

Dr. William "Bill" Taft Stuart

April 12, 1939 - August 13, 2020

William Taft Stuart, 81, was born in Hornell, NY, to Roger Winship Stuart and Bonnalyn Grace Taft Stuart but spent most of his youth in Laurel, MD. He passed peacefully at Myrtle Beach Manor on August 13, 2020. He is survived by his wife Vicki L. Stuart; his son Ian M. Stuart (Rebecca) of Poolesville, MD; his daughter, Meghan R. Mascetti (Greg) of Myrtle Beach, SC; granddaughters Adalynn Marie Mascetti, Cassidy Mae Mascetti, and soon to arrive Maggie Claire Mascetti; a sister Barbara Swisher (James) of Grass Valley, CA; and numerous nieces and nephews. Bill's twin brother, Roger W. Stuart II, predeceased Bill on February 11, 2018.

Bill's dad called him "doc" from an early age, so "doc" it became. Dr. Stuart's life-long passion was education. He was never happier than when he was in a classroom, whether it be in New Mexico, Maryland, Bulgaria, Africa, Boston, Virginia, wherever. The location did not matter as long as he could tell a good story to go with the lesson. An educator is one who learns as well as teaches and he learned from so many when he lived in the Pacific, Alaska, Columbia, South America. He watched thousands of students come and go over 50 years of education being his priority (44 of those year at University of MD, College Park). Many of his students kept in close contact over the decades and their notes, calls, and visits made every day the perfect one.

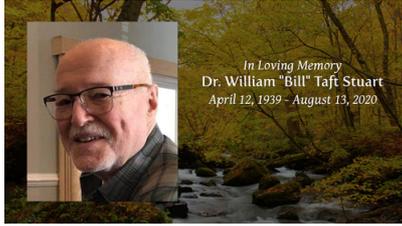
Friends may be received at the Carolina Forest Goldfinch Funeral Home on August 15, 2020, 2-4 PM. An interment service will be held at a later date in Hillcrest Cemetery in Conway, SC.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall



“ *Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Dr. William "Bill" Taft Stuart*



Goldfinch Funeral Home - August 15, 2020 at 01:42 PM

AF

“ *WOW, I had no idea that my professor passed. He was one of my best professors at UMD 5 years ago. You are truly missed Prof. Thank you for believing in me with those 35 page papers! You extended me so much grace and helped my approach towards finishing things well and on time. Thank you and I appreciate you.*

-Folarin Falade

Adefolarin Falade - November 14, 2020 at 12:20 PM

CH

“ *The news of Bill's passing saddened me. I knew him as a brother in Christ and an interesting friend at Redland Baptist Church in Derwood MD in the late 80's and early 90's. Bill and I served as deacons then. Vicki and Meghan were fellow teacher and student in Sunday School. I enjoyed being with his family. In 1990, shortly after we met, Bill helped me spend a productive day at a science library at the University of Maryland while he met his classes, then we had a great lunch together. In 1992, Bill and I enjoyed a couple of cross-country airplane rides to Baptist conventions in Indianapolis and Fort Worth. We had good conversations about a variety of topics, both sacred and secular, including the clouds outside our window. We both liked our tour of a museum honoring the Indiana poet James Whitcomb Riley. In 2002, we just happened to meet at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Though there for different reasons, we still found time to break bread together.*

Bill gladdened my heart. I will remember him fondly.

*Dr. C. Vernon Hodge
Chambersburg PA*

C. Vernon Hodge - August 19, 2020 at 04:03 PM

ME

“ I worked under Bill one summer in Saudi Arabia. It was stressful at times, but Bill made it more pleasant, with his talent for placating angry bigwigs, his endless supply of fascinating stories from his world travels, and of course his Donald Duck impression. I'll miss him.

Miles Edwards - August 17, 2020 at 05:26 PM

KH

“ Our heartfelt condolences to Vicky. May the joy that you had together help you recover your strength especially through these trying times.

Barb and Al, Ben and Josh, and the whole Stuart family may your deep sorrow at Bill's parting now, turn into peace and smiles as you remember his walk through your lives and this world.

