



William Darwin Rigsby

March 25, 1946 - August 1, 2021

Memorial services for William Darwin Rigsby, 75, of Gilmer, Texas are scheduled for 10:00 am, Saturday, August 7, 2021, at The Church at West Mountain with Bro. Eric Trimble officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of McWhorter Funeral Home.

William Darwin Rigsby was born March 25, 1946, in Texas City, TX. The Lord took him home on August 1, 2021. He was born to William Henry Rigsby and Katie Irene Mathison Rigsby. He was raised in a Christian home, surrounded by his three older sisters, Kathy, Billie Sue and Rita and his younger brother, Ricky who all referred to him as Darwin. He was saved during his early teen years and graduated from Clear Creek High School in League City, TX in 1964. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology/Religion from East Texas Baptist University in 1973, where he also earned the nickname "Bill". Later in life, Bill obtained a Masters of Education, with a specialization in Christian School Administration from Oral Roberts University.

In August of 1972, he met Joanna Boynton and they married December 22, 1973 in New Diana, TX. They enjoyed forty-seven years of marriage. He is survived by his wife, Joanna; children, Shannon Rigsby, Jason Rigsby and wife, Jennifer, Katie Rigsby, Katryna Ramirez, Rebekah Hodges and husband Sam, and Leanna Butler and husband Derrick. Grandchildren Reilly Rigsby, Veronica Rigsby, Silas Hodges, Abigail Hodges, Johanna Hodges, Aiden Butler, and was "Uncle Dee" to several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father and mother; his sister, Rita; and by his

daughter, Shay Lynne.

From 1977 until 2010, Bill worked primarily in Christian education in various schools throughout Arkansas, Louisiana, New York and Texas. Throughout the years he served as a teacher, coach, and in school administration. Later in his career, he worked to revitalize struggling schools or establish new schools. Prior to retiring in 2010, he oversaw the comeback of Crescent City Christian School after the destruction of Hurricane Katrina. Upon retirement, the family relocated to Gilmer, TX. where he spent the last years of his life driving bus 26 for Gilmer Independent School District. Bill was a soul winner as a part of his daily life and ministered to hundreds of families through his years of ministry. He participated in teaching Sunday school class and leading Life Groups as well as participating in mission trips through his church. He loved his children and grandchildren and supported them in their endeavors. He loved God and gave Him all the glory for his salvation and all the blessings God bestowed upon him.

In loving memory of William, Darwin, Dee, Bill, Dad, Papa and Old Blue Eyes (one blew this way, one blew that way).

Please visit William's on-line registration book at www.mcwhorterfh.com to leave a memory for the family.

The service will be live streamed on The Church at West Mountain Facebook page beginning at 9:40 am, Saturday, August 7, 2021.

Previous Events

Service

AUG 7. 10:00 AM (CT)

The Church at West Mountain
6259 US Hwy 271 S
Gilmer, TX 75644

Tribute Wall

BR

“ *Mr. Bill was a great man of God. I learned alot as a Christian educator and have carried it on with me 20 years later. I am praying for Mrs Rigsby, Jason, LeAnna and Rebekah! Hugs and prayers*

BrandeGray - August 07, 2021 at 08:41 PM

SU

“ *Bill will truly be missed. Such a Godly man who loved his family. Prayers for Joanna and the family.*

sundae - August 06, 2021 at 01:50 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.*



August 06, 2021 at 12:13 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.*



August 05, 2021 at 10:55 PM

CB

“ So sorry for your loss. Knew Bill and the family when they were in Louisiana at Riverside Christian Academy. They were blessing to us. Sending love and prayers to the family.

Charlie and Suzanne Byrd

Charles Byrd - August 05, 2021 at 10:18 PM

MS

We have been praying for your family since we got the news Sunday morning. We have not been sad though. From Heaven you were sent to all of us and so, to Heaven you have returned. You were and are loved by SO very many of us who are still earthbound. I know that you are watching over Alyssa, watching her play, run and jump like she never could here. You will be missed brother.

Marie and Sarah Smith

Marie Smith - August 06, 2021 at 10:11 AM



“ 110 files added to the album LifeTributes



McWhorter Funeral Home - August 05, 2021 at 04:56 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.



August 05, 2021 at 04:35 PM



“ *From all of us at Bowen Chiropractic* purchased the *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet* for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.



From all of us at Bowen Chiropractic - August 05, 2021 at 03:18 PM



“ *Darren LaCroix* purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.



Darren LaCroix - August 05, 2021 at 01:40 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.



August 05, 2021 at 09:09 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.*



August 05, 2021 at 08:58 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.*



August 04, 2021 at 09:37 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.*



August 04, 2021 at 06:39 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.*



August 04, 2021 at 05:02 PM

VC

“ So sad to hear of his passing Rickey my thoughts and prayers are with you and family a great cousin and too many memories to post Sending my Love to all

Virginia McCarty Carlson - August 04, 2021 at 04:49 PM

WH

“ Sad to hear of Bill's home going. I have some great memories from Bay Area Christian School and working one summer with Bill and Ricky (Brothers to Others) roofing houses. Bill was a great man, a Godly man. Our loss is Heaven's gain.

