

Deerfield Episcopal
Retirement Community
Asheville, NC

HealthCare Chapel
A House of Prayer for All People



Reverend William "Bill" Bailey

A Celebration of Life

September 10, 1931 - January 12, 2017

Reverend William 'Bill' Bailey

1931 - 2017

Bill Bailey died peacefully early Thursday morning, January 12 with his family by his side. Bill was loved dearly by his wife and childhood sweetheart, Marianna, his son Thomas (Tricia) and two daughters, Lynn (Allen) and Nan (Maria), and his half-brother Van (Amy) Brown. He leaves a legacy of light and laughter through his grandchildren, William (Melissa), Thomas, Keara, Brenna, Billy, and Julia and great-grandchildren, Merlin and Hiliana.

Bill was known for his wit, wisdom, and whistling. As a young man from Mt. Airy, NC, he was driven by a need to serve others and became ordained in the Methodist Church as a local church pastor. This desire to serve led him and his wife, Marianna, to expand their missional work to community organizing and they traveled the world together for many years. Bill was a deep thinker who admired the writings of Nikos Kazantzakis. And through an encounter with one of Kazantzakis's character's, Zorba the Greek, Bill nurtured a zest for life which he expressed through his whistle, his laugh, and his smile which he would bestow on anyone deserving or not. We will remember him for this spirit of giving, helping and lifting others up. We love you and will miss you. You are in our hearts forever.

There will be two celebrations of Bill's life. The first will be held at the HealthCare Chapel at the Deerfield Retirement Community in Asheville, NC 28803, Monday, January 16, 2017, 10:30 AM. The second at Jubilee!, 46 Wall St. Asheville, NC 28801, Sunday, January 22, 2017 2:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Deerfield Employee Appreciation Fund or the Jubilee! Compassion Fund. Bill would say 'Oh Yeah!' to that.