



## William R. Neill

November 27, 1941 - June 3, 2006

William Neill died Saturday, June 3, 2006, in Weaverville, California at the age of 64. Bill was born on November 27, 1941 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to S.L. "Jack" and Harriet L. (McDonald) Neill. Bill lived and attended school through 9th grade in Chickasha until 1956 when he moved with his family to Phoenix, Arizona. After graduation from Camelback High School, Bill attended Arizona State University and Stanford earning a degree in Accounting. He then attended the University of Southern California receiving his Doctorate of Jurisprudence in 1968. Upon graduation, Bill served as assistant district attorney in Ukiah, California from 1968 ? 1972. In 1972, he became the District Attorney of Trinity County, making him the youngest District attorney in that State?s history. After serving three terms as DA, Bill resigned and went into private practice.

Bill delighted all with his sense of humor and love of story telling. His friendship and loyalty to those he loved and cared for was limitless. Bill was happiest when surrounded by his family and friends or when he was with his horses camping and fishing in his beloved mountains. Bill?s relationship with God was steadfast and always his greatest source of comfort and guidance.

Bill?s proudest public accomplishment was his successful 10-year drive to create the 502,764-acre Trinity Alps Wilderness Preservation boundaries in 1984. He devoted much of his life during that time to organizing support for

the project at the County, State and Federal levels of government, to preserve forever much of the untouched old-growth beauty of the northern California mountain wilderness.

Bill was preceded in death by his father and his daughter Colleen. Bill is survived by his daughter, Christy Neill and her husband Steve Spiers of British Columbia, Canada, his daughter Stacey Neill and her husband Eric Wiseman of Redding, California; his mother Harriet Neill, his sister and brother-in-law Leigh Ann and Jim Atwood, his sister and brother-in-law Kay and Philip Wint all of Chickasha; three grandchildren, Aiden and Meara Spiers and Lucy Wiseman; one niece, two nephews, one grand niece, one grand nephew, many cousins and many friends across the United States.

A memorial service will be held at Green hill Cemetery in Lindsay, Oklahoma, Saturday, June 10, 2006 at 10:00 a.m. Reverend Church Davis of Chickasha will officiate.

Arrangements are under the direction of B. G. Boydston Funeral Home of Lindsay, Oklahoma. Condolences may be sent to the family online at [www.boydstonfuneralhome.com](http://www.boydstonfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall

JM

“ Mrs. Neill, Leigh Ann and Kay, you may remember me. Bill and I became friends while at Camelback Highschool. We did quite a few things together and were at each other's house quite a bit. Before Bill's heart operation my Dad called him Little Willie. We lost touch with each other a few years after highschool. In the early 1970s Bill called me. He was planning on being in Phoenix during the Holidays and wanted to get together. For one reason or another it didn't happen. I got married and moved from Phoenix. We returned in 1996. In 1998 I received a letter from Bill. He had been to a Camelback class reunion and found my address but not my phone number. I called him and we re-established our friendship. We communicated for the better part of a year. Then the communications stopped. My wife and I are planning a trip to Oregon the middle of July and will be staying over night in Redding, CA. I was trying to contact Bill last Friday to see if we could arrange a get together while in Redding. I was at work and doing an internet search for Bill's phone number when I discovered his obituary. I was devastated. Although we hadn't seen each other in a long time, I thought of Bill often and throughly enjoyed our phone conversations and emails. I'll never forget our good times together during highschool. He was my best friend. I apologize for being so lengthy. You have my deepest sympathy during this sorrowful time.

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**John Mulkey** - June 26, 2006 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ My husband (Walter) and I extend our condolences to your family. My grandmother was Ola Neill Ross. My father, Neill Ross, always spoke fondly of Jack and Harriet. Once again, our sympathy is with your family in this time of loss.

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**Anne Ross Alcorn** - June 13, 2006 at 12:00 AM