



Mr. William A. McInnis

April 7, 1929 - December 18, 2021

William Alexander McInnis, more often known as Papa, Pops, Dad, Bill, or Sweetie, passed away Saturday, December 18, 2021. Born April 7, 1929 in DeLeon Springs, Florida, he was a son to the late Archibald Clifford McInnis and Louise Scaffee McInnis.

Mr. McInnis is survived by his wife of 62 years, Joyce Gibson McInnis; a sister, Barbara Vu of Florida; two children, Judith Lynn McInnis, Jonathan Gibson McInnis (Melissa Bodenheimer); four grandchildren, Laura Svetlana, Ellen Alexandra, Aidan Alexander, and Kathleen Elise "Kate" all of Columbia, along with numerous nieces, nephews, and beyond. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his brothers, Archibald Clifford, Julian Scaffee, Richard Hugh McInnis; and cousin, Williard Alvin Watson.

Baseball was a passion growing up, playing with his brothers and Father/Coach, including their local team, The Springers. Later, in family wiffle ball games in the backyard, his beefy first-baseman arms often walked-off the game deep into the neighbor's yard.

Bill served three and a half years in the US Marine Corps, having endured recruit training with the infamous Parris Island sand gnats as well as Camp Lejeune. Without family influence he somehow lucked into serving in San Francisco. The most famous story we know involves him and Marine friends getting to hang out backstage post-show with Louis Armstrong.

Bill earned an undergraduate degree in sociology from Stetson University and a Masters degree in City Planning from Georgia Tech. He worked with the City of Atlanta Planning Department, then the Central Florida Regional Planning Council in Titusville, Florida.

Bill came to Columbia in 1966 to work for the SC State Development Board. He faithfully served the citizens of the Palmetto State in several roles, ultimately serving as the Deputy Executive Director of the Budget & Control Board for Governors McNair, West, Edwards, Riley, and Campbell. He received South Carolina's highest civilian award, the Order of the

Palmetto, twice, from Governor John C. West and Governor Carrol A. Campbell, Jr.

For many years, he was an avid home bread baker, churning out cinnamon rolls and sandwich bread for friends and family, a skill he acquired working his teen summers at Camp Skyland in Vermont. Bill adopted USC as a proud SC resident, and enjoyed riding the Gamecock sports roller coaster, particularly Frank McGuire-era basketball.

Bill often crafted family holiday cards using various techniques and his writing panache. He spent a great deal of time lamenting that his Christmas greeting one year : "From winter would Springwood come" (we lived on Springwood Rd) was not widely hailed as the greatest prose ever. His writing and editing talents were on display in the McInnis-Scaffel-Watson Family Journal he founded and edited for 30 years, showcasing the monthly news and writing of 50-odd (but we love you) relatives. Bill loved genealogical research and his Scottish heritage, serving as the Genealogist for the International Clan MacInnes, building a family tree consisting of over 30,000 individuals. He was also a master term paper editor, we chose wisely when to submit our paltry offerings, as they often returned bloody red, yet far better for the review.

Most of all, Bill loved spending time with family (big family reunions were a favorite) and in recent years he especially loved all things grandchildren. He cherished every moment of watching them grow, play, and perform. Having family at home for special events or birthdays was a great joy to him, we are all so thankful that he could be at home in his last days.

A graveside service will be held 2 o'clock, Thursday, December 23, 2021, at Elmwood Cemetery, Columbia, SC with an informal visitation following. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Harvest Hope Food Bank (harvesthope.org) or The Carter Center (Cartercenter.org).

Events

DEC **Graveside Service** 02:00PM

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Elmwood Cemetery

501 Elmwood Ave, Columbia, SC, US, 29201

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Shives Funeral Home - December 22, 2021 at 06:41 PM



“ With Bill and Joyce living next door to my parents for almost 40 years, I always knew Mom and Daddy had a built-in support system right across the driveway.

Joyce, I will forever be indebted to you and Bill for the attention you gave to them and especially for the care you gave to Mom after Daddy died. Nothing was ever too much trouble for you to do.

Your service to others has inspired us all. As we think about your family in the days ahead, we will also give thanks that Bill's legacy of service will be a model for generations to come.

Sending much love to the entire McInnis family,
Julie Lackey Freeman

Julie Freeman - December 22, 2021 at 06:06 PM



“ Condolences to the McInnis Family at this time of their loss. I enjoyed the photo of all in their McInnis Clan Kilts, a tradition and indication of their Gaelic Heritage.

Blessings of Peace & Kindness.....

Michael Boozer

Michael Boozer - December 20, 2021 at 01:18 PM



“ It's so wonderful to have a father so close for so long, you and your family have truly been blessed. May G-d provide you comfort through loving memories and family and friends.

Robert Hodges - December 20, 2021 at 11:11 AM



“ Dear Joyce, Judith, Jonathan and immediate family.
JoAnn and I send our condolences to each of you and are remembering you in our prayers. May the God of peace keep your hearts and minds by Christ Jesus.
We love you.

Julian McInnis - December 19, 2021 at 02:56 PM



“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Jonathan McInnis - December 19, 2021 at 11:56 AM