We wish you all, and especially Bill's and Vicky' children and grandchildren God's ever present grace, that gift, which picks us up again and again to learn, to work, to serve, and to laugh together.

The photo below is of Bill being escorted out of Zambia by two Christian Mission in Many Lands (CMML) missionaries "to keep him out of trouble." It was 1975 and I took the photo and remained in Africa. At the time Bill was agnostic, but the prayers of these missionaries clearly worked and he became a Christian.

Karla and Irving.



Karla Poewe + Irving Hexham - August 17, 2020 at 02:11 AM

ES

“ Eugene Shekhtman purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Dr. William "Bill" Taft Stuart.



Eugene Shekhtman - August 15, 2020 at 09:24 PM

PC

“ Our sincere condolences to my dear friend, Vicki, and to Ian, Meghan and the rest of the Stuart family. I had the honor of meeting Bill about 4 years ago. They stopped in at our Florida home for a few hours one afternoon on their way to a cruise ship adventure. Vicki and I had been friends for a few years but I had never met Bill until then. Such a wonderful, sweet and kind man....full of knowledge and great stories! Wishing I had an opportunity to know him better. To the family...I'm so sorry for your loss. To Mr. Bill.....rest well. You've earned it.

Pat & Gary Cromes - August 15, 2020 at 08:14 AM

GP

“ Gerardo "el Gallo" Poole purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. William "Bill" Taft Stuart.



Gerardo "el Gallo" Poole - August 14, 2020 at 10:12 PM

GP

“ Dr. Bill "The Bulldog" Stuart (never let a bureaucrat get in his way), a wonderful academic, mentor and bon vivant. He was a major influence in my life. RIP.



Gerardo el Gallo Poole - August 14, 2020 at 10:07 PM

GP

I, the Ethnomusicologist, took the photo. We had been uninvited from Bill's long time preferred establishment, The Town Hall, so we were making do at local venues.

Geard "el Gallo" Poole - August 14, 2020 at 10:15 PM

GG

The Anthropologist (Bill), the Mathematician (Elmar), the Philosopher (Gene); beer and discourse

Geard "el Gallo"Poole - August 14, 2020 at 10:18 PM

FL

I have lost my life-time friend but have all the happy recollections of our 12 school years together and the six decades since. Thanks for the memories, Bill. God bless you, Vicki and family. I appreciate your generous way of keeping us all connected with him. Your winning smile it is a testament to your love. Faye

Faye Green Byer, Class '57 LHS - August 16, 2020 at 12:28 PM

GS

“ *Bill was a close and dear friend. He influenced my spiritual and intellectual growth more than anyone. I loved him, and will miss him always.*

Gene Shekhtman - August 14, 2020 at 09:12 PM

JJ

“ *Our prayers and condolences go out to Vicki, Ian, Meghan and family. We've only known Vicki and Bill a few short years but have wonderful memories of a Christmas cruise to Hawaii we went on together in 2017. Rest in peace Bill ♡♡
Love, Jack and Judy*

Jack and Judy - August 14, 2020 at 08:05 PM

DS

“ *I met Bill when he and Vickie came to Redland Baptist Church in Derwood, MD. Our sons were in daycare together, and we eventually shared a Sunday School class on the Bible and contemporary issues. I shall always cherish the hours spent in discussion with him, his understanding of the anthropology of the tribes and beginning Hebrew and my ancient history and elementary Greek, sometimes complementary perspectives, and sometimes the discourse was divergent but always stimulating and edifying. (The balance of the class tolerated us and our quirks.) I have missed him since he moved south, the phone is not the same as being in the same room -- I look forward to the day we shall meet again.*

Dale Smith - August 14, 2020 at 07:02 PM

TX

“ *THE GRAY FAMILY IN MD Virtual Hugs xxxxx purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Dr. William "Bill" Taft Stuart.*



THE GRAY FAMILY IN MD Virtual Hugs xxxxx - August 14, 2020 at 05:03 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. William "Bill" Taft Stuart.*



August 14, 2020 at 01:43 PM



“ *Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Dr. William "Bill" Taft Stuart.*



August 14, 2020 at 01:38 PM