



William "Bill" Wray

July 11, 1937 - March 19, 2020

William "Bill" Wray, 82, of Hot Springs passed away March 19, 2020. He was born July 11, 1937 in Hope, Arkansas to the late William Leigh and Mattie Evans Wray.

William was a member of the Compton Traditional Bow Hunters Association, the Colorado Bow Hunters Association and The Former FBI Agents Foundation.

He is preceded in death by his parents and wife, Patsy Wray.

Survivors include his son, William Larry Wray, Jr.; brother, Roy Thomas Wray; and sister, Linda Leigh Wray.

The family would like to say a special thank you to the staff at the Atrium and Belvedere Nursing and Rehab.

Tribute Wall

MC

“ I used to call him, "The MOST beloved man Ever from Hope, Arkansas!"
Bill was a special friend to My wife, Mary and me at Ol Maw Bell in Houston.
We were shocked to find out that Bill & Patsy were in Creede where we spent the summer for years. OH THEIR BEAUTIFUL LOG home on the side of that mountain!!!!!!
We were able to visit many times and what fun it was. I got to hold the bow he made as a kid and was still successfully using it !!!
Bill & Patsy were such wonderful people. We will carry them forever in our thoughts.
Mark & Mary Chalker

Mark Chalker - May 12, 2020 at 08:29 AM

PM

“ Two great memories in Creede. The first was a trip to Lost Lake that Bill arranged through Rod. Lost Lake is private and extremely high in the mountains. You could only fish with a single hook and the fish had to be released. Brenda caught a 19 inch trout on a fly rod, and you would have thought she caught a whale!

The second memory was a float down the river in the Mad River canoe. The river runs around Creede. Great trip to just talk, look at fisherman wading, and enjoy beautiful scenery.

Phil Matthews - April 19, 2020 at 04:21 PM

JJ

“ So sad to hear of Bill Wray’s passing. I first met him when we moved to Trailwood in Euless TX around late 60’s. Since I was in 3rd grade, the only way to meet friends was to ride our bikes around our tree lined neighborhood. To my pleasure, I met my dear lifelong friend Larry who was helping his dad load up “hot boxes” on his vehicles. Larry and I became fast friends and that continues to this day. I could spend hours laughing & reminiscing with him and though his dad was more quietly focused than my dad, I was interested in his love of hunting. I now have learned of his “bow hunters prayer”. Hope the winds are blowing your way in heaven!

Jenny Dorsey Johnson - April 18, 2020 at 02:04 PM

MC

Jenny I never met Larry’s father. I have been friends with Larry since 6th grade. I remember you Larry and Laurie because y’all were friendly to me. I am glad I can still be in touch with you and Larry. Take care

Mary Carnes - April 20, 2020 at 06:49 PM

GV

“ I recently found out of Bill Wray passing away... I am so sorry, I truly enjoyed working for him at Southwestern Bell where I was his Secretary. I have tried to remember his birthdays and other holidays thru out the years. Once in awhile received a call from him or I was able to call him. I can truly say he was the best boss in all my years with the company and he treated everyone with great respect. I shall miss sharing a note or two with him. I know he is with his wife Patsy and will keep all going up in Heaven. Thanks to his son Larry who kept me up on him lately.....Grace Vossman

Grace Vossman - April 15, 2020 at 12:26 AM

SM

“ My first memory of Billy was when he was about 5 and I was 4. I was living with our grandparents in Shreveport, and he came to visit with mom, who was my moms sister. He was a good cousin and I loved him.

Sylvia Massey Mabry

Sylvia Mabry - April 13, 2020 at 06:03 PM

WW

“ Here are two more photos of Bill, one is a retirement party I organized where we gave him a new bow made by the late Glenn Parker.

The other is a photo taken of me, Bill and Bob Meister on a turkey hunt in Yorktown, TX.



Wayne Wendel - April 13, 2020 at 03:54 PM

WW

“ I met Bill who was a friend of a friend and then we became best friends. This was in the early 80's and he was head of security for SW Bell and I was a HPD Sergeant in Homicide. We shared a love of bowhunting with traditional equipment, longbow, recurve, wood arrows. We hunted together for years in Texas, Arkansas and Colorado chasing deer, hogs, elk, whatever. We were both members of the Professional Bowhunters Society and we sponsored a youth hunt one year. I spent a few nights at the Wray log house in Creede. He and Patsy were so proud of that. They were happiest there. When Bill and Patsy moved to Arkansas, I lost a good buddy. I would see them up there but it was not the same. It was sad to hear of his passing. I cherish our times in the field together, the campfires, the stalking of elk on Long Mesa, and his always positive attitude. I shall miss him immensely. I've added a photo of us taken on the King Ranch. We both had taken a javelina. It was a fun day, not for the javelina though.



Wayne Wendel - April 13, 2020 at 03:34 PM

MB

“ I am just hearing of Bill's passing. Bill was involved with the National Bowhunter Education Foundation for many years. Myself and the NBEF Board offer our condolences to his many friends and family.
Marilyn Bentz,
Executive Director, NBEF

Marilyn Bentz - April 11, 2020 at 12:55 PM

KW

“ I am so sorry to hear about Bill's passing. I met Bill in the late 70's. being a Homicide Detective in Houston and Bill being over security for Southwestern Bell Telephone Company. He being a former FBI agent made it even better. We lost contact for a time and then I built a retirement home in Creede, CO and learned that Bill had a home there also. He and Patsy were so inviting, cordial and a pleasure to visit with. My first ever mountain fishing trip was with Bill and I enjoyed it so much. Bill will be greatly missed.

Ken Williamson - April 10, 2020 at 12:38 PM

MR

“ My sympathy in your loss of Bill. My husband, Ben, was a resident of the Atrium and friends with Bill. They shared many stories. Bill really loved feeding the birds when he was still able, and especially enjoyed seeing the newly hatched baby geese. Nice memories.
Mary Rosencrants

Mary F. Rosencrants - March 31, 2020 at 12:13 PM

BR

“ Bill (Billy to me still) was the son of my father's best friend. Almost ten years older than me he was my idol, my role model, my hero and I adored him all through the years. We were never particularly close through our lifetimes but my memories of him are vivid and my love and admiration for him remains as strong today as when I first met him when I was eight years old. Larry, you have lost a great father and Linda and Roy you likewise a great brother. My heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to each of you.
Bill Reinhardt
Hot Springs

Bill Reinhardt - March 30, 2020 at 09:02 PM