



WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES

August 26, 1939 - September 10, 2022

William "Bill" Howes, passed away on September 10, 2022, at his home in Brownsville, MN. He was born on August 26, 1939, in Waukon, IA to Raymond and Cecelia (Teeling) Howes. He was married to Jeanette (Jan) Bakewell July 23, 1960.

He will be deeply missed by his family: wife, Jan; children Sheila, David (Anita), Colleen (Dan) and Dan; grandchildren Rebekah, Ben (Jaycee), Nathaniel, Morgan, Olivia, and Joseph; great granddaughter Vivee. Step-grandchildren; Jordan (Abby), Matthew (Rachel). Sister, Rose Marie (Charles Link) and Brother, Tom, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Ed, and sister, Mary Flottmeyer, in-laws Joe and Luella Bakewell, brothers-in-law Bob, Ron, and Larry Bakewell.

Bill lived a life of purpose, of honor, and with compassion for others. He was a long-time La Crosse businessman with a second career in farming. His life was filled with family and a strong connection to his faith, his community, and his friends.

After graduating from St. Patrick's high school in Waukon, IA, Bill served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Salem and USS Canberra. His service to the country and community didn't end after his honorable discharge. He had a strong religious faith and was an active parishioner at St Patrick's parish serving as a lector and Eucharist minister. Fueled by his faith, he was committed to a number of causes in the area including the Lions Club of La Crosse and Brownsville, and was a member of the Brownsville VFW.

After his tour of duty with the United States Navy, Bill enrolled in classes at Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois where he took classes in watch making and jewelry repair. Upon completion he became an apprentice and opened his first jewelry store in downtown La Crosse in January, 1964.

After establishing himself as a business owner, Bill turned his attention to farming, which

was his passion. He would do morning chores before the jewelry store opened and continued to build both the business and farm operations. After retiring from business, he was a full-time farmer, which brought him immense joy. He loved all aspects of farming and was well-known at the local Sale Barn and farm auctions. Bill was farming and doing chores the day before his unexpected death.

Bill loved to get together with friends and extended family. He and Jan had regular, weekly social engagements. In recent years, he started each morning having coffee with his friends in Brownsville. Bill was quick with a story—told with a twinkle in his eye. He was not only a great storyteller, he was an exceptionally attentive listener; always curious about the lives of others. He was intentional about staying connected with his many friends and family. You never knew when you would receive a call from Bill, who would be checking in on you and eager to listen to what you had to say. Over the last few years, Bill and Jan traveled with their grandchildren on international trips. A highlight was Ireland, where Bill felt right at home among the lush landscape, farming, and the Irish storytellers.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, September 15, 2022 at St Patrick's Church, Breza Hall, Brownsville, MN. Prayer Service will be at 4:00 pm. Visitation from 4:00-6:00 pm. Visitation will also be from 10-11 am Friday morning at the church

A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11a.m. on Friday, September 16, 2022 at St. Patrick's Church, Brownsville, MN. . Burial will be at 2:30 pm in Mount Olivet Cemetery, Waukon, on Friday.

Memorials may be shared with St. Patrick's Church, Brownsville, MN.

Previous Events

Prayer Service

SEP 15. 4:00 PM (CT)

St. Patrick's Church Hall
604 Adams Street
Brownsville, MN 55919

Visitation

SEP 15. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

St. Patrick's Church Hall
604 Adams Street
Brownsville, MN 55919

Visitation

SEP 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick's Church Hall
604 Adams Street
Brownsville, MN 55919

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 16. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
604 Adams Street
Brownville, MN 55919

Burial

SEP 16. 2:30 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet
2213 Mt Olivet Road
Waukon, IA 52172

Tribute Wall

GS

“ *Dan and Family,*

Healing and condolences to you, your mother and siblings.

We are very sorry for the loss of your precious father.

Thinking of you at this time. As always, if something is needed please reach us.

With peace and healing,

Matt Viner and Gigi Stafne

Gigi Stafne - September 15, 2022 at 05:33 PM

TB

“ *Very sorry to hear the news of Bill's passing. I sold Bill his last 3 trucks. Always had some great conversations with Bill. He was very down to earth and an extremely nice guy. My condolences to the family. He will be very missed. Rest easy Bill.*

Ty Birkholz

Lewiston Auto

Ty Birkholz - September 15, 2022 at 05:10 PM



“ *Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES.*



September 15, 2022 at 11:34 AM

BS

“ *My condolence to Jan and the family. I still remember when he had the black Ford Falcon, with an old case of beer holding up the seat. I learned a lot from Bill and Jan and wish the family well. - Blaine Samb*

Blaine Samb - September 15, 2022 at 10:29 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES.*



September 14, 2022 at 11:24 PM

DB

“ *Deepest Sympathies, Mark &Gail Borchardt purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES.*



Deepest Sympathies, Mark &Gail Borchardt - September 14, 2022 at 06:48 PM

LF

“ *Love your Godley Station Family purchased the Fall Fantasia for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES.*



Love your Godley Station Family - September 14, 2022 at 11:07 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES.*



September 14, 2022 at 10:49 AM

DC

“ *My sympathy to Jan and all the family. So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I was a classmate at St. Pat's many many years ago, and have good memories of Bill. Love and prayers to you all.
Dolores (Ole) Slattery Craff*

Dolores Craff - September 14, 2022 at 10:48 AM

SP

“ Linda and I were so shocked to hear of Bill's passing. We have so many memories of visiting Jan and Bill and always hoping to meet them in South Carolina when they would visit the South.

We remember the fun times we had when we would meet at the shows and enjoyed all the laughs we shared. May God bless you, Jan and Dan, as we all look forward to seeing him again when angels come for us one day...

Steve and Linda Parker - September 13, 2022 at 08:09 PM

SS

“ Staff of Howes Diamond Jewelers Stores purchased the A New Sunrise Spray for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES.



Staff of Howes Diamond Jewelers Stores - September 13, 2022 at 04:53 PM

MB

“ Marty Skemp Brown purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES.



Marty Skemp Brown - September 13, 2022 at 02:35 PM



“ Jan and Dan, We are so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. We have so many fond memories of you all at our IJO destinations. May his memory be a blessing and we wish you strength in the coming days. Dan & Barb Hacker

Dan Hacker - September 13, 2022 at 01:23 PM

MG

“ My condolences to Bill's family on his passing. We share a love for farming. I remember Jan and their sons and daughters from Blessed Sacrament Parish beginning in 1980. May God grant him the reward of his faithful service.

Msgr. Michael Gorman - September 13, 2022 at 11:28 AM

JW

“ *An empty chair sits at the River Station with a tear upon the seat. A dear friend gone to soon*

jerry d welke - September 13, 2022 at 09:35 AM

MB

“ *Bill was such a nice man and so involved with St Patrick's Church in Brownsville. He will be missed so much!! Jan and family you are in my Thoughts and Prayers! May God hold Bill and all of you in the Palm of His Hand!!*

Mickey Budde-Jangula - September 12, 2022 at 02:31 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" HOWES.*



September 11, 2022 at 10:02 PM