



William V. Abney

January 11, 1926 - November 26, 2022

William V. Abney, age 96, passed away, November 26, 2022, with family by his side.

Beloved husband of the late Audrey Abney, Bill is survived by his cherished daughters Susan, Diane (Albert), Nancy (John); dearest granddaughter Kelly (Jason) and loving great-granddaughters Natalie, Emily and Julie and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Verla and Edna, and sisters, Dortha and Lorene as well as his son-in-law David.

A man of integrity and generosity, he was born into humble beginnings on a sharecropper's farm in rural Arkansas. Bill learned the meaning of hard work early in life, tending to the crops and animals daily, and walking six miles to and from school.

He graduated early from Western High School in Detroit, and at 17, enlisted in the Army Air Force during WWII. He served as an airplane instrument mechanic and flight engineer, and was honorably discharged in May 1946.

Bill met the love of his life Audrey at work and they were married in May 1948. Their nearly 64-year marriage was blessed with three daughters.

After 17 ½ years as a Detroit Fire Fighter, he left to help his father-in-law run Hammell Music in Livonia, which he purchased at age 39. Bill preferred to work and never retired. In his later life he was an integral part of his daughter's business.

A devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, he loved his

family. His positive attitude brought encouragement to all. Those who were blessed to meet and know Bill will always cherish his great inner strength, sharp wit, helping spirit and endless determination.

Bill had a special place in his heart for his horses and dogs and was an avid traveler, fisherman and cook.

There will always be a hole in our hearts for you Dad, until we meet again at Jesus' feet.

Memorial Service to be held at a later date as well as a private family burial. Memorial gifts may be made to Samaritan's Purse Alaska Lodge Operation "Heal Our Patriots".

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/donation-items/operation-heal-our-patriots/>

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Tribute Wall



“ *William V. Abney*

December 07, 2023 at 05:11 AM



“ *Bill was one of my favorite customers at Hearthstone Farm Market in Spring Arbor, MI. He found our u-pick operation and came a few times every year for many years to pick vegetables not only for himself but to give to those in need. He would share God's love as he gave the veggies away. We talked often when he came and we seemed to connect on the love of the garden. He loved seeing our crops and acted like a true farmer. I was always blessed after he had come to the farm. I bet many more people were blessed by him in many situations. Love you, Bill.*

denise Tomasello - July 14, 2023 at 03:13 PM



“ *Mr Abney, father of dear friend Nancy, was a man admired by all who had the good fortune of knowing him. His bright smile, sense of humor, warm demeanor, and gentlemen manners contributed to his charming personality. He impressed all by his love of life and hard work well into his later years. Mr. Abney had many blessings, but none greater than the complete devotion of his daughters to the very end. Nancy and her sisters always put him first and did so with love and tenderness. He will never be forgotten and his fine qualities live on in his children, granddaughter, and great grandchildren.*

Yvette Rickel - July 10, 2023 at 04:32 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of William V. Abney.



December 09, 2022 at 11:14 PM