



William Paul "Bill" Sparrowhawk

SEP 2, 1936 - SEP 1, 2025



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Cremation Services
of East Alabama

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William Paul "Bill" Sparrowhawk

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William Paul ("Bill") Sparrowhawk, 88, of Rainbow City, AL, passed away on September 1, 2025.

Born on Sep 2, 1936, in Tampa, FL, Bill grew up the youngest of 5 siblings in a family that enjoyed sharing stories, music, jokes, and good times. Bill graduated from Hillsborough High School in Tampa, Florida.

Bill met his bride-to-be, Jane Hankinson at church in Tampa, FL. The two were married on Sep 3, 1965. They were married just a few days shy of 60 years.

Bill is preceded in death by his mother and father, Allegra and Laurence Sparrowhawk, siblings, Jim, Bob, Charlotte, and Jack Sparrowhawk, nephew Larry Sparrowhawk, and grandson Miles Sparrowhawk. He is survived by his wife Jane, their 3 children, Laurie Sparrowhawk of Austin, TX (Jay Pearmon), Paul Sparrowhawk of Jacksonville, AL (Connie Sparrowhawk), and Scott Sparrowhawk of Seattle, WA (Susan Sparrowhawk). Together, Bill and Jane felt blessed to have been able to spend time with their 8 grandchildren (Kristen, Bryant, Alyce, Fox, Lucas, Aden, Elliott, and Riley) and 4 great grandchildren (Simon, Dexter, Raylon and Maddie). Bill was very proud of his grandchildren and great grandchildren. He appreciated each for their own unique gifts.

Bill graduated from Principia College with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science, and then from University of Florida with a Master's in Teaching, followed by Doctorate work at University of Georgia (ABD). Bill enlisted in the US Air Force for 2 years where he was proud to serve his nation by traveling and performing with the NORAD Military Band.

Bill taught Political Science at Young Harris College in North Georgia, where he discovered that helping others learn how to learn and to think critically, was a personal passion of his. Bill went on to work in transportation planning for the majority of his career, where he advocated and designed programming for alternative transportation options such as biking and carpooling. One



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to take his own advice, he regularly carpooled or rode a bike to work throughout his professional career. In his spare time he was a volunteer for more than 20 years with Cub Scouts of America.

A lifelong music lover and performer, Bill was an accomplished woodwind player, guitar/bass/banjo, and singer. He sang in the Atlanta Symphony Chorus, he recorded 3 albums with the NORAD Band, he was a regular chorus singer for the Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center's opera series, and he often performed in school classrooms and community centers.

Bill's legacy with his family is one of living with integrity and love. In fact, one of his older brothers, Jack, shared with his own children that they should look to Bill as a role model, "Be like Uncle Bill," is the advice he gave them. Bill so enjoyed the company of all of his siblings' families. Based in Tampa, Florida, he shared many wonderful experiences with all branches of the Sparrowhawk family.

Some of his favorite memories during retirement included taking cruises with his wife Jane. They took multiple cruises in the winter months in order to avoid cooler temperatures at home. The two of them collected boxes full of Carnival Cruise trophies, and they even performed songs during Carnival talent shows, getting a standing ovation more than a few times.

Bill and Jane made the most of their retirement years, competing in the Masters Games in the state of Alabama for a number of years, and bringing home medals in tennis, ping pong, shuffleboard, darts, basketball, and many other events. They were always willing participants, ready to compete.

During his retirement years, Bill grew out the white beard and was regularly mistaken for Santa Claus. Whenever approached by a little one in public, he played along by raising a finger to his lips and whispering to the child not to reveal to others that Santa was there.

Bill is known for his sharp wit, guiding religious beliefs, strong confidence in himself, and a generous spirit. He had 2 pet projects during his final years while living at Regency Pointe, including playing bass guitar as piano accompaniment in the Regency Pointe church service and the weekly hymn sing, and promoting the sentiment of making the bonus for the non-salaried Regency Pointe staff (based on donations from residents) a substantial bonus, truly reflecting the residents' gratitude. He cared deeply for his community.



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In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Jacksonville State University Marching Band. (donation link: <https://give.jsu.edu/g/marching-southerners/>)



Tribute Wall

William Paul "Bill" Sparrowhawk

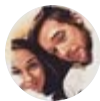
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Julie Sparrowhawk Caton posted:

Uncle Bill was my favorite uncle. He was an example of a loving, caring and kind person. He was fair, intelligent and enjoyed spending time with my son. He will be missed. My earliest recollection was when he took me to the circus when I was just 4 years old!. He said I was precocious. He took me for a ride on his motorcycle, too.I enjoyed visiting with him and Aunt Jane in the summer at their beach time share in August each summer.

September 9 at 10:28 PM



Alex Caton posted:

Uncle Bill was one of the wisest and finest men I've ever had the privilege of knowing. I carry countless memories of sitting at his side, listening to his stories, playing games, and sharing good meals. I'll never forget the first time I interrupted him while he was speaking; my mom scolded me, but he quickly scolded her back, saying I'd better learn early that if I wanted to get a word in with him, I'd have to interrupt first.I've missed him and Aunt Jane deeply since they moved away. I regret not having the chance to visit and introduce my wife, but much of my time has been devoted to caring for my mom, his niece, as she battles Lewy Body Dementia.The truth is, we always end up with far less time than we expect with our parents and the people who shaped us. Men like Uncle Bill. I would give anything for just one more day with him. Still, I thank God for the years He placed Uncle Bill in my life. His influence, love, and laughter will stay with me forever.

September 8 at 5:49 AM



Sandra Silvey posted:

ACG Hospice sends deepest condolences and prayers for comfort and healing to the family of William Sparrowhawk during this difficult period. It has been an honor being with your family during this time. Our thoughts and prayers will continue to be with you. Your ACG Hospice team.

September 4 at 7:00 PM



David Cunningham November 15 at 10:06 AM

I have very fond memories of playing trivia games with Bill and Jane during my residence at Regency Pointe. I was amazed by Bill's broad base of knowledge and enjoyed his competitive nature during those games, my deepest sympathy to Jane and the rest of his family.– David Cunningham, Marietta, Georgia



Tribute Wall

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Cindy Works posted:

He was absolutely amazing man that really looked out for Regency Pointe and all of the staff. He will be greatly missed by all of Regency Pointe.

September 4 at 6:27 AM



Cremation Services Of East Alabama, Inc. shared an album called **Memories Album.**



September 3 at 4:11 AM



Gloria Hayes September 4 at 4:13 PM

I enjoyed playing card games with you guys. One was 5 Crowns as well as Mexican Train. His humor was inspiring. And yes he will be missed at the Pointe for sure. Gloria Hayes



Media

William Paul "Bill" Sparrowhawk

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Cremation Services Of East Alabama, Inc. shared 6 photos to the **Memories Album** album.

September 3 at 4:11 AM



Willene Newman September 4 at 6:09 PM

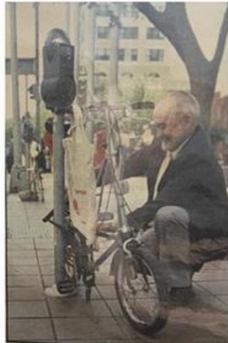
Love ❤️ this family picture!



Media

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Willene Newman September 4 at 6:13 PM

Love this!



Media

William Paul "Bill" Sparrowhawk

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Willene Newman September 4 at 6:12 PM

A good picture of Bill Sparrowhawk!





Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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