



Mr. Bill Cannon

November 25, 1943 - November 3, 2017

Bill Cannon

Cocoa

Unlike Walter Mitty, Bill Cannon lived his 'secret life' out loud and in real life. William Ernest Cannon (aka Bill, Butch, Dad, Pop, Mr. Bill 'oh no', Cannon, Santa, Big War Eagle, and Big Ernie) passed away peacefully the morning of Friday, November 3 at St. Francis Hospice in Titusville, FL at 73. Born November 25, 1943 at St. Vincent's Hospital in Jacksonville, FL to Zana Bell and William Ernest Spangler Sr., his mother remarried several years after and he was adopted by Lamar Cannon. The oldest of three children, he is survived by his sister Dell. Bill kept a picture of his youngest brother, Michael, who passed away some time ago on his dresser for as long as our family can remember. Bill grew up in Jacksonville, attended North Shore Elementary, Kirby Smith Jr. High, and then graduated in 1961 from Andrew Jackson Sr. High while living with his grandmother Hattie Williams Doran and his Grandfather Delano Wood Doran.

Stationed from 1961-1965 at Patrick Air Force Base while serving in the Air Force Special Services, Bill performed for countless dignitaries such as President Kennedy and the Shah of Iran. During his military service, he became an avid cave and cavern scuba diver using his barrack's fire

extinguisher as his first scuba tank. He then enrolled at Brevard Junior College in Cocoa in 1965, transferring in 1967 to Murray State University in Kentucky, graduating with a BME in 1970.

First seeing her sitting atop a convertible during the 1963 Veteran's Day parade in Jacksonville representing American Legion Post 127, Bill began dating and then married Delores (Dedei) Harmon on Christmas Eve, 1966. After 32 years of band directing and teaching at Clearlake Middle School, Cocoa High School, Edgewood Jr. High and Golfview Elementary, he retired from Brevard County Public Schools. Bill was also a working musician, everyone's Santa Claus, an amateur farmer, gunfighter, a bus driver, a construction worker, a chef, a magician, a cicerone, and a volunteer firefighter with Four Communities Fire Department. He spent five years in the 705th MP Company of the Florida National Guard and ten years with the Brevard County Sheriff's Department. He also served as President of Canaveral Groves Homeowners, served on the Brevard County Planning and Zoning Board, the LPA, District 1 South Dirt Road Committee, Parrish Pt. St. John Diagnostic Center Advisory Board, 4-H Foundation, and the Brevard County Fair Board. He wrote the column "Fruit From the Groves" for the Port St. John and Canaveral Groves Happenings newsletter and was especially proud to serve as the Florida Bandmasters Association President from 1981-82. A loving husband, devoted father, caring grandfather, mentor for thousands, loyal friend, and true citizen, Bill is survived by his wife, Delores (Dedei), his sons, Christopher, Tucker, Robert and Robert's wife Jessica. He also has four grandchildren; Cameron, Ella, Curtis, and McKenna Cannon. The family is hosting a celebration of Bill's extraordinary life on Saturday, November 25 (also his birthday) at the Christ Central Church, 2010 N. Cocoa Blvd, Cocoa, FL at 1:00 p.m. Although Bill was the crowned King of the Jacksonville Garden Club in Jr. High School for his winning flower arrangement, in lieu of flowers, donations to the Brevard County 4-H Youth Foundation, Inc. in memory of Bill Cannon, are most appreciated. (see www.gofundme.com/mem

ory-of-bill-cannon)

Cemetery Details

Cape Canaveral National Cemetery

5525 US-1
Mims, FL 32754
(321) 383-2638

Previous Events

Service

NOV **25**. 1:00 PM (ET)

Christ Central Church
2010 N Cocoa Blvd
Cocoa, FL 32922
(321) 636-7671

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Bill Cannon*

January 30, 2023 at 03:36 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. Bill Cannon.*



November 21, 2017 at 01:29 PM



“ *Rose Padrick lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bill Cannon*



Rose Padrick - November 20, 2017 at 06:05 PM



You are sorely missed by all of us whose lives you touched. The Good Lord has gained a great guy and wonderful writer. I pray you are now happily tap-tapping at a heavenly keyboard...Every time I read a corny joke you will fondly be in my thoughts. God Bless

Rose Padrick - November 20, 2017 at 06:11 PM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Bill Cannon.*



November 20, 2017 at 10:33 AM



“ *A true gentleman and darn good neighbor. I'll miss old Bill. May the Lord bless and comfort your family.*

Cary Troxel - November 12, 2017 at 09:23 PM



“ *Linda And Don Blackmer lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bill Cannon*



Linda and Don Blackmer - November 11, 2017 at 09:30 PM



RIP Bill! The memories I have from our teaching days at Clear lake will never be forgotten! Your kindness, generosity, helpfulness, and great sense of humor made a lasting impression on all those who knew you! Great teacher, but most of all a FANTASTIC husband, father, grandfather and friend to many!!! Gone, but not forgotten! ❤️❤️❤️

Linda and Don Blackmer - November 11, 2017 at 09:35 PM



Thoughts and prayers for Deide and family at this Time!! ❤️

Linda and Don Blackmer - November 11, 2017 at 09:37 PM

BS

“ *Becky Strain lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bill Cannon*



Becky Strain - November 11, 2017 at 07:11 AM

DB

“ *Thank you for my years a Clearlake Middle School Mr. Cannon! You will be very missed every Christmas sir. My kids and grand-kids believe in Santa longer because of you.*

David Buckner - November 10, 2017 at 10:00 AM

DB

“ *David Buckner lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bill Cannon*



David Buckner - November 10, 2017 at 09:53 AM

WT

“ *Walter Taylor lit a candle in memory of Mr. Bill Cannon*



Walter Taylor - November 09, 2017 at 03:42 PM