

Bill Griffin

November 8, 1944 - March 24, 2019

William E. "Bill" Griffin, beloved voice of the Fighting Terrell Tigers, passed away on the afternoon of March 24, 2019. Bill was born November 8, 1944 in Terrell to Ferrell Elon and Lena Kate (Hinton) Griffin both of whom preceded him in death along with his grandchildren, Coco Alexis and Ryder William Griffin. While saddened at Bill's passing, his family takes great comfort in knowing Bill has picked Coco and Ryder up to play games and love on them until they are all united again in Heaven.

Having been born and raised in Terrell, Bill had a front row seat to how the community has changed during his lifetime and how every person and every place in Terrell combined to make it the best place for all to live. He graduated from Terrell High School in 1964 and, during high school, Bill achieved both academic and athletic honors. He played any and every sport including football, baseball, basketball and ran track. His commitment to excellence and leading the team earned him the respect of his teammates, coaching staff as well as other players on competing teams. After graduation, Bill received a scholarship to attend University of Texas at El Paso (formerly known as Texas Western College). Bill returned to Terrell where he met Linda Gardner and they married on March 23, 1967. In 1966, his love of sports and knowledge of football plays enabled him to become the Voice of the Terrell Tiger football games. Bill's ability to see the game in a clear way helped him communicate each play accurately and vibrantly. He not only was the announcer for Terrell football but also baseball and basketball for over 30 years. He had a love for

youth sports and knew just how important these memories would be to the student athletes' families and many times over the years, Bill would contact the coach of the teams to make sure he pronounced each player's name correctly. (Many families would contact him personally to thank him for the time and care that he put into knowing details about their sons and daughters on the teams.). Bill's civic pride in Terrell ran very deep and he served in many capacities so as to make sure that the growing community changed with the times but still kept its down-home feel. He served with the Terrell Junior Chamber (Jaycees) which helped him develop the knowledge base to serve with the Chamber of Commerce and City of Terrell Planning and Zoning Board. Bill was elected to the TISD School Board for 18 years where his insight and wisdom helped TISD change to fit the needs of students and educators on the growing campuses. He was instrumental in the success of the PAC being built to encourage artistic experiences, whether it be music, art or theatre, for the community and the students. His love for encouraging youth to be the best they can be helped Bill be an active volunteer with TARA baseball and the interim youth minister at First Christian Church. He and Linda made sure that every youth group member knew that Jesus loved them and that church was fun! Bill was the Chairman of the Boles Brothers Memorial Golf Classic for over 20 years where he helped fundraise to award many graduating THS seniors the necessary scholarships which would help them in their next chapter of life. Bill also was a volunteer with the American Cancer Society and was Past Master of Artesia Lodge No. 406 and member of Prairieville Lodge No. 253 and the many friendships he made with these organizations lasted for the rest of his life. In 2017, Bill was honored by the community of Terrell and TISD for his five decades of service at Tiger Memorial Stadium when they formally named the press box as the "Bill Griffin Press Box". In 2018, in recognition of his many contributions to the sports that he played in high school, he was inducted to the Tiger Athletic Hall of Fame, an honor he truly cherished. Bill was also a small business owner in Terrell. In 1979, he and Linda took over Cherokee Printing and were celebrating their

40th year in business.

Of all the accomplishments and accolades that Bill received and all the titles that he was awarded, Bill's true achievement was being the best husband, dad and grandpa. Many weekends were spent with Linda and John at little league games, school functions as well as travel with John as John golfed in tournaments in high school and college where he was John's biggest fan and supporter. When Bill became a grandpa, he found his true calling. Sophia and Gray had their grandpa wrapped completely around their little fingers and the sky was the limit when they asked for anything. He enjoyed weekends when he and Linda could travel to John's house to visit with Sophie and Gray or when they had the wonderful chance to have them for the weekend in Terrell where Bill would proudly show all he knew that he had the prettiest and most handsome and smartest grandkids ever born! His devotion to his community was second only to his devotion to his family and he will be never forgotten for the powerful impact he made in so many lives.

Bill leaves to cherish his memory his beloved wife of 52 years, Linda Griffin; treasured son, John Griffin, precious grandchildren: Sophia and Gray Griffin; sister, Pat Hottinger; brother, Greg Griffin and Karen as well as other extended family, a host of friends and a community who loved him dearly.

