

Memorial Service

In Loving Memory of William (Bill) Eatough

September 14, 1947 – April 5, 2020

October 13, 2020



*For what is to die but to stand naked in the wind and to melt in the sun?
And what is to cease breathing but to free the breath from its restless tides,
that it may rise and expand and seek unencumbered?
Only when you drink from the river of silence shall you indeed sing.
And when you have reached the mountain top then you shall begin to climb.
And when the earth shall claim your limbs, then shall you truly dance.*

Kahlil Gibran

Ephraim Moravian Church
9970 Moravian Street, P.O. Box 73, Ephraim, Wisconsin 54211
October 13, 2020
10:00 a.m.

Prelude: "Hallelujah" (Leonard Cohen)

Welcome & Prayer

Hymn: I the Lord of Sea and Sky

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save. Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Reflection: Steve Eatough

Scripture Lessons: Luke 14: 13-14, Romans 8: 38-39 & John 14: 2 - 3

"On Eagles Wings"

Meditation

Benediction

Postlude "Going Home" Dvorak

*The Rev. Dawn E. Volpe, Pastor
Mr. Colin Welford, Music Director
Mr. Robert A. Volpe, Jr., MEVO*



William (Bill) Eatough was born in Ephraim, Wisconsin in 1947 to his parents Mary Lou Sneeberger and Emery W. Eatough. His grandfather, Dr. William Sneeberger, is a well-known historical figure who served Ephraim and Northern Door County as a small-town family doctor for nearly fifty years. His grandmother was Dorothy Sneeberger, who was a registered nurse and assisted Dr. Sneeberger in his practice.

On his father's side, Bill's grandparents were Lester and Elsie Eatough, who owned and managed The Hotel Ephraim, which served as a popular upscale vacation getaway for 45 years. Bill would go on to spend every summer working at the hotel throughout high school and college. Bill was the oldest of three children. His younger brother Steve Eatough and sister Susan Powers both reside in Door County.

For the first five years of his life, Bill lived in Ephraim and even attended school at one of Ephraim's historical one-room schoolhouses, now known as the Ephraim Administration Building on Highway Q. At the age of five, Bill and his family moved to Kewaunee, where he lived for five years. From an early age, it was clear that Bill was an extremely bright student.

In third grade, he spent seven weeks at UW hospital recovering from a major surgery to correct a blockage in his kidney. Mary Lou and Emery considered holding Bill back a grade since he had missed so much school, was young for his grade, and smaller than the other students. When Bill returned to school after overcoming his serious illness, his grades and achievement tests made it clear he was by far the brightest student in his class, and he continued his academic studies as a third grader.

When Bill was in fifth grade, his family moved to Manitowoc, where he continued to be an outstanding student and became an excellent high school wrestler. He graduated from Lincoln High School ranked seventh in his class of over 700 students.

Known as an avid reader and math whiz, Bill went on to study psychology, accounting, and health care fiscal Management at UW Madison. He always enrolled in the most advanced accounting classes offered and received what his brother Steve calls 'the same boring grade,' – an *A*. Bill graduated from UW Madison with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and Master's Degrees in Accounting and Health Care Fiscal Management. He was hired by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to work with complex math surrounding utility rates.

A true academic at heart, he returned to UW Madison to pursue a PHD. By the time he graduated with his Bachelor's, Master's, and PHD(ABD), Bill had passed every accounting class offered by the university with the same boring grade.

Bill taught accounting at UW Oshkosh for one year and spent the rest of his career working for the City of Milwaukee in the Internal Audit Division of the Comptroller's Office.

Bill enjoyed watching his two sons grown up and seeing all their accomplishments. As parent, Bill was a softball coach, basketball coach, Sunday school teacher, and homework helper. He loved having the family grow with the addition of a daughter-in-law and granddaughter. As his dementia worsened, Bill was still able to recognize his family.

In addition to reading, Bill enjoyed golfing and watching sports on TV. He was a true Green Bay Packers and Badgers fan. Though Bill preferred being at home, he did enjoy two wonderful trips to Hawaii. Bill is dearly missed by his wife of 40 years, two sons, a daughter-in-law and granddaughter, brother, sister and many more family members and friends.

Bill dedicated a great portion of his life to helping others. If someone was in need, Bill was there. For over 10 years, Bill mentored a family in which both parents were cognitively disabled. Bill assisted them in dealing with financial matters, landlord problems, and school issues with their children. Bill knew that this involved a major commitment on his part, but truly felt that God had given him this family to watch over.

Bill was also very concerned with social justice and was a member of M.I.C.A.H.'s (Milwaukee Inner City Congregations Allied For Hope) AODA Committee for many years. Bill strongly felt that addiction was a health issue which should be addressed through treatment rather than incarceration. He argued that not only was this the right thing to do, it would save tax dollars since the cost of treatment was approximately 1/7 the cost of incarceration.

In October 2017, Bill was given the devastating news that he had dementia. It was so difficult to see Bill, who had accomplished so much academically, start his mental decline. The saddest thing was when Bill was no longer able to read. Bill was an avid reader all of his life. His mother once told me that she needed to open cereal boxes upside down so Bill wouldn't be able to read and be late for school.

Many thanks to friends and family who helped out during Bill's illness. A special thanks to St. Ann's Center in Milwaukee for caring for Bill and his needs.

Donations in Bill's memory may be given to: St. Ann's Center for Intergenerational Care, 2801 E. Morgan Ave, Milwaukee WI 53207