



William "Bill" Palen

March 1, 1933 - October 14, 2022

William E. "Bill" Palen age 89 of Dixon died Friday Oct. 14, 2022 at KSB Hospital in Dixon. He was born March 1, 1933 in Dubuque, IA the son of Leo and Besse (Koch) Palen. Bill was a graduate of Loras College in Dubuque, IA. Bill was Vice-President of Walder, Rhodes, Palen and Corken Insurance Agency in Dixon prior to his retirement. He had served on the Lee County Board, Lee County Tourism Council, and the Ogle/Lee Crime Stoppers Board. Bill was also a member and Past Exalted Ruler of the Dixon Elks Lodge, and member of and past president of the Dixon Noon Lions Club, receiving a Melvin Jones Fellowship. Bill married Irene "Renie" Atkinson Nov. 9, 1957 in Dixon, IL. He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother Rev. Robert Palen and one sister Virginia Palen Long. Bill is survived by his wife Renie, children Andrew (Jeanne) Palen of Effingham, IL, Susan Seidel of Cross Plains, TN, Paul (Kelli) Palen of Kewanee, IL; 3 grandsons Skyler (Brittnee) Palen, Cory (Kayla) Palen, and Austin Palen; one great granddaughter Hayden Palen. Cremation rites have been accorded, with a private family service to be held at a later date. A memorial has been established to the Dixon Elks Lodge Scholarship Fund. Arrangements by the Jones Funeral Home in Dixon.

Tribute Wall



“ *William "Bill" Palen*

October 08, 2023 at 11:30 AM



“ *William "Bill" Palen*

December 31, 2022 at 02:40 AM



“ *My deepest condolences for your loss Andrew Palen.
Sincerely,
Becky L Romano
Sterling, Illinois*

Becky Romano - October 30, 2022 at 10:17 PM



“ *I could write multiple books on all of the great memories I had with my grandpa. From him teaching me how to ride a bike at the park, him helping me build airplanes and anything else I came up with in his workshop downstairs, to watching his granddaughter give him a big hug and a kiss just a few short months ago. My grandpa was awesome, there is really no other way to put it. He was great at giving down to earth advice regardless of the situation, but would also find a way to make you laugh every time you talked to him. I will forever cherish the memories I have with you. We love and miss you so much already Grandpa! - Skyler, Brittnee, and Hayden*

Skyler Palen - October 18, 2022 at 03:39 PM

JH

“ Our father's friendship with Bill and Renie began in high school and continued through the present. We have heard stories such as Renie giving our father rides in her convertible in high school and our father being in Bill and Renie's wedding. Bill and our father had dinner together on a regular basis, frequently spoke on the telephone, and occasionally relied upon each other for transportation to and from medical appointments. The Palen family lost a good husband and father, the local community lost a good citizen, and our father lost a good friend. The Henning Family.

Jack C. Henning - October 17, 2022 at 12:48 PM

SS

Thank you for your kind words. Wish we could tell all his friends how much he enjoyed them. You know who you are!

Susan Seidel - October 18, 2022 at 11:08 AM

DC

I've known Bill (a.k.a. Billy Bob as my brother and I affectionately referred to him) since I was a young kid. My first memory of him was when he and Renie took my dad, my brother and myself out on their boat in the Rock River. My dad and Bill were longtime friends and had known each other from the Elks Club, so I got to know Bill pretty well over the years. He was always game to tag along to go get a bite to eat or just to hang out and chat. When my dad passed away four years ago, Bill was instrumental in helping us get things sorted. When my brother called and told me about Bill's passing the other day, I was very emotional, as I had just talked to him a few weeks prior. He was one of those guys that was down-to-earth and could give good advice, and be both a mentor and a friend. He will truly be missed. Love you, Billy!

Dean Coss - October 18, 2022 at 01:07 PM

BR

I was so sorry to hear about Bill's passing--the world lost a great friend. I first met Bill and Renie in 1963 in Dixon at the Elks Club when my late wife, Helen and I were at the bar having a drink to celebrate our first wedding anniversary. It turned out that Bill and Renie were celebrating an anniversary on the same date but had six more years on us. We became lifelong friends and made many, many trips together around the USA and a couple of Caribbean Islands. Helen and I left Dixon 4 years later and moved to Chicago and then to the New York City area. We never lost contact --they came out here or we went back to Dixon. I'm so happy I got to see them both last year when I came back to Illinois for a visit. We last talked about a month or so ago and I've been trying to reach him. I've lost a great friend.

Bruce Richardson

Bruce Richardson - October 18, 2022 at 05:17 PM

AN

My deepest sympathy on the loss of your dad. He was a part of so many people's lives and will be missed. His was a life well lived.

You are in my thoughts and prayers. May God comfort you during your time of sorrow.

Love to you all.

Anne L. Stouffer

Anne - October 24, 2022 at 01:11 PM