



Bill was born July 27, 1936, the fourth of thirteen children. He was born on the Milk River Ridge, and later moved down to the Lethbridge river valley, which he described as where the 'dirt poor' lived. While in the river bottom, Bill delivered papers to 52 homes and attended school up until Grade 7. There were stories of climbing the High Level Bridge, slingshots, and of course, trouble at school. When Bill was about 13 he went up to Peace Country to work. It is hard to imagine leaving home at such a young age, but it would have added to his character and no-nonsense attitude.

Bill and Sharon met at a dance and were married in 1960. They initially lived in Coutts and then moved to Lethbridge, where there was always an open door and meal for any family who stopped by. Bill and Sharon owned and operated Turtle Express Trucking, and Bill was a great driver. He had many fond memories of those years. He taught many people how to drive truck and was very proud of his skills, both as a driver and business owner with Sharon. After selling their company, Bill continued to drive for FCL until health issues forced an early retirement.

In addition to being a truck driver, Bill was a hockey and baseball fan—playing, coaching and sharing his love of the game with friends and family. Bill taught both his daughters to throw a ball, and throw it hard. If it wasn't for Bill, his grandkids might not be as athletic as they are. He taught them all to skate and shoot, hold a pool cue, and throw, hit and catch a ball.

In his early retirement, Bill became a fixture at the activities of his grandkids and he would happily chat with the other parents in the crowd, while being attentive and cheering Casey and Nikki on at hockey, Kyra at volleyball, Logan at soccer or volleyball, and Matthew at hockey. He also went to assemblies, concerts, and lessons, just to watch and support all the kids. Bill and Travis enjoyed going to the ranch and working cattle. Grandpa was very proud of all of his grandkids; he beamed when he spoke of them.

Most recently, Bill took great enjoyment in his great-grandchildren, and brought an extra spark back into Grandpa's eye as he watched them grow from babies into smart, fun, adventurous little toddlers and humans. This winter, he even got Molly throwing a ball and was impressed with her skills. Newton would bring him things to fix and answer questions about. He loved how Seth could remember things and where his trucks were. Damien and Gpa had fun with their video chats and sharing trucks. All the kids loved playing at Gpa's house and with all his toys.

Bill was happy to have a conversation with anyone who sat beside him, sharing about his cowboy days, or the hockey game, or any sort of chitchat. He was friendly with everyone, but not afraid to share his opinion. His daily coffee with Bill and visits from Dan meant a lot to him as well.

For being a tough old cowboy, he had a smile for everyone and a hug and T love you' for all his family. We already miss him dearly, and hope he is enjoying horses, baking, sunshine and easy breathing.

CELEBRATION OF BILL'S LIFE

Cornerstone Funeral Home 2825 - 32 St. S | Lethbridge, AB Monday, June 22, 2020 at 10:30 AM

Officiant - Patrick Siedlecki

Music played by Adrian Kaufman

Processional - Have I Told You Lately That I Love You
Opening Poem & Welcome
Bill's Life Story
Tribute to Bill read by Mardell Peterson
Song - Take Me Home, Country Roads
Bill's Life in Photos
Song - The Dance
Message of Hope
Announcements & Closing Prayer
Recessional - Amazing Grace

INTERMENT

Following the service, Bill will be laid to rest in Mountain View Cemetery



