



Bill Love

May 10, 1931 - March 2, 2021

Bill H. Love, of Lindsay, Oklahoma, departed to his heavenly home on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, at the age of 89. Bill was born May 10, 1931 to Bertie Hershel & Ruby Irene Love in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and spent most of his younger years in Fredrick, Oklahoma. Bill was a beloved brother, husband, father, grandfather, pastor and friend.

Those who knew Bill knew how much he loved people, never meet a stranger and always had a joke or story to tell. Bill left this earth shortly before tax season to get the IRS off his back, so if you left him a voice mail, sorry, he won't be able to call you back. All joking aside, Bill was generous to his family and friends and if anyone needed it, he would have gladly given you the shirt off his back.

Bill was called into the ministry in his early 20's but preached his first sermon at the age of 9 holding a funeral for a cat. Bill was ordained as a pastor in 1955 and pastored his first church in Keichi, Oklahoma.

In 1966, Bill and Thelma were appointed as international missionaries to Malaysia and Singapore and served from 1967-1982. During Bill's time on the mission field, he started churches and oversaw the construction of multiple church buildings, trained and mentored individuals to become pastors and leaders in ministry. He also served Vietnamese refugees in the refugee camp in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, by teaching them English through Bible studies and helping them find sponsors for a better life.

After serving on the mission field, Bill & Thelma returned to their first calling to serve the local church. In the Spring of 1985, they moved to Lindsay, Oklahoma to become the pastors of the Erin Springs Baptist Church where they served for 12 years. After retiring at the age of 65, Bill could not shake his calling and went back to pastoring at Cox City Baptist Church where he served for 20 more years. When asked where he got his strength to continue preaching, he said the Lord had put fire in his bones.

When Bill moved to Lindsay, he never dreamed how much he would fall in love with the town and people of Lindsay. He considered Lindsay his home and loved his multiple daily visits to Gas-n-Go to have coffee and shoot the bull with his buddies. To many, he was known as the town preacher, but when he told it, he was the town bootlegger, but we all know he was just "pulling their leg". Thank you, Lindsay for accepting and loving Bill for who he was, he loved each one of you. A special thank you to the Lindsey EMT's and Fire Department for all your assistance.

Bill is survived by his wife Thelma Jo Love (AKA Precious the wrestler), his sister Alice Joyce Gilliland, his children, Deborah Love Bradshaw, Mark Love, Sara Bratcher and her husband Kevin, Grandchildren, Curtis & Clayton Bradshaw, Kayla Bratcher, Shelby Uber, her husband Connor and multiple nieces and nephews.

He was loved by many for the difference he made in their lives and left a tremendous legacy for his family. His presence will be missed by all.

Bill would like to leave you a little advice, "Smile, and have a great day!"

If you would like to make a donation in honor of Bill, please donate to The Boys Ranch Town in Edmond, Oklahoma. Please make sure to designate the donation in memory of Bill H. Love.

<https://www.obhc.org/about/campuses/brt/>.

A funeral service to honor the life of Bro. Bill is set to begin at 2:00 P.M. on Monday March 8, 2021, at the Erin Springs Baptist Church in Erin Springs, Oklahoma. He will be laid to his final rest following the service at the Green Hill Cemetery in Lindsay, Oklahoma.

Bro. Bill's service will be live-streamed on the Wilbourn Family Funeral Home Facebook page.

Services are under the direction of Scott and Angel Wilbourn of Wilbourn Family Funeral Home in Lindsay, Oklahoma. Condolences may be made to the family online at www.boydstonfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Service

MAR 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

Erin Springs Baptist Church
Highway 76 South
Lindsey, OK 73052

Tribute Wall

JE

“ *Pastor Bill, we miss and love you here in Singapore and Malaysia. We always appreciate your dynamic preaching, great sense of humor, and always giving time to hear and understand us here. Thanks again. You are greatly missed.*

Jeremiah - July 15, 2025 at 09:48 AM



“ *I met Bro Bill while working in Lindsay at the GasnGo and drank many cups of coffee with him (however he drank coke). We became friends even though I pastor a different brand of church than he did. He always seemed full of the joy of the Lord. Sorry to just now learn of his graduation, as I no longer work there, I had not heard. He was a wonderful man.*

Bill Holder - May 06, 2021 at 01:28 PM

JM

“ *We love you Uncle, Bill! I'll always remember how you lit up the room and made everyone smile. You were a joy to be around and we will miss you! Jamie, FaLisa, Quintin and Kaden*

Jamie McCannon - March 25, 2021 at 05:07 PM

BS

“ *The family of Carl and Betty Stafford want to send our love to the Love Family, we Appreciate your friendship and what you did for our family. R.I.P. Bro. Love..❤️*

Betty Stafford - March 25, 2021 at 05:07 PM

KA

“ My deepest condolences to the family of Ps Bill Love. When I was 17 years (1970) in a small town in Sungai Petani (60km south of Alor Star), Malaysia, Ps Love brought the clear message of the Gospel themed 'God has No Grandchildren' at Anglican Church Youth Meeting there. I was born into a Christian home but it was through his message I realised that I had to make a personal decision to be a Christian and not just rely on the faith taught to me by my parents. I made a personal decision that day on 1st May 1970 and gave my life to Christ. I will always be grateful to the ministry of Ps Bill Love for convicting me to commit my life to Christ that day. By God's grace, I have grown steadily since and have matured in the faith. Ps Love was a great servant of God in North Malaysia at that time and he had touched countless lives for which we are truly grateful. I am sure he will be received in heaven and affirmed by the Lord as His good and faithful servant. May the Lord's grace, peace and blessings be with all his loved ones at this time. K J Abraham Subang Jaya, Selangor, Malaysia.

KJ ABRAHAM - March 25, 2021 at 05:07 PM

TK

“ I'm forever grateful and thank God for Bill Love. His message, "God has no grandchildren" brought me to repentance and faith in Jesus. This was at a Youth Camp in Batu Ferringhi, Penang, Malaysia, more than 51 years ago. Thank you, family in God, for sharing Bill with us.

Tom Koruthu - March 25, 2021 at 05:07 PM

JB

“ Thelma I'm so sorry for the loss of Bill. He was such a great person and loved by all. Prayers for you all Jill Brown

Jill Brown - March 25, 2021 at 05:06 PM

BT

“ There will never be enough words to express the impact this man made in my heart. Most of it I kept to myself. He was the best mentor and pastor of my time. Brother Love...I LOVE you and will miss you. You know my whole family so say Hi to everyone up there. My heart will be sad tonight as I process your leaving and being a little envious of you dancing in Heaven now. ALL MY LOVE TO YOUR FAMILY AS YOU WERE ONE OF THE BEST PEOPLE I HAD THE PLEASURE TO KNOW. #therewillneverbeanother

Barbara Trujillo - March 25, 2021 at 05:06 PM

JH

“ Sorry for the loss family is in my prayers he was a good man he will be missed but never forgotten

Joseph hines - March 25, 2021 at 05:06 PM

JN

“ I met Rev Love in 2000 when I was a Mortician at B.G. Boylston Funeral Home. I had the pleasure of working with him over several years and thought of him often after I moved. He obviously left a large impression on my life💕

Jamie Newberry - March 25, 2021 at 05:06 PM