Warren Hunt - August 04, 2021 at 02:48 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.



August 04, 2021 at 12:35 PM

SC

“ Even though we did not know Bill well, we know this family. May God give peace and comfort during this time of grief. What a great family. Gerald and Sandra Cooley

sandra and gerald cookey - August 04, 2021 at 12:27 PM

DS

“ Bill Rigsby was such an authentic Godly man,.. a heart for God and others. I am honored and blessed to have known him. Joanna, so sorry you and family have lost Bill,. but his legacy will live on in the lives of his family and friends.

Dwayne/Linda Studdard - August 04, 2021 at 11:12 AM

VB

“ I met Bill many years ago in the 70's when he had dark curly hair and twinkling blue eyes. I knew him then as Darwin because that's what his brother Ricky, who was my youth pastor at FBC Diana, called him. Have always admired his dedication and commitment to the Lord and his family. He will be missed.

Vicki Tidwell Beavers - August 04, 2021 at 10:05 AM

DE

“ I loved working with Bill at Bay Area Christian School. He was a stabilizing person for the students and the staff. I'll see you again.

Debbie Emerson - August 04, 2021 at 09:49 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.



August 04, 2021 at 09:10 AM

SM

“ My love and prayers to the family! I have a lot of fond memories of Darwin and I am blessed to have known him and watch him grow up. Such a blessing to watch him grow into the Christian witness he was. Thank you Lord for this man's witness.

Sarah Dickson Mathis - August 04, 2021 at 08:50 AM

WW

“ My fondest memories of High School will always include Mr Bill... the example of marriage he and Joanna had was influential in my own. The loyalty to his brother Ricky was profound. His influence on teenage kids during his time at League City First Baptist Christian School in the late 1970s and early 1980s has been passed down by myself and many friends to a next generation of young men and women. I remember him as a teacher, football and soccer coach, pastor, mentor and ultimately as a friend, I remember riding busses on field trips, with stops at restaurants on the way home, I remember him boldly singing and preaching the gospel. I remember his and Ricky's shenanigans and practical jokes. I always felt like he took a special interest in me, but I also know that's how most of us felt, he truly loved each of us and it was always apparent. The world lost a great man! You will be missed my friend. We will meet again in the sweet bye and bye. Say hello to the many friends and family that preceded you into glory. Goodbye for now.

Wes Westfa - August 04, 2021 at 07:48 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.



August 04, 2021 at 01:34 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.*



August 03, 2021 at 10:17 PM



“ *We remember Mr. Bill as a godly man whose entire life was totally surrendered to Jesus. I can still remember babysitting a couple of times for your young family in 1982. Mr. Bill's example of a Christian still remains with us. With love,
Don (Donny) and Tracey (McDougall) Overton*

tracey overton - August 03, 2021 at 10:13 PM



“ *Joanna, we are so sorry to hear about Bill. He was a fine man and I always enjoyed seeing and talking with him in the bank. We are praying for you and your family.
Charles and Lana Turner*

Charles Turner - August 03, 2021 at 07:36 PM



“ *Praying for you sweet Joanna and your family. We were very fond of Mr. Bill. With heartfelt sympathy, Pete & Debi Powers & The Med-Shop GILMER staff*

Debi Powers - August 03, 2021 at 07:20 PM

CM

“ I met Bill early in my Christian walk and attended life group led by him. He truly discipled me, not only by his Bible knowledge but even more by witnessing his walk with Jesus! He and his brother Ricky were also two of the funniest people I've ever met’

Chic Miller - August 03, 2021 at 07:07 PM

HM

“ I Always tried to be quiet in the afternoons because Bill would always be reading his book it was always Western. He loved his bus route and his children on the bus and more than that they loved him. Bill was one of the first people to send his condolences to me when my husband was incarcerated I will always remember that how wonderful he was and then when my husband died he was there also. A very unique and wonderful thing happened One Night after my husband died. Bill was the only one I shared it with because no one else would believe me but Bill did. Bill is with the Lord that is one thing I know for sure. The Angels carried him there to the Lord. We will see him again one day.

Hartsel mcellon - August 03, 2021 at 07:06 PM

MJ

“ Joanna and family, I am so truly sorry for your loss. This breaks my heart. My heart, prayers, thoughts, love, and hugs are with you all today and the days to come.

Madeline Jones - August 03, 2021 at 05:27 PM

CS

“ Katie and Leann so sorry to here the sad news. I know you have a truly close relationship with your family. May he RIP. You both are in our thoughts and prayers always

Carole Smith - August 03, 2021 at 05:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Darwin Rigsby.*



August 03, 2021 at 04:50 PM



“ *Mr. Bill was always cheerful and willing to roll with the changes and challenges. He approached every situation in a Godly manner. His light will be forever missed.*

Rachelle Jones - August 03, 2021 at 04:33 PM



To the family of Mr Bill. You have my condolences. He loved his students on his bus and they loved him too. He was a man of Faith. I will miss him .Rest Mr Bill rest. Forever your bus monitor. Love Donna

Donna Brooks - August 04, 2021 at 04:39 PM