



William "Bill" J. Steward

May 17, 1917 - March 10, 2015

Durand ❖ William ❖ Bill ❖ J. Steward, 97, of Durand, IL, passed away on Tuesday, March 10, 2015, at his home, surrounded by his family. He was born on May 17, 1917 in Rockton Township, IL to Elbert and Mary Ann (Kelley) Steward. He was raised in Owen Center Township by his grandparents, William and Ada (Liddle) Kelley, after his mother passed away. He married Arlene Fosler on August 14, 1949. Bill graduated from Barber school and worked for 30 years on the Durand Square. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II from March 13, 1942 to March 13, 1946. Bill was a member and past Commander of the Durand American Legion Gold Star Post 676 and served as a service office for 70 plus years. He was also a member of the Durand Masonic Lodge #302, the VFW and Disabled American Veterans. He loved to play baseball and was an avid Cubs fan all of his life. Bill and his wife voluntarily placed American Flags throughout Center Street in the Village of Durand to commemorate special holidays. It was proclaimed William ❖ Bill ❖ Steward Day on Flag Day, June 14, 2009, in the Village of Durand. Bill is survived by his wife, Arlene, three sons, Keith, Kim and Kerry (Laurie) Steward, all of Durand, IL; a brother, Carl (June) Steward; grandchildren, Heather (Mark) Page, Stephanie Johnson, Greg (Jamie) Steward, Eric (Keiti) Steward, Kevin Steward and Shana (Justin) Roushia; great-grandchildren, Shaelyn, Jeremiah, Zachary and Olivia. He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, brother, Ray Steward, and daughters-in-law, Joyce and Karen Steward. Funeral services will be held at 10:30 a.m., Saturday,

March 14, 2015, at the Durand American Legion Hall, 211 State Street, Durand, IL. Visitation will be from 5 pm. until 8 p.m. on Friday at the American Legion Hall, Durand, IL. Burial will be in the Owen Center Cemetery. The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Heimerdinger and Northern Illinois Hospice.

Tribute Wall

DW

“ *Our sincere sympathy to all the family of Bill Steward. Arlene, you did such a great job taking care of Bill. Bill cut my son's hair a many a time when we lived in Durand. A special thanks to our son in law Kerry Steward, daughter Laurie, granddaughter Shana and grandson Kevin for always being there for their dad (grandpa).....*

Deanna Wright - May 10, 2021 at 11:12 AM

PB

“ *SPATHIPHYLLUM was sent by Gary and Peggy Boomer. Our thoughts are with you.*

Peggy A Boomer - May 10, 2021 at 11:12 AM

“ *The Goal is not to live forever but to leave behind something that will. Reading Bills obituary, we can see that he accomplished that goal. *S**

We are so sorry to hear of Bill's passing! I must , however, say that during our recent phone conversation, Bill seemed to be "ready" to go. I remember him saying many times that he didnt believe someone should live so long. He seemed to very much miss being able to do all of the things he enjoyed doing when younger, such as "fur trapping" which is h ow I came to be friends with him.

Bill used to be a member of our local FurTakers of America chather and enjoyed taking part in our annual trappers fall rendezvous at Milledgeville IL. Bill knew that I usually wasnt too far from a cold beer and he was never to bashful to ak if I had an extra one or two.

Our chapter for several years had a members drawing with the prize of a free trip to the FTA college in La Grange Indiana. Bills name was drawn as winne, When I called to tell him he was beside himself but then after he thought abut it awhile, he said no, you give it to someone younger who could make better use of the knowledge gained by attending.

I asked Bill have you ever won and done something like this in your long lifetime? He said NO! I ask, can you get away and do you think you would enjoy it? Of course, he replied. Then I reminded him, that he owed it to himself to experience this great prize.

Bill attended the college, recieved his two credits hours from Perdue University and enjoyed every minute of his time there. In fact, I was told he was the "star of the show"!

Over the years, I've talked with most of the instructors at the colledge and they all ask, hows Mr Bill?. They all have fond memories of Bill and his time there.

Unfortunately, we wont be able to attend Bills visitation or funeral as we will be out of town but rest assured our thoughts will be with Bill and his family.

Bill was a good man and a good friend that we will miss.

*Sincerely,
John and Monica Wilson*

John/Monica Wilson - May 10, 2021 at 11:12 AM

AS

“ *Bill brought color and interest to our short time living in Durand. The most important words a father can hear is "you raised good sons". Kim & Kerry brought much joy to our lives.*

Alan & Jayne Stoldalorf - May 10, 2021 at 11:12 AM