

**Deceased Name: William Kennedy**

Register-Guard, The (Eugene, OR) - January 5, 2014

• Section: Obituaries

William "Bill"

Kennedy

1945-2013

Bill passed away at home in the loving arms of his wife, and was lifted up on Christmas Eve. He will be our guardian angel for all eternity. He was a devoted husband and father and loved his family beyond measure. He loved being "Grampy Love" to his three grandchildren: Sidney, Jake and Max. It was his greatest joy. Bill was born in Portland, Oregon on March 9th, 1945 to Ralph and Emma Kennedy. He graduated from Grant High School in 1963 and then went on to Portland State. He met his wife, May-Ree, the very first day of college and they have been together ever since. Bill and May-Ree were married June 11th, 1966 in McMinnville Oregon.

The only thing Bill ever wanted to be was a Police officer. It was the Irish family business. He followed in the footsteps of his father, uncle and brother. He joined the Lane County Sheriff's Office on July 5th 1966. He had a remarkable career that spanned 30 years. He began in patrol then he was promoted to detectives, which included undercover assignments, homicide, robbery and crimes against persons. He was temporarily assigned to the Los Angeles Police Department in the Robbery Homicide division for training and implementation of homicide investigation techniques. Bill was also trained in investigative hypnosis and went on to train and become a licensed polygraph examiner. He then spent time as the coordinator of the narcotics team. He spent several years in the Community Corrections Center. In 1991 he returned to Detectives, and in 1993 became the Lead Crisis Hostage Negotiator for the SWAT Team. After Bill retired in 1995, he opened his private investigation business, Kennedy & Associates. Bill went on to volunteer for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and was a founding member of Team Adam and the Amber Alert Program. Through that program, he was honored at a reception at the White House on June 12, 2006 for his exceptional work reuniting families after Hurricane Katrina. Bill and May-Ree loved to travel, often surprising each other with secret trips to Ireland, England, Europe, South America, North Africa, Mexico and Caribbean, the list goes on and on. He is survived by his wife of 47 years, May-Ree, daughters Kim Baty (Greg) and Chellie Dering (Steve), grandchildren Sidney & Jake Dering and Max Baty.

There will be a Celebration of Life held for Bill at the First Christian Church on Saturday, January 11th, at 1:00 pm. 1166 Oak Street Eugene, OR 97404.

• Record: 7f4f665ba1bbe8a8aae64ec8a9bdd7dee338cad

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