



## WILLIAM "BILL" STEELE

January 24, 1935 - February 11, 2020

William "Bill" Steele

January 24, 1935 - February 11, 2020

William "Bill" Steele passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on February 11, 2020 at the Tweeten Care Center in Spring Grove, MN. It was such a blessing to have the wonderful staff from Tweeten Care Center provide loving care to him during his stay and joined by the caring staff of Heartland Hosice on his final journey.

"A caring presence has profound power. Those who offer warm attention make the difference between being treated and being blessed."

Bill was born on January 24, 1935 to Ben and Luella Steele and was one of six children that grew up in the Winnebago Valley. At the early age of 16 he started building bridges with Griffith Construction. His kids remember hearing that he was "one of the best crane operators around!" There's a pretty good chance on your daily travels you cross at least one of the many bridges that Bill helped build. He returned to the Valley years later to raise his eight children. After retiring at the age of 75 from Minnowa Construction, Bill's sons made sure that he would be 'back home' overlooking the Winnebago Valley in God's Country.

Bill learned to enjoy his retirement and said 'every day was Sunday'. We

treasured this extra time with our dad. As his oldest son shares, "He is not just my dad, he is my best friend." His sons created projects to keep his legendary dozer skills sharp. He loved nature and watching everything grow. Most Saturday mornings in the summer you could find him tending to the family garden. There was never enough lawn for Bill to mow. He always had the yard 'looking pretty good.' He loved to cut firewood to keep the home fires burning and had more stacked firewood than you could shake a stick at. As a grandson joked "when you cut a jag of wood with grandpa, you better pack a lunch!" Bill liked to keep busy and always looked for a reason to fire up his new John Deere tractor; whether it was moving hay bales or pushing snow. Driving his pickup on the backroads with his little dog Jackie was a daily routine. Most mornings he and Jackie ventured to town to stop by the Country Store for a good cup of coffee and then to swing by the Caledonia Bakery for a donut! They would head back to town again in the afternoon and go to the Dairy Queen because 'Jackie wanted an ice cream cone'. He and Jackie made many trips to New Albin to get a ring of bologna and stop at the bank. Bill never turned down a good home-cooked meal and always saved room for a little ice cream! The grandchildren will always remember Grandpa Bill giving them a stick of his favorite Doublemint gum. He was a man of faith and enjoyed listening to John Hegge. He would look forward to his favorite "Dancing With The Stars" on Monday nights. His daughters would make him smile by telling him he was "the most handsome man in Houston County." He was a kind and gentle man with a clever sense of humor. Even in his final days he and his little dog Jackie charmed the staff and residents at the Tweeten Care Center.

After celebrating his recent 85th birthday with family and friends a birthday card summed it up best .... "It takes a good man to be a great dad". Bill has always been dearly loved by his children Rick, Randy, Tina, Mike, Jerry, Diane, Jim and Ben. He will be greatly missed by all those who knew him and loved him; many friends, entire family including all of his grandkids and great grandkids, and his Minnowa family.

There will be a Celebration of Life honoring Bill on Saturday, February 29 at the Four Seasons Community Center in Caledonia. The visitation will be from 1 to 4 p.m. with Pastor Pam Steele honoring him with a prayer service at 2 p.m. All are invited to share their favorite memory of Bill. The family would like to thank McCormick Funeral Home for assisting with the arrangements  
“Dad. His title may be short, but his influence is long and powerful.”

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB **29**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Four Seasons Community Center  
900 N. Kingston St  
Caledonia, MN 55921  
(507) 725-4000

## A Celebration of Life

FEB **29**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Four Seasons Community Center  
900 N. Kingston St  
Caledonia, MN 55921  
(507) 725-4000

# Tribute Wall



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" STEELE.*



February 25, 2020 at 07:48 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" STEELE.*



February 24, 2020 at 01:05 PM



“ *Rose Romanesque Bouquet was purchased for the family of WILLIAM "BILL" STEELE.*



February 20, 2020 at 06:23 PM



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



February 16, 2020 at 11:29 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jim Steele - February 15, 2020 at 08:13 PM

TI

*Kids of Steele*

tina - February 15, 2020 at 08:41 PM

TI

*Okay, who got all the names right the first time....?*

Tina - February 15, 2020 at 10:09 PM

JS

“ Grandpa Bill and his youngest grandchild, Meghan.



Jim Steele - February 15, 2020 at 07:56 PM

TI

*She is so adorable !*

tina - February 15, 2020 at 08:40 PM

JS

“ *Grandpa Bill and Jack.*



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**Jim Steele** - February 15, 2020 at 07:53 PM

TI

*Jack Wallace looks so handsome....with his handsome grandpa!*

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**tina** - February 15, 2020 at 08:44 PM

TI

*Levi is thinking...."hey when is it my turn.?"*

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**Tina** - February 15, 2020 at 10:06 PM

JS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Jim Steele** - February 15, 2020 at 07:51 PM

TI

*And the coffee cup to go.....*

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**Tina** - February 15, 2020 at 10:00 PM

JS

“ *Grandpa Bill and Levi William.*



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**Jim Steele** - February 15, 2020 at 07:48 PM