A Celebration of Bill's life, service and legacy will be at 10:30am, Friday, March 29, 2019 at First Baptist Church of Terrell, 403 N. Catherine, Terrell. His family will receive friends 4-7pm, Thursday, March 28, 2019 at Max Slayton Funerals and Cremations. In lieu of flowers the family asks memorials be made in Bill's name to the Terrell Excellence Foundation T.I.S.D. 700 N. Catherine St. Terrell, Tx 75160 www.terrellexcellencefoundation.org

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **28.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Max Slayton Funeral Chapel
642 N. Rockwall Ave.
Terrell, TX 75160

Celebration of Life

MAR **29.** 10:30 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church of Terrell
403 N. Catherine
Terrell, TX 75160
<http://www.fbcterrell.org>

Tribute Wall



“ *Bill Griffin*

October 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ *Never forget him coming over with Tom Ed and helping me move the heaviest piano ever made. Also giving me the " defensive playbook " at Christmas one year. I will always appreciate Bill and Linda for welcoming me and my family to Terrell.*

John Wilson - March 31, 2019 at 05:32 PM



“ *I am so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He was truly an inspiration to everyone! Praying for Linda & John. Sherry Calverley*

Sherry Calverley - March 28, 2019 at 01:45 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bill Griffin.*



March 28, 2019 at 11:14 AM

TA

“ *The Aston family Scott, AB and Annalee purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Bill Griffin.*



The Aston family Scott, AB and Annalee - March 28, 2019 at 10:54 AM

RC

“ *So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I knew Bill when I coached in Terrell from 1986-88. Linda and John, know that prayers are being lifted up to you from our family*
Ricky and Cheryl Carter

Ricky Carter - March 27, 2019 at 10:41 PM

SC

I was so sad to hear about Bill's passing. He was a truly a remarkable person. I will miss him! Praying for the family. Sherry Calverley

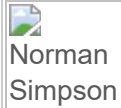
Sherry Calverley - March 28, 2019 at 01:42 PM

RS

“ *Linda and family, I was so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He was a great guy. I so enjoyed knowing him during his time on the School Board and seeing you both at the office or at Terrell Steak and Grill. I always appreciated his kindness to me. I pray for you and your family during this difficult time. Rest In Peace, my friend!*

Ronnie Smith

Ronnie Smith - March 27, 2019 at 05:17 PM



Norman Simpson

“ If you grew up in Terrell and participated in sports, you knew Bill. He umpired my youth baseball games and was the announcer for my high school basketball games. I often saw him at Church softball games. He was a good competitor and person that will be missed in the Terrell community.

Norman Simpson - March 27, 2019 at 12:37 PM

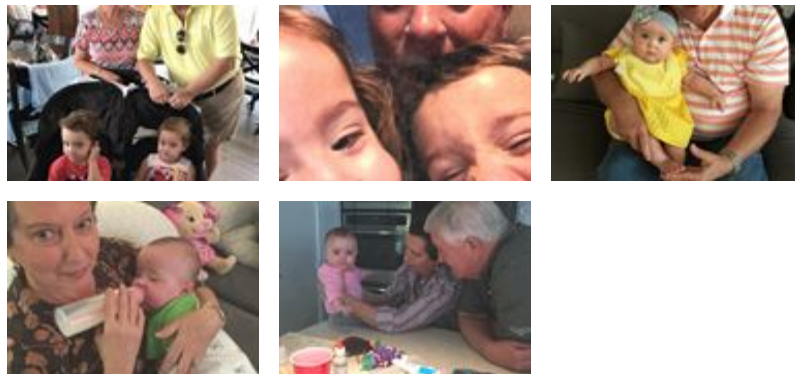
BC

“ Dear Linda and John,
Ben and I were so saddened to hear about Bill. Our hearts go out to both of you for your great loss. We will not be able to share our condolences with you st his services as we are out of town. Please know we are thinking of you and praying for you. We hope you find some comfort in knowing he is no longer in pain or suffering and in faith and friends.
Ben & Margaret

Ben & Margaret Carmona - March 27, 2019 at 09:12 AM



“ 100 files added to the album LifeTributes



Max Slayton Funerals & Cremations - March 26, 2019 at 02:31 PM

MH

“ Linda and John..I am so sorry to here the passing of Bill. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Mike Haskell

