



William "Bill" Bohnert

September 29, 1941 - November 8, 2024

William Clyde "Bill" Bohnert, 83, of Cape Girardeau passed away Friday, November 8, 2024, at Chateau Girardeau with his family by his side.

He was born September 29, 1941, in Cape Girardeau, MO to Clyde August and Catherine Alfreda Miller Bohnert.

Bill met his high school sweetheart, Carolyn Frances Heisserer on the steps of Cape Catholic High, now Notre Dame Regional High School. He graduated in 1960 and went on to attend Southeast Missouri State University. Bill and Carolyn were married November 3, 1962, at St. Mary's Cathedral in Cape Girardeau.

He served six years in the National Guard 140th Infantry, with basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

Bill's career started with Superior Electric Company, then on to the HVAC refrigeration world which included N. O. Nelson Company, Jaymac Equipment Company, National Temperature Control Centers (NTCC), managing their Cape store for 30+ years, and then became a Sales Representative for Cape Winair Company until his retirement.

He was a member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Parish, being very

committed to his Catholic faith and beliefs. He always made sure to pass on those convictions to his family and lived by example.

Bill was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Council 1111 and the American Legion Association.

Bill was a very devoted and loving husband to Carolyn, an amazing and loving dad to Jeff, Tammy and Lindsay, grandpa to six grandchildren, and a great grandpa to three great grandchildren. His love was always shown in his smile and calm demeanor. He always had wonderful advice and made us feel that everything would work out the way it should.

He loved talking sports, but his real passion was baseball, starting at the age of 6, working his way from Little League, all the way to a signed professional contract with the Cincinnati Reds. Although he was the last man to get cut during spring training in Florida, he went on to play semi-pro ball for the Cape Girardeau, Jackson Giants, Altenburg Aces, Jackson Braves and Chaffee Red Wings. He was a heck of a player both as a pitcher and shortstop. Many of his fellow teammates, even today, remember not being able to hit his overhand curve ball, and how fast his fast ball actually was. As recognition for his accomplishments, he was inducted into the Southeast Missouri Amateur Baseball Hall of Fame and the Notre Dame High School Hall of Fame. The American Legion Post 63 even retired his jersey to honor him for his many years of coaching.

Bill loved to coach. He started by coaching Jeff's little league baseball teams up through American Legion. Then while coaching the Cape Ford and Sons Post 63 American Senior Legion Baseball team, of which he was a fixture for 37 years, he helped lead them to District, Zone, and State Championships and the Regional Runner-Up in 1994. He felt baseball gave him so much over the years and it was only fair to give something back. His expertise did not stop with baseball. He brought his love of coaching to the rest of his family as

well. He also assisted Lindsay with figure skating for many years, and always had expert sideline advice for his grandkids. He was a special coach and mentor to many people through the years, hoping to teach them the value of teamwork and self-contribution and how that translates into the real world.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn Bohnert of Cape Girardeau; two daughters, Tammy (Mark) Gottschalk of Huntington Beach, California and Lindsay (Lucas) Bingaman of Cape Girardeau; daughter-in-law, Tammy J. Bohnert of Cape Girardeau; sister, Patricia (Robert) Compas of Cape Girardeau; sister-in-law, Tad Bohnert of Corydon, Indiana; six grandchildren, Haley (Tony)Spencer, Brooke (Alex) Heuring, Taylor Gottschalk, Jonathan Gottschalk, Deklan Bingaman and Sloan Bingaman; and three great-grandchildren, Lottie and Glavin Spencer and Hollis Heuring.

He was preceded in death by his parents; son, Jeffrey William Bohnert; and brother, Ronald Bohnert.

The family would like to especially thank all the doctors, nurses and aids from St. Francis Medical Center and the Chateau Girardeau for all the love and care given to Bill this past year.

Visitation is from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home in Cape Girardeau. Parish prayers will be at 7:00 pm followed by Knights of Columbus Rosary.

Funeral Mass will be Wednesday, November 13, 2024 at 10:00 AM at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Cape Girardeau with the Rev. Rick Jones officiating.

Burial will be at St. Mary's Cemetery in Cape Girardeau.

Memorial contributions may be given to the Jeffrey Bohnert Athletic Endowment Fund at Notre Dame Regional High School or St. Vincent DePaul Parish.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary Cemetery

1101 Perry Avenue
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 12. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Road
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Parish Prayers followed by Knights of Columbus Rosary

NOV 12. 7:00 PM (CT)

Ford and Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Road
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Funeral Mass

NOV 13. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church
1919 Ritter Dr.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall



“ *Maria D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Bohnert.*

Maria D. - November 13, 2024 at 07:11 AM



“ *Mike and Sonja Hobbs purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of William "Bill" Bohnert.*



Mike and Sonja Hobbs - November 12, 2024 at 03:58 PM



“ *Mike and Sonja Hobbs planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Bohnert.*

Mike and Sonja Hobbs - November 12, 2024 at 03:58 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Bohnert.*



November 11, 2024 at 03:18 PM

AK

“ Carolyn and family, my deepest sympathies to you all. You will be in our prayers.

Amy Kesterson - November 11, 2024 at 10:24 AM

TG

“ Carolyn and Family,

Heaven has truly gained a great man.

My earliest memories of Bill were as a coach on the Ford and Sons American Legion Post 63 baseball team. Bill was an imposing figure to a 16 ball player but it didn't take much time at all to understand that behind this giant of a man there was a kind hearted coach that loved the game of baseball.

Don't get me wrong, Bill had high expectations. Whether it was the game of baseball, the United States flag or your fellow man, you acted with honor and showed respect. He would be the first to let you know if that was not the case. He led by example in those areas of his life as well. I quickly was shown how young men were expected to behave and to live their lives.

It was much later that I was truly able to see the loving side of Bill in how he would interact with his grand-daughters Haley and Brooke during their time at Notre Dame. He was such a proud grandpa any time that he was talking about those girls.

My sincerest condolences to the Bohnert family. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Tim Garner - November 11, 2024 at 10:06 AM

BM

“ Dearest Carolyn and Family,
I am so sorry for the loss of Bill, he truly was one of the best ! When I arrived at Notre Dame, he along with your entire family made me ever so welcomed to my new community. Bill was always ready to help offer advice and listen. No question was ever to great or to small. His love of the faith was an inspiration to many and his love of family was second to none. Our world has lost a great man and Heaven has gained a new Saint. Be certain of my love and prayers for all of you, especially you Carolyn.
Love, prayers and hugs forever,
Brother David

Brother David Migliorino - November 11, 2024 at 08:10 AM

FT

“ I am so sorry to hear this and sending prayers to all of you. Frank Trankler



Frank Trankler - November 11, 2024 at 08:08 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Bohnert.



November 10, 2024 at 11:39 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William "Bill" Bohnert.

November 10, 2024 at 11:39 PM