



Mr. John "Bill" William Cook

May 7, 1926 - February 7, 2015

John William Cook "John Bill Cook", 88, of Bowdon, Ga., died February 7, 2015. Known to his friends and family as John Bill, he was born in Cleburne County, Ala., on May 7, 1926, the youngest child of Orbie Erastus Cook and Lula Mae Pollard Cook. John Bill joined the U.S. Army and served as a petroleum engineer in the Pacific during World War II. After the war ended, he served in various posts in Germany. In Mannheim, he met Elfriede Kempf, whom he married on Sept. 3, 1948. After his discharge, he and Elfriede moved back to the U.S., where their daughter, Margaretha Katherina, was born.

John Bill, worked in the clothing manufacturing business for more than 40 years. He started with Bremen-Bowdon Manufacturing in 1953 and later became Chief Operating Officer. He also worked for LaMar Manufacturing. He served on the Board of Directors for three area clothing manufacturing companies. John Bill knew every aspect of the clothing business and was admired and respected by those who worked with him. He retired in 1990. He was an avid golfer, playing an average of three to four times a week in his retirement. He regularly shot in the low to mid-80s.

He was predeceased by his parents, O.E. Cook and Lula Mae Pollard Cook, by brothers Olin Cook and Roy Cook, and by his sister, Eunice Cook Lowery. He is survived by his wife, Elfriede; his daughter, Margaretha C. Martin, and

son-in-law Rich Martin, of Champaign, IL.; granddaughter, Katrina Anne Martin, of Alexandria, VA.; and grandson John Richmond Martin and his wife, Angelyn Pearson Martin, of Richmond, VA.; and several nephews and nieces.

The visitation will be at Rainwater Funeral Home in Bowdon on Wednesday, Feb. 11 from 4-7 PM. The funeral will be at Bowdon First United Methodist Church on Thurs., Feb. 12 at 2 PM.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Bowdon First United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 187, Bowdon, GA 30108 or to the church or charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Bowdon City Cemetery

Johnson Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 11. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rainwater Funeral Home
317 North Carroll Street
Bowdon, GA 30108
(770) 258-7239
info@rainwaterfuneralhome.com
<https://www.rainwaterfuneralhome.com>

Service

FEB 12. 2:00 PM (ET)

Bowdon First Methodist Church
302 Wedowee Street
Bowdon, GA 30108

Tribute Wall

RA

“*Mrs. Elfriede, I'm sorry about Mr. John but you already know that. I'll never forget the last words he spoke to me when I was down to see him. Don't worry if there is anything we can do for you know all you have to do is let us know. Love you Ray.*”

Ray - February 11, 2015 at 06:44 PM

DA

“*Danny & Phyllis Andrews lit a candle in memory of Mr. John "Bill" William Cook*”



Danny & Phyllis Andrews - February 10, 2015 at 12:35 PM

DK

“*Danny King lit a candle in memory of Mr. John "Bill" William Cook*”



Danny King - February 10, 2015 at 09:38 AM

GM

“*Gordon & Mary McLeroy lit a candle in memory of Mr. John "Bill" William Cook*”



Gordon & Mary McLeroy - February 10, 2015 at 09:12 AM

MS

“ *Michael Stark lit a candle in memory of Mr. John "Bill" William Cook*



Michael Stark - February 10, 2015 at 09:12 AM



“ *Jane Williams Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. John "Bill" William Cook*



Jane Williams Smith - February 10, 2015 at 09:04 AM

JM

“ *Janie Robinson Meadows lit a candle in memory of Mr. John "Bill" William Cook*



Janie Robinson Meadows - February 10, 2015 at 08:23 AM