Mike Haskell - March 26, 2019 at 01:00 PM

CS

“ Dear Linda, John,Sophie,Gray,Pat,Greg & family, We are so sorry to hear about Bill! He was truly a giant among men who we were proud to call our friend! Sending prayers your way during this difficult time in your lives! May God comfort each of you! Wilson & Karo Stewart

Carolyn (Karo) Stewart - March 25, 2019 at 11:32 PM

LG

“ Love and Hugs - Tressa, Aaron and Scott Glassman purchased the Simply Chic Mixed Plant Basket for the family of Bill Griffin.



Love and Hugs - Tressa, Aaron and Scott Glassman - March 25, 2019 at 09:09 PM

JK

“ Bill earned my heartfelt gratitude for the warm and genuine friendliness he extended to my sons and their friends when they came each year to play in the Boles Brothers Memorial Golf Classic. They, as I, considered him a great guy and good friend. Then when I brought the grandchildren around to his and Linda's place of business, he would take the time to talk with them and refer to their dads. Oh, boy, did he tease my granddaughter, Tori! I just know that Grant was right behind those dear grandchildren to welcome Bill into Heaven. My sincere condolences to Linda and the entire family he loved so much.

Joyce Kimmell - March 25, 2019 at 09:01 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Bill Griffin.



March 25, 2019 at 08:04 PM

KB

“ Kimberly Boyd Brown lit a candle in memory of Bill Griffin



Kimberly Boyd Brown - March 25, 2019 at 07:29 PM

CM

“ Linda and John,
I am so truly sorry for your loss. Bill was such a wonderful man and I am honored to be able to call him my friend. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Terrell ball games are not going to be the same without Bill.

Cherie McClenney

Cherie McClenney - March 25, 2019 at 05:28 PM

DM

“ Debbie Milliken lit a candle in memory of Bill Griffin



Debbie Milliken - March 25, 2019 at 05:27 PM

DW

“ Darla Boyd Whitley lit a candle in memory of Bill Griffin



Darla Boyd Whitley - March 25, 2019 at 03:17 PM

DW

So very sorry for your loss sweet friend and your family! Much love,light and prayers for you all! God bless you Linda!

Darla Boyd Whitley - March 25, 2019 at 03:22 PM

AF

“ Sorry to hear about Bill. Sending prayers to Linda, John, and all family. 🙏🙏

Audrey Appleton & Family - March 25, 2019 at 11:28 AM

AD

“ Our deepest sympathy to Linda and John. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
John and Anne Davidson

Anne Davidson - March 25, 2019 at 10:42 AM

FK

“ Frank And Elaine Kasper lit a candle in memory of Bill Griffin



Frank and Elaine Kasper - March 25, 2019 at 09:49 AM

WS

“ Linda and John our prayers and thoughts are with you.
William and Linda Sanders

william sanders - March 25, 2019 at 08:43 AM

SB

“ Sharon Boyd lit a candle in memory of Bill Griffin



Sharon boyd - March 24, 2019 at 09:35 PM

SB

“ Linda so sorry to hear about Bill. I still remember when you met him. Had so many memories of Lois and I coming by to see you and Bill to ask about the twins and how his eyes would always light up and he would show us all the pics of then on his lap top I still have so many happy memories of you and your family many years ago. He will deeply be missed. My prayers and thoughts go out to you John and the twins at this sad time. Your old church friend. Love you Sharon

Sharon boyd - March 24, 2019 at 09:34 PM

BW

Linda, we are so sorry for your loss! You and John and the twins are in our prayers! We love you and our heart aches for you. Bill & Pat White

Bill & Pat White - March 25, 2019 at 09:28 AM

JB

I'm so sorry to hear about Bill. I have such wonderful childhood memories of him, Jim Lovell and several others sitting at that table in Terrell Pharmacy drinking coffee every morning and teasing my mother relentlessly. I am praying for peace for your family.

Jan Britt-Bearden - March 25, 2019 at 02:27 PM

BS

Linda, John and family, Bill's home going was a real shock. So very sorry for your loss...praying for God's perfect peace for the family.

Buddy Sadler - March 26, 2019 at 04:50 PM