



William "Bill" N. Pratt

May 14, 1940 - February 11, 2021

Mr. William N. Pratt, "Bill", of Bellingham, passed away on Thursday, February 11, 2021, at the age of 80. He was born in Halfway, OR, in 1940 to Vernon B. Pratt and Twilia House Pratt. Bill, whose father was a Mining Engineer, grew up in mining towns scattered over OR, WA, AZ, and CO. In 1954 his family returned to the property above Cherry Point beach which they had inherited from their pioneer family. Bill's ancestors had traveled up California Creek in 1874 settling in the Custer and Lake Terrell areas. Bill graduated from the great class of 1958 from Blaine High School where he retained many dear friendships. He joined the U.S. Army after graduation and was stationed in Ft Belvoir, VA, marrying Lolita Kendall Pratt, in 1959, while on leave. He earned a B.A. in Business Management from Western Washington University in 1971. After Lolita's passing, Bill remarried in 1984 to Sandra F. Pratt. They built his dream home together in Edgemoor. He retired as Superintendent of Maintenance from BP/ARCO at the age of 55 to travel the globe, exploring. Bill was instrumental in the creation of an oil company consortium to protect Puget Sound from a potential oil-spill. He also established an employee recreation area at the Cherry Point refinery.

Bill had a curiosity for life and a love for humanity. The Pacific Northwest was his "home". His smile will always be remembered when he was in pursuit of a new adventure. He was a rock-hound and geologist, a nature photographer, a scuba diver, and driving dare devil! He has imparted these loves to those in

his lifetime. His favorite pastimes were hiking in the high country of Mt. Baker or relaxing in the San Juan Islands while fishing.

He is survived by his beloved children and grandchildren: Patti Pratt Hosking, daughter, Mike Hosking, son-in-law, Ryan Hosking and Jake Hosking, grandchildren, Robert N. Pratt, son, Ralph W. Pratt, son, Lisa Pratt Underdown, daughter, Sierria Underdown and Nate Underdown, grandchildren; as well as nieces, nephews and cousins who were like siblings to him. His friendships were many.

He was buried at a family-only graveside service, due to Covid, at Enterprise Cemetery on February 19th, 2021.

To honor Bill Pratt, enjoy nature. Please pick up litter from our beaches and hiking trails as he always did. In remembrance, donations in his name may be made to his latest favorite charity, www.OperationSmile.org, cleft lip/palate repair for disadvantaged children: 1.888.677.6453

Tribute Wall

JL

“ *i only became friends with Bill in his later years, and yet reading the above, I can see some threads running through his life. He maintained a curiosity about life and how things work. He continued to be generous, whether sharing his nature photos, his special rocks, or amazing stories. He conveyed a love of family, and a powerful sense of wanting to do right by everyone. He maintained his love of travel and adventure, and was planning further things to explore, past the point of it being really possible. It was like Bill to not give in to normal limitations. I do and will miss him, and I am better for having been able to be his friend.*

James Lee - March 26, 2021 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ *What a Beautiful tribute of life and adventures for my Uncle Bill whose stuffed critters in the house always scared me as a little girl. Lots of love to my cousins at this time. Love Cousin Katie and Joe Cummins Jared, Lance, Gavin and Claire*

Katie Cummins - March 21, 2021 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ For over 20 years I have been the recipient of a wonderful friendship with Bill. I was introduced to him by my life partner Gael Brockerman who called Bill her “knight in shining armor”. Many times he came to her rescue on her mini farm in Ferndale. And so it went for all Bill’s friends. He was ALWAYS there to help. When my one man crew was suddenly unable to go racing at the Bonneville salt flats, Bill and cousin Vernon stepped up and made the journey happen. We towed all the way to Utah and ran faster than the car had ever run. Bill’s son Robert pitched in and created a push bar for Bill’s truck. Bill’s attitude was simply; what can I do to help? The next year (2012) Bill and I decided to raft the Colorado river and run the Grand Canyon. It was a wonderful 8 day adventure that let Bill soak up the rich geology and history of this magnificent place. I don’t think I have met a man as kind as Bill Pratt. He just wanted to make people happy! The last two decades of his life were marred by health issues but they didn’t overcome him, he just doggedly carried on. So, my friend, it is with deep regret that I will miss your smiling face and your gentle spirit. A shot of Crown Royal will always remain as my toast to you.

John T Gardiner - March 21, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Patti,
My condolences on the loss of your father. He must have been a very unique individual to have raised such fine children. I will always be grateful for my contact with you and your brothers at Vista.

Marvin (Marv) Wilson - March 18, 2021 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ I will always remember Bill, my father-in-law who was like a father to me. He was a great man, a generous man and our family always enjoyed the times we had together. When he visited with us down in Canyon Lake, California, he would take whoever wanted to go on hikes and even to local mines where he felt at home. We had many discussions about rocks, the local geology and he helped us find some very nice rocks along the way. I will miss Bill as my second father, as well as him just being there to hang out with, to answer my many questions or to help our family with anything we asked. Goodbye Bill Pratt, you were a good person, a great father, a great father-in-law, a generous grandfather and an overall wholesome person.

Michael L Hosking - March 17, 2021 at 12:00 AM