From 1962-1967 Bill served in The Army National Guard.

Bill's hobbies included: golf, watching baseball, and collecting baseball memorabilia. He had a lifelong love of baseball, playing on sandlots with friends, and coaching. He and his wife enjoyed playing in many golf tournaments over the years. He was a lifelong member of the Church of Christ.

Bill's daughter, Christie's fondest memories are of time spent with her dad playing catch with in the back yard. She was able to play catch with him one last time in the nursing home. His daughter Carla remembers how he loved birthdays, April Fool's jokes and the way he affectionately called her 'babe.'

Bill loved to play with his grandkids and is remembered most fondly for having tea parties with his granddaughters and playing T-ball with his grandson. On Christmas every year, Bill delighted his grandchildren by pretending that all the presents had been open, secretly saving the best gifts for last; bringing them out to squeals of surprise and joy!

He was extremely polite, kind, respectful, and generous; always a gentleman. He is remembered for his twinkling blue eyes, brilliant smile, quick wit, engaging sense of humor, and never wanting to eat his veggies.

Bill is survived by his wife of 54 years, Sandra Coley, his brother and sister in law Alton and Vickie Coley, his sister Martha Winans, daughters and sons in law Van and



Obituary

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Carla Matthews, Kirk and Christie Eason, grandchildren Erica Wickes and husband Matt, Ginny Davidson and husband Jason, Evy Matthews, Coley Matthews, and great-grandchildren Elliot and Charlotte Wickes. He was preceded in death by his parents, Gordon and Elizabeth Coley, and his precious granddaughter, Morgan Matthews, who, we would like to believe is running to greet him.

Bill's wife wants to thank Billie Childree, Summer Meadows and Hearts Way Hospice for taking such good care of him during his final moments on earth. Memorials can be made in Bill's honor to the Longview Christian School Baseball program 1236 Pegues Place Longview, TX 75601.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, October 18th at 1:00 pm at Pine Tree Church of Christ. Funeral service will follow at 2:00. A private family burial to take place after services. Arrangements are under the care of Rader Funeral Home, Longview.




Events

Willie "Bill" Gordon Coley Jr.

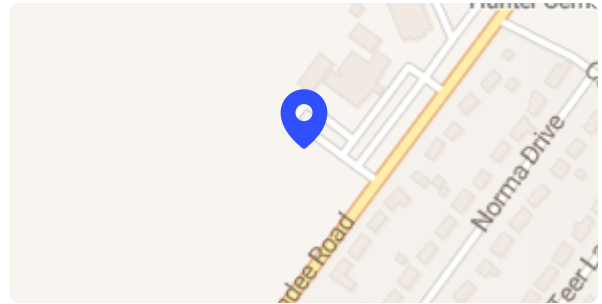
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Visitation


 **Tuesday**, October 18, 2016

 1:00 PM CT

 **Pine Tree Church of Christ**
3221 Dundee Road, Longview TX

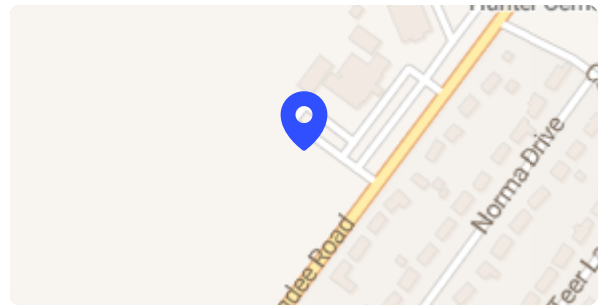


Church Service

 **Tuesday**, October 18, 2016

 2:00 PM CT

 **Pine Tree Church of Christ**
3221 Dundee Road, Longview TX





Tribute Wall

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Margaret Musslewhite posted:

Sandra. It was a beautiful service. You both always role models for families. Your special love and care of your grand- daughter and Bill is so special thru the years. 🙏

October 18 at 11:09 AM



Robert Allgoog posted:

As a child we grew up playing baseball in each other's back yard-Playing Little League together-always good friends as the years passed-we saw each other at Little League reunions, golf tournaments and high school reunions. so sorry to learn of Billy's passing and only wish I could be there in person as I am in spirit-my deepest thoughts to Billy's family-he will be missed! Robert Allgood

October 18 at 4:51 AM



Anonymous sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Coley family.



October 17 at 5:20 AM



My Thoughts Are With You All. Sharon Bullok sent a Florist Choice Bouquet to the Coley family.



October 16 at 6:10 PM



Anonymous sent an Arrive in Style to the Coley family.



October 16 at 3:46 PM



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MM

Mije McClain posted:

Bill Coley and his Dad Mr. Coley were my coaches playing in little league baseball. I always felt special when Bill would tell me he was proud of me. I loved playing for Bill and Mr. Coley. Over the years I would see Bill occasionally and we would go back to our memories of little league baseball. I will miss him, but he knew I loved him. Mike McClain

October 16 at 1:38 PM

DA

Dr David Andres posted:

I remember Billy with great affection. He was one of the truly good guys in the class of 1959. He lived his life the same way he played football - with total passion. I am glad that I got to speak with him for the last time at our 55th. reunion in 2014. I will miss him as will all of his friends and family. My condolences to his family. We have lost a very, very good man. David Andres

October 16 at 4:40 AM

SS

Steve Shirey October 16 at 5:39 AM

Bill, Sandra and this family have been in my life for many years. When we were young, we loved being with Carla and her parents...it was because they were so fun, and full of joy. When Morgan was born, he was visibly changed. His love for her was something out of the ordinary. He did everything possible to meet her every need and that of her mother. He was selfless. When Morgan didn't feel well, sometimes he would come to her, and her tears would turn to laughter. I am a better person for having known this man and his wonderful family. Although I will miss the laughter and love, I hope I never forget the feeling of compassion, love, laughter and strength of this man and his family. Thank you Lord for allowing me to know him!



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Deanna Parsons posted:

Steve and I have had many fun times with Bill and Sandra. For the longest time, I was afraid of him, thought he really didn't like me. I finally figured out his sense of humor and he was a special friend to us. We've missed him since he became ill and will miss him from now on. He and Sandra loved each other more than any couple I've ever known and it showed. He was truly one of a kind, a very special man. May God comfort you, family, and give you peace because you know he's having a ball in Heaven with Morgan and the other loved ones who have gone before him. And there's a good chance he's already pulled a few pranks on some saints.

October 15 at 1:47 PM



Donnie & Sandy Huffman October 16 at 7:35 AM

To Sandra & Family Our prayers go out to you with love and remembrance of a long to long time friend. In the words of Donnie " We lost s great teammate from our Class of 59'. You will be missed Coley, you were one of a kind " Sandy memories started at the 20th year reunion and the first with Donnie. Billy accepted me into the Class of 59' and made me feel so welcome; he never stopped making me feel special for all these years ! You will be missed but never forgotten 💙💙 Sandy & Donnie Huffman



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Willie "Bill" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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