



William E. Bess

March 20, 1924 - December 13, 2016

Mr. William E. Bess died on December 13, 2016. Mr. Bess was born on March 20, 1924, the son of William Ernest and Dora Murrey Bess. His parents and his siblings, John Bess and Bernadean Bess, were all residents of St. Albans, West Virginia.

Mr. Bess was educated in the public schools of St. Albans and was the valedictorian of the St. Albans High School Class of 1942. He graduated with honors from the University of Alabama with a degree in Electrical Engineering and was the president of the fraternity, Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

For five years after graduation, Mr. Bess worked for an oil field service company. He then became an independent oil and gas producer and spent his career doing this work.

Mr. Bess is survived by his wife of 56 years, Dolores Cornelius Bess. They were residents of Lafayette, Louisiana, and after their retirement, they shared their life in Lafayette and in St. Albans.

Visitation will be from 4-6pm Thursday, December 15, 2016 at Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, St. Albans. The Rosary service will begin at 5pm.

The Reverend Patrick McDonough will lead a Mass of Christian Burial at St.

Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, St. Albans on Friday at 10:00am. Mr. Bess will be privately interred at St. Patrick Cemetery, Scott Depot.

William was a generous man who helped a myriad of students attend college and supported many community projects. Therefore, if you wish to honor William's memory, the family suggests that in lieu of flowers a memorial gift be made either to the West Virginia State University John Bess Scholarship, PO Box 1000, Institute, WV 25112 or to the Kanawha Charleston Humane Association, 1248 Greenbrier Street, Charleston, WV 25311.

Visit Mr. Bess's tribute page at ChapmanFuneralHomes.com to share memories or stories with the family.

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 409 Sixth Avenue, St. Albans is honored to serve the Bess family.

Cemetery Details

St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery

Joyce Road
Scott Depot, WV

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 15. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Bartlett-Chapman Funeral Home
409 Sixth Avenue
St. Albans, WV 25177
(304) 727-4325
info@chapmanfuneralhomes.com
<http://www.chapmanfuneralhomes.com>

Mass of Christian Burial

DEC 16. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church
1023 Sixth Avenue
St. Albans, WV 25177

Tribute Wall



“ *William E. Bess*

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM



“ *I have so many fond memories from childhood of Mr. William. He was my dad's best friend from school & was always such a kind & generous man. I will be eternally grateful that my son has a college degree today, due to the generosity of Mr. William & Ms. Dodo. Remembering that raspy voice saying my name & explaining his philosophical views to me & of course, watching them all dancing in our living room, I can't help but smile. Sending all out love to you, Ms. Dodo. Hugs & Kisses from Louisiana. Gingy, Courtney & Miles*

G Rohrberger - December 19, 2016 at 09:13 AM



*Would love to hear more. Thanks!
John Butler 337-654-1637*

John Butler - May 25, 2020 at 06:27 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William E. Bess.*



December 15, 2016 at 09:52 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William E. Bess.*



December 14, 2016 at 04:55 PM



“ *After I graduated from the University of Alabama in 1979, I went to live with my dad in Lafayette. At some point, Bill, daddy and myself went to see Alabama play LSU in Baton Rouge. We were surrounded by LSU fans and it rained like hell but we cheered the Tide to victory!! Bill was a wonderful friend to my daddy and will not soon be forgotten. With love, Jan Byars*

Jan Byars - December 14, 2016 at 04:11 PM



“ *JACK M. BYARS SR. purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of William E. Bess.*



JACK M. BYARS SR. - December 14, 2016 at 01:51 PM