



William Jackson Soyars

January 3, 1939 - January 7, 2021

William Jackson (Bill) Soyars, 82, passed away on Thursday, January 7, 2021 after a long journey with dementia. He was born on January 3, 1939, in Danville, VA to the late Grover Evans Soyars and Elsie Ayers Soyars. On June 17, 1961 he married Judy Powell Soyars at Vandola Baptist Church. They were married for 59 years.

Bill grew up in the Brosville area of Pittsylvania County and graduated from Brosville High School in 1957. He earned a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from Virginia Tech in 1961 and in 1990 a M.A. degree in Christian Counseling from Liberty University.

After several years working in textile engineering, Bill began his career as an instructor at Danville Community College. He taught Drafting and Design there from 1964 until he retired in 1996.

Bill was ordained as a Baptist Minister in 1980 and served as a bi-vocational pastor or interim pastor to several local churches, including Laurel Grove Baptist and Shermont Baptist. In his retirement he was a member of Mount Hermon Baptist Church and the Able Servants Sunday School Class.

Bill loved his God, his family, his country, and Virginia Tech Football. He held Virginia Tech football season tickets, and sat in the same seats, for over 50

years.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his three children – Kevin W. Soyars and wife Michelle of Winston-Salem, NC, Lori S. Cassada and husband Edward B., Jr. of Danville, VA and T. Fields Soyars and wife Jennifer of Waynesboro, VA.

Also surviving are five grandchildren, who called him Poppy – Elizabeth C. Ballard (Glenn), Edward B. Cassada III (Brianna), Britton J. Soyars, Abigail G. Soyars and Emmeline K. Soyars. Bill is survived by one brother, Landon W. Soyars and wife Lois.

Bill was predeceased by his parents and his sister, Joyce S. Hancock. Following a private burial, a memorial service, with The Reverend Ryan Riley presiding, will be held on Sunday, January 10 at 2:00 pm at Mount Hermon Baptist Church. Social distancing will be observed and masks are required. There will be no formal visitation.

The family wishes to sincerely thank all the staff at Pearls of Life at Liberty Ridge in Lynchburg, VA. For the last two years they provided excellent love and care to Bill. We give God all the glory for helping us find this wonderful place for him.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 308 Craghead St., Suite 104, Danville, VA 24541, or the charity of your choice.

Wrenn-Yeatts Westover Chapel is serving the Soyars family.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 10. 2:00 PM (ET)

Mount Hermon Baptist Church
Danville, VA

Tribute Wall



“ So sorry for your family. He was a good man and will not be forgotten. You will be in my prayers.

Lori Rose

Lori Rose - January 11, 2021 at 10:58 PM

JB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Mr Soyars always had a smile and warm welcome to everyone at Mt. Hermon church . May God bless .

John and Joy barbour

john barbour - January 09, 2021 at 11:41 AM

CW

“ WITH SINCERE SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY. OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH Y'ALL AT THIS TIME



Cecil Willard - January 09, 2021 at 11:22 AM



“ 102 files added to the album LifeTributes



Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes - January 09, 2021 at 09:41 AM

LR

“ *Mrs. Soyars, Kevin, Lori, Fields and your families, Mr. Soyars was so much to so many; he married, buried, preached to and taught so many people in our community. If friends are meant to divide your grief then no doubt your will be spread around because I know I am not alone in recognizing Mr. Soyars was special. I will miss his wry smile and laugh. I pray that God's Love surrounds you and I am glad he is no longer suffering.*
Laura Reid

Laura Reid - January 09, 2021 at 01:56 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Please accept my sympathy. May he rest in God's Peace.*

Suzanne Mundy

Suzanne Mundy - January 08, 2021 at 08:43 PM

SS

“ *Fields and family,
I'm so sorry for your loss of your Dad. Know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time. Even though I didn't personally know your Dad, it seems that he was a truly wonderful and Godly soul. Blessings your way!!!*

Sandee Sturgeon - January 08, 2021 at 06:17 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Life Tributes*



Wrenn-Yeatts Funeral Homes - January 08, 2021 at 06:11 PM

SG

“ *Susan Gillespie lit a candle in memory of
William Jackson Soyars*



Susan Gillespie - January 08, 2021 at 04:44 PM

CH

“ *Judy, Joe and I extend our deepest sympathy to you and all of the family. Bill was always so friendly to everyone and had such a wonderful sense of humor. He will be missed by all who knew him. May you find comfort and peace in your faith, love, and wonderful memories. You are in our thoughts and prayers--Carolyn and Joe Hardy*

Carolyn Hardy - January 08, 2021 at 01:44 PM

MY

“ Lori, so sorry to her of Bill's passing. He was such a delightful man, I so enjoyed our conversation at Church, he always had encouraging words that made the day better.
My thoughts and prayers are with You, Eddie and family during this painful time.
May God strengthen and encourage you each day.
Mike Yates

Mike Yates - January 08, 2021 at 12:12 PM

BP

*Belva Presley,
Enjoyed his being our Pastor &
neighbor & great friend.
Always loved hearing him sing his "Joy in the morning" song.
So sorry for your loss.
Belva Presley*

Belva Presley - January 09, 2021 at 12:38 AM

FC

“ I grew up with and went to school with Billy and his sister Joyce. Such a great family. Also Bill went to VT with my husband Bill Cook and they played golf together for many years. Remembering your family in our prayers. He will be missed.

Bill and Frances Cook

Frances and Bill Cook - January 08, 2021 at 11:35 AM

BB

“ Went to school with Bill, Daddy O. Always thought the world of him. Going to miss my friend. Much comfort and prayers for the family.

Barbara Poteat Baugher - January 08, 2021 at 02:57 AM

BB

“ *BRENDA BARTS. BRYANT lit a candle in memory of William Jackson Soyars*



BRENDA BARTS. BRYANT - January 08, 2021 at 02:36 AM

ML

“ *Maurice Lovern lit a candle in memory of William Jackson Soyars*



Maurice Lovern - January 07, 2021 at 07:31 PM

BB

Love and Prayers to the Family of a man that was so dear to my Heart! I had the pleasure of hearing him preach for many years. He preached my Parents and my niece's funeral bringing words of great comfort. He was also one of the funniest people that I ever knew. R I P Bill ❤️

BRENDA BARTS. BRYANT - January 08, 2021 at 12:44 AM

ML

“ *Bill was a great man of God , a true friend and teacher . God needed another true believer in Heaven and called for Bill . I pray God covers the family with his grace and comfort during this time . God Bless you and keep you .*

Maurice Lovern

Maurice Lovern - January 07, 2021 at 07:30 PM

MA

“ I am sending this condolence to all of you with my heartfelt sympathy because I care. My family is aware of his struggle and how much you you did to provide for him over the past several years. Remembering each of you in prayer.

MackDoss - January 07, 2021 at 07:23 PM

AE

“ Great Man and Teacher, one of my favorites at DCC. Prayers for the Family.

andy early - January 07, 2021 at 04:51 PM

FF

*May you rest in peace.
Jerry and Fern*

Fern Fuller - January 08, 2021 at 03:58 PM

JH

Praying God's peace, comfort and strength for Judy, Lori, Eddie and the family. We so enjoyed greeting Bill as he arrived at church on Sundays. He always greeted us with his wonderful smile and a kind word.

Jody and LaMarr Hess

Jody Hess - January 08, 2021 at 07:16 PM