



## Bill Burch

January 10, 1943 - September 27, 2012

William Murphy “Bill” Burch

William Murphy Burch was born January 10, 1943, in Dallas, Texas. He was the eldest son of Murphy James Burch and Rosamond Leigh Bateman Burch. Bill grew up in New Orleans, Amite, and Franklinton, Louisiana. He was a graduate of Franklinton High School and Southeastern Louisiana University. Bill was an auditor for the Legislative Auditor’s Office for over 31 and a-half years. After he retired, he returned to work for the Division of Administration, Department of Economic Development, and finally for the Louisiana Board of Regents. Bill enjoyed working for the citizens of the state and relished traveling the state as an auditor. Bill was dedicated to education. As a member and Past President of the Association of Governmental Accountants he traveled to award the association’s scholarship to accounting students at colleges and universities in southeastern Louisiana.

Bill was actively involved in Broadmoor United Methodist Church where he worked with the Youth Group, served on the Finance Committee, and was a fifth and sixth grade Sunday School Teacher. Bill was treasurer of the Wedgewood Elementary PTO, treasurer of the Broadmoor Middle PTO, and Tara High School Improvement Team.

Bill was an avid LSU fan. Nothing was better than a Saturday night in Tiger Stadium or watching his LSU baseball team at the Box! Bill served as an assistant scout leader and loved going on high adventure trips with the boys. He also was a coach for many of his children’s basketball, baseball, and

soccer teams. He and his wife served on the Millsaps College Parents' Council and as co-Presidents when their children were attending Millsaps. Bill was married to Judy Rollins Burch for over thirty-one years. He is also survived by children, Steven Rollins Stafford and wife, Kelly, of Madison, Mississippi; Katherine Whitney Burch of Ridgeland, Mississippi; and William Matthew Burch of Jackson, Mississippi; and grandson, Charles Rollins Stafford.

He is also survived by an aunt, Peggy Bateman of Franklinton, LA; niece Jennifer Burch Mizell of Bogalusa, LA; nephews Phillip Maurice Burch, Jr. of Sorrento, LA and Jeffrey James Burch of Phoenix, AZ; sister-in-law Linda Hortman Burch of Phoenix, AZ; cousins Martha Bateman of Covington, LA; Robert Bateman and wife, Anne, of Mandeville LA; Tina Bateman Creel and husband, Mike, of Franklinton, LA; Horton Bateman and wife, Sharon, of Gulf Shores, AL.

He was preceded in death by his parents Murphy and Rosamond Bateman Burch, grandparents William V. and Floy Simmons Burch and Dr. Maurice E. and Sarah Beatrice "Sadie" Smith Bateman; brother Phillip Maurice Burch, Sr.; uncle William Edmond Bateman, Sr.; and cousin William Edmond Bateman, Jr.

Visitation will be at Crain Funeral Home, Franklinton, Louisiana after 10 AM Sunday, September 30, 2012 with a funeral service to be held at 3 PM in the funeral home chapel with Rev. Ken Carroll and Rev. Tony Hicks officiating. Burial will follow in the Ellis Cemetery.

Pallbearers are Terry Belvin, Bart Bennett, Matt Burch, Phillip Burch, Jr., Gus Gosselin, Thomas Halbert, Robert Jones, Law Ponder, and Steven Stafford  
Honorary Pallbearers: Elaine Gosselin, Wanda Ponder, Horton Bateman, Robert Bateman, Jeffery Burch, Dennis Crowe, Grant Gillespie, Kevin Gillespie, Brian Halbert, Richard Jenkins, Louis Knight, Henry Lacinak, Harry Mills, Charles Law Ponder, Hoyt Smith Ponder, Daniel Pritchard, and Michael Pritchard.



# Tribute Wall

EN

“ I am so very sad for you and your family, Judy. Please know I am thinking and praying for you and the family during this time of transition. Eve Bickham Nations

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**Eve Bickham Nations** - October 02, 2012 at 09:55 AM

SL

“ Dear Family-  
I was very saddened to hear of Mr. Burch's death. He supported Nicholls Accounting dept through the AGA. He also came every year to our honors banquet. We will miss him.  
Stacy LeJeune Instructor of Accounting at Nicholls State University

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**Stacy LeJeune** - October 01, 2012 at 11:13 AM

JB

“ Yes Judy, Bill too was a light in our Class of 1960. Always genuinely friendly and fun, Bill will be missed. The Lord is our strength.

