



William Briggs Brockwell

April 15, 1931 - September 10, 2020

William B. "Bill" Brockwell, 89, of Colonial Heights, VA passed away on Thursday, September 10, 2020. Born in Petersburg, VA he was the son of the late Edward Briggs and Katherine Smith Brockwell; and was also preceded in death by his sister, Anne Brockwell Bresko and her husband Emmett Bresko. Bill graduated from Petersburg High School in June 1950, and remained friends with his classmates through the years. He helped organize a number of class reunions over the past 70 years. Bill received an honorable discharge from 3 branches of service – US Marine Corps Reserve, US Air Force, US Army Reserve. During the Korean Conflict, he was an Airman 1st Class serving in Alaska. He met Betty Jean in Montgomery Alabama, while stationed there. They married upon his discharge and moved back to Virginia. Bill worked for C&P Telephone Co for 38 years where he started his career climbing poles and digging holes. Subsequent assignments included various Marketing and Community Relations positions. After retiring, he then served as Executive Vice President of the Home Builders Association of Southside Virginia, then sold John Deere lawn and garden equipment for James River Equipment, and lastly worked as Membership Director for the Colonial Heights Chamber of Commerce. He was a true salesman! Bill was charming, outgoing, always asking others "where are you from?". He could also be stubborn and opinionated, as his friends and family well knew. Supporting the Masonic Lodge and the Shriners, in particular the Shriners Hospitals for Children, filled his retirement years. He transported children to the hospitals, organized outreach clinics throughout Virginia, and organized numerous fundraisers over the years to support the hospitals. Bill believed strongly in their mission. For over 50 years, Bill was Santa Claus for hundreds of children, at local churches and organizations, the Airfield 4H Center, and area Christmas parades (Colonial Heights, Dinwiddie, and Petersburg). Donations for these Santa activities were gladly directed to the Shriners Hospital, a cause near and dear to his heart. Bill thoroughly enjoyed playing Santa Claus for the children of family and friends. As time went by, his Santa visits extended to the grandchildren of those family and friends. Bill is survived by his loving wife of 66 years, Betty Jean Brockwell; a daughter, Pattie J. Brockwell and husband, Steve Jesus; a sister-in-law, Rheba Joyce; one brother-in-law, John Floyd McNeal and wife,

June; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, September 14, 2020 at the Petersburg Chapel of J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home. A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at the funeral home. A committal service with military honors will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at Virginia Veterans Cemetery at Amelia. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Shriners Hospitals for Children- Greenville Hospital, C/O Acca Shrine Temple, 1712 Bellevue Ave., Richmond, VA 23227 in memory of William "Bill" Brockwell, Petersburg Shrine Club. Condolences may be registered at www.jtmorriss.com

Cemetery

Events

Amelia Veterans Cemetery

VA,

SEP 14 Visitation 01:00PM - 06:00PM

14

Petersburg Chapel

103 S. Adams Street, Petersburg, VA, US, 23803

SEP 15 Service 11:00AM

15

Petersburg Chapel

103 S. Adams Street, Petersburg, VA, US, 23803

SEP 16 Burial 01:00PM

16

Amelia Veterans Cemetery

VA, US

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home - September 11 at 03:25 PM



“ Betty Jean and Family,
I worked for "Mr. Brockwell" when I first started working at C&P Telephone Company in the early 80's. I am John Long's daughter, so he always referred to me as "Johnny's Little Girl" which I will always be. Mr. Brockwell was always so kind to me and I enjoyed working for him. I admired and respected him because he provided his opinion on a topic and it did not change based on what level of the organization was involved. You could count on his word. Unfortunately, my Dad passed away last Sunday. When I saw Mr. Brockwell's obituary, I could only think of what a wonderful reunion they will be having in Heaven. Please accept my condolences on behalf of my Mom and family.
Jean Long Meredith

Jean Meredith - September 17 at 10:16 AM



“ Miss Betty, You & Bill are and always will be one of my favorite people. It was my pleasure every Sunday to wait on him at the restaurant. Bill always made me smile. He will be missed.

