

William Edward (Bill) Semmelbeck

February 4, 1927 - August 20, 2023

William Edward (Bill) Semmelbeck, 96, of Houston passed away August 20, 2023. Bill was born February 4, 1927, in Muskogee, Oklahoma to Cletus and Marie Semmelbeck. He is preceded in death by his parents and his daughter, Nancy Lawlis. He is survived by his wife of 71 years, Betty, son Mark and wife Roc'C of Houston, Granddaughter Sharee Pope and husband Nathan with great-grandchildren Calvin and Scarlett of Houston, granddaughter Kelli Dowd of Amarillo, grandson Christopher Semmelbeck and wife Meridith with great-granddaughter Margot of Dallas, and grandson Kevin Dowd of Amarillo.

Bill was raised by his parents in Oklahoma City with his cousin and best friend Jack Bullock. He attended Classen High School before entering the Navy in 1944. After the Navy he obtained a degree in engineering geology at the University of Tulsa. He earned his MBA from West Texas State University (now West Texas A&M) in 1969.

With the heart of a true entrepreneur, Bill's career life is lined with many business endeavors including Bucks Sporting Goods, J&B Builders and American Land and Title. After graduating with his MBA, WT hired him as an associate professor in the school of business, where he taught business management and marketing for 18 years and was named Professor Emeritus by the Texas A&M University System. Bill's generosity and care for his students was evident to those in his classes and he had a big impact on many

who walked through his doors. One of those students, Ron Watts, and friend Ron Edmondson came to seek professional advice. That conversation led to a 45-year partnership starting with the purchase of Elliot Office Supply in 1978 and building it into OfficeWise - the largest office supply business in West Texas and ranked among the largest in the state. Bill also helped countless people reach their own goals through both financial and personal investment.

Bill was a member of the Rotary Club and served in lay leadership roles at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Amarillo and Grace Presbyterian in Midland .

A Memorial Service beginning at 11:00 AM will be held Saturday September 16, 2023, at Dettling Funeral Home 14094 Memorial Dr. Houston, Tx 77079 with reception luncheon to follow. In honor of Bill's life please consider a charitable donation to His Voice Global or West Texas A&M.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

SEP **16.** 11:00 AM (CT)

Dettling Funeral Home
14094 Memorial Drive
Houston, TX 77079
(281) 497-2121
david@dettlingfuneral.com

Tribute Wall



“ *William Edward (Bill) Semmelbeck*

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *William Edward (Bill) Semmelbeck*

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ *William Edward (Bill) Semmelbeck*

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *William Edward (Bill) Semmelbeck*

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*

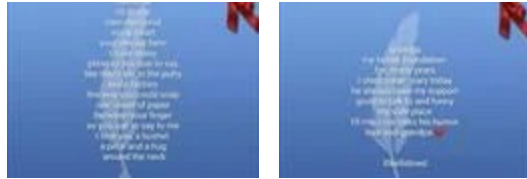


Kelli Dowd - September 20, 2023 at 08:32 AM

KD

“ *More poems for my Grandpa*

Kelli Dowd



Kelli Dowd - September 19, 2023 at 05:38 PM

KD

“ *From Kelli Dowd to my Grandpa Bill*

*I'll do my
own memorial in my heart your always here
Thave many
phrases you use to say like that's life in the putty knife factory
the way you could snap one sheet of paper between your fing...*

Kelli Dowd - September 19, 2023 at 05:32 PM

CS

“ *Bill and Betty share a very special place in my heart. Bill's my cousin but has been more like an uncle all my life (and Betty, my aunt). I have so many fun memories of all the great times growing up when our families (Semmelbecks and Bullocks) would get together for Thanksgivings, other celebrations or just visits! My dad and Bill would share funny memories of growing up together. When I was over 21, I could finally partake in Bill's famous Whiskey Sours. I'm sure my dad and Bill are still sharing and laughing in heaven together. Bill will be missed, but I will treasure all the memories and blessings. God is good all the time, and All the time, God is Good.
Love, Cindy Bullock Sharp*

Cindy Sharp - September 09, 2023 at 07:33 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Edward (Bill) Semmelbeck.*



September 06, 2023 at 11:45 AM



“ *Bill Semmelbeck was the man you wanted to be standing around when he had something to say. And he was a kind man.*

Alan Hale - August 26, 2023 at 09:29 PM



“ *I remember in 1966 I was about to start a class in Data Processing. I asked Bill, what's the difference between Computer Operator and Computer programmer. Knowing Bill has great wisdom and could explain it, so even I would understand. Bill said, "Oh, about \$10,000 a year." Thank you Bill, I'll remember that forever.*

William Denham - August 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ *Betty,*

Betty and Bill getting married at Ruth and Oliver Denham's house in Ft. Smith, Ar.



William Denham - August 26, 2023 at 03:45 PM