



William E. Attwood Jr.

February 9, 1913 - April 17, 2008

William Elijah "Bill" Attwood, Jr., 95, of New Britain died peacefully Thursday, April 17, 2008 at the Jerome Home. He was the beloved husband of the late Elsa "Polly" Frisbie Attwood. A New Britain native and lifelong resident, Bill was the son of the late William E. and Fannie Wetmore Attwood. He graduated from The Pomfret School, and then Princeton University '36. In 1975, he retired from a longtime career in banking, having served for 37 years as President and Chairman of the Board of the New Britain Bank and Trust, Co. Active in the business and community life of New Britain, he served a number of terms on the New Britain Common Council and on the Board of Finance and Taxation. He was a longtime trustee of the Jerome Home and served on numerous other city, corporate, and volunteer boards and commissions. He was a member of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, New Britain, a former vestryman of the church and a former member of the Standing Committee of the Episcopal Diocese of CT.

Bill is survived by his two daughters and their lifelong partners, Polly Attwood and Wendy Sanford of Cambridge, MA, Suzanne Attwood and Carolyn Ryan of Marblehead, MA, and a former daughter-in-law, Maryon Attwood and her partner Robbie Lobell of Coupeville, WA; four grandchildren Morgan Attwood and his wife Tara; James Attwood, and his partner Jamie Anderson; Sarah Kendrick and her husband, Alex; and Lily Xueqin Attwood; a great grandson William "Eli" Attwood, IV; several nieces and nephews including Mark and

Morgan St. John, Nancy Hickey, Tom and Dave Bolton, and Phillipa Lewis. He was predeceased by his son, William "Terry" Attwood, III and his sister, Margaret Cooley.

A memorial service will be held on Friday 1 pm April 25, 2008 at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 147 West Main St, New Britain. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Jerome Home, 875 Corbin Ave, New Britain, CT 06052 or The Friendship Service Center, 241 Arch St, New Britain, CT 06051, or to a charity of the donor's choice. The Carlson's Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Share a memory or note of sympathy with Bill's family by clicking on guestbook at the bottom of the page.

Tribute Wall

AS

“ It has been a pleasure to have the opportunity to know "Mr. Bill". I can still envision him walking the grounds of Jerome Home - and will think of him often. We shared trips to Lenny & Joe's and an outing to my home for lunch on the patio. When I see chocolate ice cream - I will think of Bill!

Sincerely,
Audrey Schulde

Audrey Schulde - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ES

“ In the early 1980's, Bill Attwood decided it was a travesty that New Britain did not provide shelter for homeless families. So, being Bill, he took it upon himself to do something about it. The Friendship Center Board initially turned down his request to add families to its client base. Undaunted, Bill put together a Board of Directors, formed a 501c3, New Britain Family Shelter, Inc., and proceeded to find a way to provide this shelter. Not only was Bill the organizer but he was also hands on, finding volunteers with pick-up trucks and going with them to collect and deliver furniture to the apartment he found for his purpose.

Eventually, the Friendship Center listened to Bill, New Britain Family Shelter, Inc. disbanded and Bill, along with Robert Grace and Donald Davidson, joined the Friendship Center Board of Directors. I can say without hesitation that the Friendship Center would not be the dynamic organization it is today without Bill's compassion and presence. He was the driving force behind our very successful Capital Campaign in the late 80's and the Center's family shelter proudly bears his name.

Bill Attwood was not only a community activist and doer of hundreds of good deeds, but he was always a gentleman par excellence. It was my good fortune to have him for an advisor and friend.

The Friendship Center is proud that it was chosen by the family as a recipient of memorial donations and will use any money received to help those Bill cared so much about. He was a wise and very good man with a twinkle in his eye and a kind word for everyone

Ellen Perkins Simpson - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ *Susie, Polly, and entire family,
We are so sorry to hear of your father's death but wish you comfort as you go through these days. We're sure when you return to the cottage and sit on the porch looking out on the water, you will recall all the wonderful days with your parents on Masons Island. We got to briefly know your dad but love hearing about him and the wonderful things attributed to him and your mother from so many people. Our Love to you all. Your neighbor,*

Cathy & Frank Marco - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ *Dear Suz, Poll and Attwood Clan,*

So sorry to hear for Bill's passing. He had such a hard struggle these last few years. You did all you could to give him love and comfort as he slipped away. Sorry that Bob and I will not be there with you at the service. But know you are in our thoughts and that we love you and miss you!

Patty

Patty Bessey - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ *Dear Susie and Polly, My thoughts are with you as you deal with another family loss. I know the past few years with your dad have been rough and that you did all you could to provide comfort and care. He was a great guy and so much a part of all that I remember of Mason's Island. Take care- joanne*

Joanne Taber - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ *It was always a pleasure to meet and talk with Mr. Atwood. He was one of the last of a dying breed . Quality and caring were synonymous with the man. And-- his shoes were ALWAYS polished!*

Robert L. Rackliffe M.D. - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

BD

“ *Dear Polly & Susie
Our families have shared many great moments through the years: birthdays and summer fun, school and dancing lessons! to name a few. Your dad was a kind and gentle influence. I will certainly miss him and honor his memory. My thoughts and prayers are with you. How sad that we have now lost our fathers in the same year. I will come to the service on Friday... if I can get coverage for Chris... I'll be there to hug you in person. In any case, I hold you close in my heart. Much love, Betsie*

Betsie Lord Danforth - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RG

“ *Suzie & Polly, you were blessed to have a wonderful father who led a long and fruitful life, rejoice in what he brought to your family and his many friends over the years.*

He will be sorely missed but never forgotten.

May God be with you and give you the strength to endure and carry on for him as you have for many years now.

Bill & Polly have reunited in Heaven and one day when it is time you will join them again, until then know they are always with you.

Richard Geer - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *In the summer of 1965, our family the Ayers family rented the Geer sp? cottage, which was right across from the Atwood cottage of Skiff Lane on Masons Island. That was when we started our acquaintance with the Atwood family.*

In the years that followed, we enjoyed racing with and against the Atwoods, in Jet 14s and other craft. Emory, my dad, enjoyed the company of Bill and Polly very much.

We will miss Bill. He was a wonderful person. Our prayers go to him and his delightful family, including their daughters, Polly and Suzie.

Jon and Helaine Ayers

Jon and Helaine Ayers - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM