



William "Bill" Johnston

October 14, 1921 - December 13, 2021

Graveside service will be held at 1:00pm, Thursday, May 19, 2022 at Dallas/Ft. Worth National Cemetery. Due to D/FW National Cemetery not allowing flowers, the family suggests donations be made to a charity of choice.

William Thomas "Bill" Johnston, 100, of Bryan, passed away on Monday, December 13, 2021. He was a resident of Crestview Retirement Community in Bryan. Born October 14, 1921, in Anderson, Indiana, Bill was the son of Raymond K. and Mabel Thomas Johnston. He was educated in the Indianapolis school system, and spent his summers working on his grandparent's farm. After high school, he enrolled at Purdue University, but his college years were interrupted by World War II. He enlisted in the U. S. Navy Seabees and served in the European theater of operations.

On June 4, 1943, before going overseas, Bill married his long-time sweetheart, Jean Ehlers. In 1945, he returned from the war and completed his military service as a Drill Instructor at Camp Endicott, Rhode Island. He resumed his education at Purdue University, graduating with a degree in Forestry, but he soon learned that working in forestry would not support his growing family.

In 1950, Bill hired on with Western Electric, an arm of AT&T, and was promoted through the managerial ranks, moving from Indianapolis, to Lee's Summit, Missouri, and Shreveport, Louisiana. After a 34-year career, he retired from the Bell System, and spent three more years as a construction inspector, before he was hired by Texas A&M University, where he spent seven years as Director of the Industrial Energy Technology Conference.

Following his wife's death, Bill moved to Hilltop Lakes in Leon County. At Hilltop Lakes, he served as chairman of several committees, and served on the board of directors of the Property Owners Association. In 2017, Bill sold his place at Hilltop Lakes and moved to Crestview Retirement Community in Bryan. In October 2021, he celebrated his 100th birthday.

Bill received his Masonic degrees in 1949 in Mercer Lodge, Wingate, Indiana. He was a charter member and Past Master of St. Alban's Lodge in College Station. During his years at Hilltop Lakes, he was an active member of Rogers Prairie Lodge in Normangee. In 2019 he was presented with the 70-Year Service Award by the Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas.

Bill is survived by two daughters, three grandchildren, three great grandchildren, and one great, great grandchild.

Cemetery Details

Dallas/Ft. Worth National Cemetery

2000 Mountain Creek Parkway
Dallas, TX 75211

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 19. 1:00 PM (CT)

Dallas/Ft. Worth National Cemetery
2000 Mountain Creek Parkway
Dallas, TX 75211

Tribute Wall



“ *William "Bill" Johnston*

October 08, 2023 at 07:43 PM



“ *Anyone who had the great privilege of knowing Bill, knows that he was a "larger than life" type of man. God gave him talent like courage, humor, perseverance, and a load of commonsense. Its things like that that made him successful and a great asset to his family, friends, workplace and the United States Military. A seabee that modeled what one should be like is what he was and the service that I believe he was most proud of. I'm grateful for many conversations over many visits and watching the movie about the life of Louie Zamperini, pow and friend of Billy Graham. It seemed to have an impact on this fellow military man.*

Ken Hillner - May 18, 2022 at 11:21 PM



“ *5 files added to the album Dad's 100th Birthday Party, October 14, 2021*



Kathleen Hicks - April 19, 2022 at 02:04 AM