



William Paul Helfrich Sr

July 15, 1927 - May 11, 2017

William P (Bill) Helfrich

July 15, 1928-May 11, 2017

Bill was born in Oregon and was raised near Granite Falls, Washington. His parents were Paul and Bertha Helfrich. Bill spent most of his life in the state of Washington. He graduated from Marysville High School. He worked for a while in a cedar shake mill in the Marysville area and later set up his own mill in the Snohomish area. About 50 years ago he decided he wanted to farm so he purchased a couple farm units southwest of Ephrata. He added more acreage as time went on and continued to grow primarily alfalfa until he retired at age 72.

Bill was a soft-spoken man who never said a bad word about anyone. He was deeply religious and had been active in the First Baptist Church of Snohomish, Bethlehem Chapel Assembly of God in Ephrata, and lately the Bread of Life Ministry in Ephrata. He was a family man who didn't hunt or fish or have any hobbies but he really enjoyed desserts and country music.

Bill is survived by his wife Vernel Melbye Helfrich, daughter-in-law Debbie Helfrich, grandson Jonathan Helfrich, step-children Alan (Cheryl) Troupe, Dale (Jill) Troupe, Ann (Russ) Boyes, Joy Prigg, and many step and grand step-children. He is also survived by John Hawkins who was as a son to Bill.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents and siblings making him the last of his generation. Bill was also preceded in death by his son William P (Billy) Helfrich (2016), wife Grace Troupe Helfrich (2003), and step-daughter Kay

Troupe Gandee (2003).

The memorial service will be held Friday, May 19, 2017 at 1 p.m. at the Bread of Life Ministry, 140 14th Ave NW, Ephrata with graveside service to follow at Valley View Memorial Park in Soap Lake.

Please express your thoughts and memories for the family at www.nicolesfuneralhome.com. Arrangements are under the care of Nicoles Funeral Home of Ephrata, Wa.

Cemetery Details

Valley View Memorial Park

20174 Rd A N.E.
Soap Lake, WA 98851
(509) 754-4150
bea.white@nicolesfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Service

MAY 19. 1:00 PM (PT)

Bread of Life
140 14th Ave N.W.
Ephrata, WA 98823

Tribute Wall



“ *Nicoles Funeral Home and Valley View Memorial Park created a Tribute Video in memory of William Paul Helfrich Sr*



Nicoles Funeral Home and Valley View Memorial Park - May 18, 2017 at 03:54 PM

KB

“ *I am unspeakably grateful to have Uncle Bill as part of my life story. What a precious, precious treasure are my memories of his quiet, loving and steadfast spirit. Uncle Bill was a man of God who drew me to God. I am blessed to call him "uncle." Heaven is full of music today, Uncle Bill, but we will miss you.*

Much love to the rest of the family, Kelly Baird, Wisconsin

Kelly Baird - June 03, 2017 at 05:39 PM

JP

“ I have such wonderful memories of Bill from my childhood. He was a kind, quiet presence, and such a man of God. I remember in particular one Sunday night service during the testimony time when Bill stood up and told how the weather report had predicted an early freeze a few nights earlier, and he had known that if his fields froze that he'd lose his crops. His voice cracked as he described how he'd called out to God to save his fields. And the next morning, even though fields around his froze, his did not. That's something I've never forgotten. I'm sure Bill is enjoying heaven now, and that we'll see him there some day.

Jeri (Cowley) Prior

Jeri (Cowley) Prior - May 20, 2017 at 09:17 PM


Patricia
Doyle

“ When I was growing up, Bill treated me like a granddaughter. Every year he would buy me a Christmas present, usually clothes. It was such a blessing, as we always had a tight budget, and I bought clothes with my babysitting money. He and Grace also blessed my family with beef every year. I think they saw that we hosted people for Sunday supper every week, and they wanted to help. Having that beef in the freezer was also such a blessing. There's that word again--blessing. That's what Bill was. I will always remember Bill as one of the finest, most caring men I've ever met. I'm truly sorry we cannot make the service, as I'm not able to get the time off of work, and my dad has trouble traveling long distances because of back pain. We wish you all God's comfort as you grieve the earth's loss of such a special man.

Patricia Doyle - May 18, 2017 at 10:08 PM