JS

“ *I looked forward to a rainy Saturday with Dad. That meant no work and a day of no agenda. Me, Ben and Dad would jump in the old red Dodge and go for a ride. If we were near New Album we'd pick up a ring of bologna, 8 pack of Mountain Dew, Longhorn cheese and Ritz crackers. We could count on a stop at an implement dealer or maybe an auction. We might even tempt Dad to drive over to the Peterson's and boy, that's where the real fun would begin! So many good memories involved you dad and I'm grateful that whenever I want, I can reach back and pull one out.*  
*Much love and respect, Jim*

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**Jim Steele** - February 15, 2020 at 12:35 PM

JS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



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**Jim Steele** - February 15, 2020 at 10:39 AM

TI

*How many people actually owned their own caterpillar dozer?*

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**Tina** - February 15, 2020 at 10:11 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jim Steele - February 15, 2020 at 10:36 AM

TI

*This takes me back in time.....*

Tina - February 15, 2020 at 10:08 PM

TI

*Happy boys....just plain happy.....priceless.*

Tina - February 15, 2020 at 10:11 PM

CG

“ TO THE STEELE FAMILY

*OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH THE FAMILY AT THIS TIME*

*I REALLY ENJOYED WORKING WITH HIM HE WAS QUITE A GUY AND WILL BE MISS*

*GARY GUNDERSON*

CHERYL GUNDERSON - February 14, 2020 at 09:51 PM

TI

*Thanks for being so good to our dad . He sure knew how to work and passed that same work ethic down to his kids. He led by example. Tina Dunlap*

Tina - February 14, 2020 at 09:52 PM

SS

“ Grandpa Bill’s smile and laugh would light up the room. He will be missed by so many. ❤️



Stephanie Steele - February 14, 2020 at 07:34 PM

TI

Oh and his chuckle and quick wit, when u least expected it 😂

Tina - February 14, 2020 at 09:25 PM

BR

“ Cutting wood all day seeing the big smile on his face 😊 we weren't done for the day untill every vehicle we had out there had a "decent jag on" his love for cutting trees was undescrivable. I'll sure miss that smile!

Brenen - February 14, 2020 at 07:29 PM

TI

Thanx for sharing that story about cutting with wood with grandpa Brenen!!

Tina - February 14, 2020 at 09:24 PM

PS

“ Bill coming over to help me pick, peel and cut apples. Then we'd mix up a bunch of apple pie mixes and freeze them. When Bill visited I'd pull out a mix, bake a pie and serve with some ice cream that he'd bring. ❤️

Pam Steele - February 14, 2020 at 04:51 PM

TI

*There is nothing like a warm piece of pie with ice cream...warms the tummy and my heart 🥰*

Tina - February 14, 2020 at 05:42 PM



“ Carly Steele lit a candle in memory of WILLIAM "BILL" STEELE



Carly Steele - February 14, 2020 at 02:28 PM

AD

“ Riding in the pontoon boat. 😊



Andrew Dunlap - February 14, 2020 at 01:58 PM

TD

*Dad enjoyed going to the river and going for a nice pontoon ride with family....dogs were always welcome.....*

Tina Dunlap - February 14, 2020 at 02:02 PM

TD

“ Tina Dunlap sent a virtual gift in memory of WILLIAM "BILL" STEELE



Tina Dunlap - February 14, 2020 at 01:46 PM

TD

*Diane planted red tulips for dad in the fall and in the spring he was thrilled to see red flowers pop up!*

Tina Dunlap - February 14, 2020 at 01:48 PM

TI

*Thinking of you dad and how Diane and I would plant flowers for you in flower pots and you would be so happy and promise us you would keep them watered!!*

Tina - February 14, 2020 at 05:46 PM

TD

“ *Dad loved watching corn grow*



Tina Dunlap - February 14, 2020 at 01:31 PM

TD

*Jackie loved to ride along in the pickup*

Tina Dunlap - February 14, 2020 at 01:32 PM

TD

*Winnebago valley grew amazing corn*

Tina Dunlap - February 14, 2020 at 01:54 PM

AD

“ *Bill was loved.*



Andrew Dunlap - February 14, 2020 at 01:31 PM

TI

“ *Tina lit a candle in memory of WILLIAM  
"BILL" STEELE*



Tina - February 14, 2020 at 01:24 PM

TI

*Dad loved the color red 😍*

Tina - February 14, 2020 at 01:25 PM

TI

“ *Dad cutting sweet corn to freeze....gallons of sweet corn in the  
freezer enough for a family of 10 😊*

Tina - February 14, 2020 at 01:23 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Mc Cormick Funeral Home** - February 13, 2020 at 10:05 PM

TI

*Great photos of a great man of Steele 🐦*

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**Tina** - February 14, 2020 at 01:01 PM

TI

*Dad and his little dog Jackie 🐶*

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**Tina** - February 14, 2020 at 01:03 PM

TD

*Dad sure liked a good cup of coffee ☕*

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**Tina Dunlap** - February 14, 2020 at 01:52 PM

TI

*Most handsome man in Houston county 😍*

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**Tina** - February 14, 2020 at 09:56 PM