



# William Bill French

JAN 15, 1928 - SEP 13, 2012



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5
<b>Media</b> .....	Page 8



## William Bill French

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**W**illiam French age 84, of Moravia , Iowa died Thursday, September 13, 2012 at Mercy Medical Center, Centerville, IA.

Bill was born January 15, 1928 to Eastman and Lula Epperson French at home near Savannah, Iowa. He attended school in Davis County and later at Moulton, High School where he graduated in 1946. Bill was married to Beatrice Southern, June 1, 1947 at the Christian Church parsonage in Bloomfield, Iowa with Fred Sawyer officiating. He accepted Christ at a young age and was presently a member of the Grace United Methodist Church in Moravia. He was also a member of the Moravia Masonic Lodge # 252.

Bill and Bea farmed most of their lives in Davis and Appanoose County. Except for a few years where they owned and operated a country convenience store near Astoria, Oregon. When they retired they moved back to Moravia where they have made their home.

Bill is survived by his wife of sixty five years, Beatrice of Moravia children Mike (Sally) French of Rosemount, MN, Mark (Deb) French of Moravia, Marjorie (Williams) of Ottumwa and Martha (Darrell) Walsh of Lake in the Hills, Illinois, a sister in law Roberta French of Portland, Oregon, 8 grandchildren Lisa Richardson of Ottumwa, Teresa Magers of Ottumwa, Filisha (Pat) Johnson of Zimmerman, MN, Becky (Brad) Wilcox of Kansas City, MO, Nathan (Mary Anne) French of Farmington, MN, Christina (Craig) Sappington of St. Charles, IL, Amber (Rick) Exline Trout of Seymour, Iowa, Krystal Phipps of Centerville; 12 Great grandchildren Jordan and Jacob Johnson of Zimmerman, MN, Trenton Wilcox of Kansas City, MO, Donavan Dentler of Farmington, MN, Addison Richardson of Ottumwa, Sierra and Peyton Exline of Seymour, IA, Caden and Cambria Sappington both of St. Charles, IL, Nicole Richardson of Texas, Hannah Tension of Ottumwa, Iowa and Becca Rukgaber of Ottumwa; 1 great great grandson Landon Jones.



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He was preceded in death by his parents, a great grandchild Eddie Richardson, a brother Gene French and a son-in-law Billy Williams.

Memorial services will be held 10 AM, Saturday, September 22, 2012 at the Grace United Methodist Church in Moravia with Pastor Cindy Finn officiating. Inurnment of the cremains will follow in the Sunset View Cemetery near Moulton, IA with Moravia Masonic Lodge # 252 assisting with the service., A visitation will be held on Friday, September 21, 2012 at Lange Funeral Home in Moravia from 9 AM-8 PM, with the family present from 6-8 PM that evening. Memorials have been established to either the Grace United Methodist Church Building Fund, the JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation), or the Moravia First Responders and may be given to Lange Funeral Home. Condolences may be shared online at [www.langefh.com](http://www.langefh.com).

### Visitation

September 21, 2012 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Lange Funeral Home 103 North Johns St. Moravia, IA (641) 724-3413

### Memorial Service

September 22, 2012 10:00 AM

Grace United Methodist Church Moravia, IA



## Tribute Wall

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**Thomas Funeral Home** posted:

October 21 at 12:11 PM



**Thomas Funeral Home** shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 12:02 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Please accept our sincere sympathy and prayers, and may your loving memories give you peace. Posted by Dennis & Bev Sisul Laurson - Centerville, IA September 14, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Mike, I am so sorry to hear about your Dad. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this very difficult time. So many people are praying for you guys and hoping for your hearts to heal and your memories to be comforting. Posted by Leslie McKinney - Rochester, NY - Co-Worker September 17, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

We will miss Uncle Bill's wonderful sense of humor. You never knew what to expect from him, you always needed to look in his eyes to know if he was being serious or joking. We all have been the target of his amazing sense of humor. RIP Unkie Bill Posted by Cheryl and Eike Johnson - Hillsboro, OR - Niece September 17, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** posted:

Uncle Bill,I will never forget going to your gas stationstore and spending time with you, Christmas at the beach house, getting a tootsie roll every time i saw you, your laugh and sense of humor. It has all left an lasting impression on me and will forever help to guide me in life's adventures. May you rest in peace and forever have time to catch up with your brother. LoveAdam Johnson Posted by Adam Johnson - portland, OR September 17, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Hi Mike please accept our heartfelt condolences on the loss of your loved one. Regards Shyamal Posted by Shyamal Ghosh September 18, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

We will always miss you,but we will never forget you!! Posted by Wilcox Family - Kansas City, MO - grandchildren September 19, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Mike and Sally I'm so sorry for your loss, and am saying prayers for you both as you go through a most difficult time. As much as you will miss your Dad, find peace that he has gone home to be with the Lord...and you shall meet again. Warmest regards, Sue Posted by Sue Galvin - Apple Valley, MN - Colleague September 19, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Mike and Family, I am sorry for your loss. You are in our thoughts during this trying time. Adam Posted by Adam Rongitsch - Minneapolis, MN - Colleague September 19, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

Bill will be missed. He always warmed my sole when; laughingly I smooched on the shoulder of his soft shirt as we sat in church. His kind smile and jolly laugh was a welcoming to me as I sat with him. All our Love! God has him now. We'll smooch again! Posted by Greg and Sharron McKee - Moravia, IA - Friend September 22, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dear Uncle Bill May your warm and gentle smile continue onward in memory and spirit, your soul resting in peace with your brother's, Papa Gene French. While your loving family remains behind, we keep you in our thoughts and collective remembrance lovingly. Posted by Debbie, Doug & Steve French - Minooka, IL - Uncle September 22, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Mike and Sally sorry for you loss, my thoughts and prayers are with you. I will always remember Bill as being thoughtful and kind. My heart goes out to you and your family. Posted by Linda Ballanger - Moravia, IA September 26, 2012

January 4 at 7:00 PM



## Media

**William Bill French**  
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**Thomas Funeral Home** shared a photo to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 12:02 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



**Scan to Visit**