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**Joetta Thomas Blakey** - September 30, 2012 at 06:01 PM

SM

“ Judy, Matt, Katherine and Family,  
Josh, Erin, Claire, and I were so sorry to learn of Bill's death. We know there really is nothing that can be said at a time like this that makes it any easier. Just know that Bill is in a good place place now and that he lived a good life. We know he was very proud of his children and was a wonderful husband and father. He positively impacted those he came in contact with and was a good friend and a good Christian man. We will miss him. You will all be in our thoughts and prayers and know that Bill will always be with you.

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**Scott, Claire, Erin, and Josh Mayer** - September 30, 2012 at 11:56 AM

DG

“ Judy,  
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. We loved Bill and that beautiful, ever present smile he always had.  
May God give you strength.  
Love, Carla and Derwin

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**Derwin & Carla Gongre** - September 30, 2012 at 11:56 AM

AJ

“ Dear Judy and family, We wish so much we could be there tomorrow. We will be praying for God to give you the strength you need to get through tomorrow and the days to come. You have our thoughts and prayers at this time. Love, Annwood and Darryl

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**Annwood Jenkins** - September 29, 2012 at 11:04 PM

CG

“ I was so saddened to read about Bill this morning. He was a great guy and co-worker of mine for many years. Judy, my prayers are with you and your children as well as other family members. I'm so sorry Ricky and I can't be there tomorrow as we have a previous committment. I will always remember Bill as a fun loving kind of guy who was so proud of his family. My love and thoughts are with you.  
Charlotte and Ricky Gordy

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**Charlotte Gordy** - September 29, 2012 at 07:13 PM

KD

“ Judy and family, My heart is breaking for all of you in the loss of Bill. It seems like yesterday we were walking the halls of FHS were no worries. Life can be hard but remember the good times and all our blessings. My prayers are with you. Hope to see you soon.

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**Kaye Jean Miller Doss** - September 29, 2012 at 04:24 PM

CT

“ My sympathies to you, Judy, and the whole family. Bill was always by your side & a huge comfort to you. He was a fine man who was respected by his peers. He will be missed! Love, Celeste

Celeste Toney - September 29, 2012 at 01:32 PM

ME

“ Oh, dear Judy and family, there are no words! Cannot imagine your heartbreak on top of heartbreak. Please know I am holding you in my heart and prayers and God is holding you in his arms. I was so glad to see Bill at Patsy Carol's service. Both were much too young. Lovingly, Martha

Martha Knight Elliott - September 29, 2012 at 12:23 PM

BL

“ Judy, I am so saddened to hear of your great loss. You have definitely had a difficult September. They say God does not give us more than we can handle but sometimes we are really tested. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family as you continue to go through the sad times. I love the picture of Bill. That's exactly how I remember him. God Bless!

Brenda Knight Lindig - September 29, 2012 at 11:56 AM

SD

“ Judy and Family,  
Our prayers and thoughts are with you over your loss of Bill.  
Blessings to all,  
Sally and Jim Davidson

Sally and Jim Davidson - September 28, 2012 at 11:48 PM

SG

“ My heart is sad for you and your children, Judy. Bill was one of the sweetest people I have ever known....always had a ready smile! Our family loved him very much. My children saw him a lot when they were young, and he made quite an impression on them. The entire Dugas family sends their deepest sympathy and we want you to know we love you and are praying for comfort and understanding for you all. Sylvia

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**Sylvia Rose Garrett** - September 28, 2012 at 05:48 PM

JM

“ Judy, No words can soothe the hurt you and your children are experiencing with the untimely loss of Bill. As I mentioned on FB, God had made other plans for Bill; He just caught us all off guard. And, that, God, did.  
I suppose God didn't give anyone much warning because He knew we all would double down in prayer and it would be that much more difficult for God to complete Bill's journey.  
Bill was an unusually lovely man. What a blessing to have had him for 31 years. What an asset he was to his family, friends and community. When you hugged or shook hands with Bill Burch, you knew you were greeting a genuine and caring person. He just made you feel that way.  
May God continue to bless you and your family in the absence of his physical body, but not the absence in his Spirit. He will be beside you always; walking next to Jesus.  
Keeping you and the family in my prayers...

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**Judy McCasland Micelle** - September 28, 2012 at 05:01 PM

JD

“ So very sorry for your loss.

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**John and Sara Daniel** - September 28, 2012 at 04:01 PM