



# Captain William James Weatherspoon

MAR 5, 1947 - APR 19, 2021



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FUNERAL HOMES  
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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# Captain William James Weatherspoon

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Captain William James Weatherspoon was born March 5, 1947 in Fulton, Kentucky to James Lowell and Sara Shaw Weatherspoon. In 1950, the family moved to Lone Oak, KY where he attended all 12 years of school with many lifelong friends. After graduating, he spent a year at the US Naval Academy before joining the US Naval Reserve and returning to Lone Oak to begin working at Ohio Valley Aviation gassing airplanes, taking flying lessons, and accruing flying time. He next attended Purdue University to earn a degree in Aeronautical Engineering through their Aviation Department. He was forever indebted to Professor Charles Holleman for arranging an interview for him with American Airlines. He was hired in 1973 and retired in 2007 after having flown the MD-80, Boeing 727, 757, 767, and 777. In 1977 he married Katherine Good, a TWA flight attendant, and they celebrated 44 years together April 11th. They had two children, and he threw himself into being a soccer coach, swim official, camping/hiking/horseback riding dad. After retirement, he flew for Stebbins Aviation in Longview, TX and enjoyed getting back into General Aviation where he had gotten his start. On April 19, 2021 he took his Cessna 340A on a maintenance flight and never returned. He is survived by his wife, brother and sister-in-law Ken and Liz Weatherspoon, children Madeline and Audrey Weatherspoon, and special friends for life Terry and Carolyn Massa.



## Tribute Wall

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**Carson Loveless** lit a candle in honor of William.

Condolences to his family

November 1 at 11:53 AM



**Edward Shaw** posted:

I am first cousin to Bill, just now learning of his death. As children he and his brother Kenneth joined with me and my siblings at our common Grandfathers home for vacation. I last saw Bill and his family at his mother's funeral in Lone Oak, KY. I am still in a state of numbness learning online ... and by accident. R.I.P. Bill .. I wish we had kept better communication.

July 31 at 11:07 AM



**Christiane Birkert** posted:

We still can hardly believe that this is true and Bill won't be there anymore when we come and visit. We would love to say thank you to Bill for sharing with us his favorite ice cream, the „ice cream chair“, frozen strawberries, thoughts, perspectives and “new words“, advice, humor, friendship and Herzlichkeit... We will miss you! Gregor, Anton and Christiane

May 10 at 9:38 AM



**Ken Hounsel** posted:

I was stunned when I saw Bill's obituary this morning in Sundays paper. I am so sad to see such a good man leave us. I only knew Bill for a short time but when I knew that he was bringing in Axel, I felt a sense of calm and joy in anticipation of our short visits at the office. He was a good, understanding, kind man. I wish I could have known him longer. Ken Hounsel DVM Judson Road Animal Clinic

April 27 at 2:20 AM



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GC

**Gail Padgett Cardi** posted:

Dear family, Please accept my deepest condolences in your loss. I have many memories of Bill as we were in the same class all through school. We attended the same church/Sunday School class and all other functions growing up. We each lived near the school and walked home everyday for lunch. Then we'd meet at the corner and begrudgingly go back in. I recall accompanying Bill on the piano while he played his Cornet solos. I especially enjoyed "reuniting" with Bill and meeting Katherine at our recent 1965 HS reunion. May he live in all our sweet memories. Sincerely, Gail Padgett Cardi

April 25 at 3:20 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Weatherspoon family.



April 25 at 6:57 AM

DH

**Donnie & Daralea Franklin Harper** posted:

To The Loving Family of Bill, Proverbs 27:9 'A sweet friendship refreshes the soul.' We went to school with your precious husband and daddy from elementary to high school at Lone Oak, Bill was intelligent, kind, considerate, cute, and funny--everyone, students, teachers, administration, school personnel, loved Bill! His smile would light up the room! We are so very thankful to count Bill as one of our dear friends! May God in His infinite wisdom bless each of you, give you comfort, love, and hope! Donnie and Daralea Franklin Harper, Class of '65

April 24 at 4:10 PM

MH

**M.J. Hoyt** posted:

Our Deepest Sympathies to you all. Bill is such an amazing man and I am grateful to have had the time together that we all shared and call him friend. My heart breaks for you all. You are in our prayers. Love to you all. Mary and Mike Hoyt (Cam & Em, Cour, Cat, & Chris too)

April 24 at 3:51 PM

AS

**Andrew Swindell** posted:

Bill - Deeply saddened by the news of your final flight. You were an incredible mentor and friend. I pray for your family in this time of loss. The world lost an expert aviator! See you on the other side

April 24 at 10:47 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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