Jacquie Conner - September 15 at 10:08 AM



“ Patti,
You have my deepest sympathy for the loss of your father. I still have a vivid memory of your father, meeting him the first time as I arrived at your house for one of our first dates. I recollect him checking me out pretty thoroughly in deciding whether or not to send his daughter off with me. My thoughts are with you.
Tony
tonymaddra@aol.com

Tony Maddra - September 15 at 06:36 AM



“ Jimmie Stewart lit a candle in memory of William Briggs Brockwell



Jimmie Stewart - September 14 at 11:55 AM



“ Fine gentleman who will be missed in the community. RIP Bill.

Jimmie Stewart - September 14 at 11:56 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Briggs Brockwell.



September 14 at 11:04 AM



“ When I started my business back in 1983 - Bill was my very first client. I will forever be grateful to him for giving me the confidence - and the business. Bill enjoyed "testing" prospective salespeople - he asked me to visit his office at 7:30 a.m. to give my "pitch." I later learned that he used this test to demonstrate one's eagerness to work with him. Through the years of C&P, Home Builders and even James River days, he always called on me when in need of my services. Bill was truly a loyal friend. He so often spoke of his wonderful wife, Betty Jean and fabulous daughter, Patti. He was so proud of his Family. Bill was a wonder - always into some new project with his full enthusiasm and vigor. Never an April 15th would pass that I did not (and will continue to) recall his many kindness to me - and to so many others. Thank you, Bill. You have earned a very high place in Heaven. Betty Jean and Patti - my deepest condolences. I am so sorry for your loss.

Joy Ferguson - September 13 at 10:05 AM



“ Our deepest sympathy for the family. Bill and my Dad were cousins and even tho I didn't see him very much over the years, he was so much fun to be around. He always told us that he was the Best looking Brockwell...I do admit, he as a handsome

fellow.. RIP Bill, you will be missed.

Judy Brockwell - September 12 at 08:21 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to you. Wert arranged for Bill to surprise our little ones one Christmas, and he was such a hit. We still fondly remember his telling our youngest that she had brown sugar spots on her nose! I have thought of freckles that way ever since. Bless you and him. Pat Smith

Pat Smith - September 12 at 01:18 PM



“ Sending our most sincere sympathy.
Thank you for your service Mr. Brockwell.

Russ and Lisa Wood - September 12 at 11:45 AM



“ So very sorry to learn of Mr. Brockwell's passing. He was always so kind and full of questions. Where were from? Who's your family? Are you related to? He loved life and his beautiful wife. A privilege to do work for him and Mrs. Betty. Prayers for the family.

Ruth K Whirley - September 12 at 10:33 AM



“ Mr Brockwell was always smiling and “up to something “ whenever I saw him. He always called me Red with a sly grin. I will truly miss his hugs. My heart hurts for his family. I know he's looking down with that big smile and I will Hold that memory.

Susan Ingram - September 12 at 09:31 AM



“ So very sorry to hear of Mr. Brockwell's. He was one of my first supervisors while in college and working part time at Home Builders Associations. Sympathies and prayers to his family and friends.



Tammy Tucker - September 11 at 11:02 PM

 “ Tamara Robertson lit a candle in memory of William Briggs Brockwell



Tamara Robertson - September 11 at 08:36 PM

 “ Monika Eudailey lit a candle in memory of William Briggs Brockwell



Monika Eudailey - September 11 at 07:36 PM



“ Mrs. Betty and Patty, you are both in my thoughts and prayers.

Monika Eudailey - September 11 at 07:38 PM



“ Thinking of you both. you are in my prayers. Joyce G/

JoyceGarrett - September 12 at 07:02 AM

 “ Betty Jean, Pattie, et al, I am so saddened to read of Billy's passing. I always found Billy to be a good friend an savvy adviser, and a ray of sunshine whenever we ran into each other. Know that my thoughts and prayers go with you all through this most difficult time! Chuck

Charles Hinton - September 11 at 07:12 PM



“ As the manager of the FT Lee Officers club I had many dealings with Bill I found him to be professional and very polite .RIP BROTHER. FAMILY May GOD BLESS you all in this time of sorrow.

Ronald Sims Sr - September 11 at 04:33 PM



“ Lots of memories growing up with Bill, camping and river adventures. My heart hurts for you. May you find peace with his life lived wide open!

Stephen E Davis - September 11 at 03:06 PM



“ 52 files added to the album LifeTributes



J.T. Morriss & Son Funeral Home - September 11 at 02:13 PM