



William Eugene Harkins **Obituary**

SEP 3, 1943 - AUG 26, 2010



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5
Media	Page 7



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William "Bill" Eugene Harkins was born September 3, 1943 in St. Joseph, Missouri to Harvey M. and Wilma S. (Summers) Harkins.

Bill graduated from Lineville High School in 1961 and joined the Naval Reserves. He married Sue (Wilkinson) Harkins on August 29, 1965, to their union were born three boys, Tim, Tom, and Brian.

Bill and Sue raised their boys in many places around the world while Bill served 21 years in the Navy. He retired as a Chief Petty Officer in 1985 before moving back to Iowa.

Bill worked numerous years in the maintenance department at Corydon Nursing and Rehab and retired in 2006. Bill enjoyed doing sudoku, coin collecting, gardening and listening to music.

Bill loved animals especially cats and his sense of humor was all his own. Bill passed away on August 26, 2010 at the Chariton Hospice.

Bill is preceded in death by his grandparents John and Ethel (Cunningham) Summers and Clyde and Tesse (Williams) Harkins, parents Harvey and Wilma (Summers) Harkins, brother Harvey Harkins, Jr., father-in-law Doyle O. Lake, sister-in-law Beth Harkins, and niece Chantra A. McCoy.

Bill is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Sue (Wilkinson) Harkins of Corydon, Iowa, sons Tim Harkins and fianc Sammie of Cincinnati, Iowa, Tom Harkins and wife Leona of Phenix City, Alabama, and Brian Harkins and wife Laura of La Plata, Argentina, grandchildren Alex Harkins, Tommy Harkins, Amy Harkins and Shantel Harkins, and six step grandchildren.

Other survivors include his brother Kenneth Lee Harkins of Albia, Iowa, mother-in-law Betty Lake of Corydon, Iowa, sister-in-law Mary Etta Harkins of Bluegrass, Iowa, brother and sister-in-law Larry and Verna Wilkinson of Corydon, Iowa and sister and brother-in-law Kimberly and Kris Depner of Lucas, Iowa.



Obituary

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Book Travel to Services To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of William Eugene Harkins Obituary please visit our Sympathy Store.



Tribute Wall

William Eugene Harkins Obituary

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Thomas Funeral Home posted:

October 21 at 1:51 PM



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



October 13 at 2:29 PM



Jerry Matchem - Didsbury - Friendco-Worker posted:

Our memories go back a long way. Bill was a truly great neighbour, friend and co-worker back in Gander, Newfoundland in the late seventies. We also visited with Bill, Sue and family in Augsburg and Iowa. You will never be forgotten, my friend. Good memories never fade. Our thoughts are with Sue and the boys.

September 7 at 7:00 PM



Ron Tregaskis - Pinellas Park, Fl - Friend & Colleague posted:

Bill was my first shop supervisor and mentor at Northwest, VA. He was a bit crusty on the outside, but had a heart of gold. He always kept me smiling, especially with his honest, irreverent attitude toward those in charge. I remember when he ordered a little over 10 feet of hexagonal brass rod per Navelex's direction. He went down to our 'management' office to pick it up and the Chiefs' questions ensued. Why did you order 10 feet of hexagonal brass rod Bill's response as he walked out the door is classic - 'For jobs I wouldn't touch with a ten foot pole.'

August 31 at 7:00 PM



Rick And Vikki Skinner - Westmont, Il - Friend posted:

I was stationed with Bill at NSGA Augsburg Germany in the early 80's. He always had a smile and was never afraid to share his opinion. He was a great asset to the Navy as his skills were always leaving things better than he found them. We visited him at his home a couple of years ago...he will be missed.

August 30 at 7:00 PM



Tribute Wall

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ES

Edward Heiberger - Centennial, Co - Shipmate posted:

my Condolences to the family of Bill Harkins, from a fellow retired Senior Chief Petty Officer. God Bless your family

August 30 at 7:00 PM

DS

David Lakey - Bulverde, Tx - Shipmate posted:

I was stationed with Bill in Augsburg, Germany. Sorry to hear of his passing. My prayers are with you and your family.

August 30 at 7:00 PM

GF

Glen Neff - Sunset, Tx - Friends posted:

DEAR SUE AND BOYS, SO SORRY TO HEAR OF THE PASSING OF BILL. GLEN WORKED WITH HIM IN AUGSBURG AND REMEMBERS HIM AS BEING VERY KIND AND FUNNY. GOD BLESS. NANCY AND GLEN NEFF

August 30 at 7:00 PM

CF

Christopher And Christine Hamilton - Severn, Md - Friends posted:

Dear Sue and family, We'd like to express our sympathy at Bill's passing. We will always remember his joking manner when we worked with him in the BEQ while stationed at NSGA Augsburg. Quiet and unassuming he was not - which made interacting with him all the better! We were making plans late last week to make a trip out and were very sorry to have not been able to see him before Thursday. May you find comfort knowing that he's in a wonderful place and that you'll be reunited one day. Christopher and Christine Hamilton

August 30 at 7:00 PM

CL

Carla Vasilakes (Behm) - Lengby, Mn posted:

I served with Bill in Augsburg, GE. He was such a kind man - he was great at welcoming people, making them feel at ease. I am truly sorry; so few marriages survived the military life and I read that you were married 45 years! Wow, what a tribute and a legacy to leave your boys! May God truly Bless you with his divine PEACE during this trying time in your life.

August 30 at 7:00 PM



Media

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

October 13 at 2:29 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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