



## William "Bill" Bruss

February 8, 2019

William "Bill" Bruss died February 8th after a valiant fight with cancer. He spent his last hours with: his daughter Jennifer, his son Bill Jr. (Carolyn) and his grandson Travis. His last peaceful minutes were with his wife of 30 years, Lois and his canine pal, Watson.

He balanced his beloved professional life as a principal at Bauder Elementary School (and, for a short time, the mountain schools) with his love of traveling, hunting, trap shooting, fishing, "prayer group", and the cribbage club and the Masonic Lodge.

Bill loved, was loved and survived by two sisters: Paula (Al), Linda, his wonderful nieces and nephews and his brother-in-law Tom.

Our family will always be grateful for the kindness, compassion and professionalism of all the extraordinary medical personnel and staff at: The Cancer Center, the Radiology Center, MCR, the Infusion Center at PVH, and Pathways Hospice.

Bill was a private person and asked that there be no service, but left this request, "If you're going to remember me, let it be from a happy memory! If you think of me in the future – please smile! That will make me happy for eternity!"



# Tribute Wall

LS

“ Just happened to see this for Bill Bruss. Worked for Bill as a special Ed teacher in the late 70's before going back to Tucson, Az. I enjoyed working for Bill at Bauder Elementary. He was able to develop a great cohesive staff that I felt really liked working together. It was one of if not the best working environments I had in 40 yrs of working. Thank you Bill. Larry Sheehy 77-80

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**Larry Sheehy** - March 11, 2025 at 08:39 PM

JN

“ My condolences to Bill's family. Mr Bruss as I called him was my 6th grade teacher at La Porte Avenue School in the 1960's. He made a huge difference in my life and education. I kept in touch with him for many years into adulthood. Sandy Thode and I liked to “give him a hard time “ but all in fun. He was an excellent teacher and a very good principal, though I didn't have him for a principal. I'm glad you were all there for/with him as he passed. It makes me happy to know that your relationships with him were as good as that. It shows what a good man he really was.

*Joan Norman*

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**Joan Norman** - July 06, 2024 at 08:45 PM



“ *William "Bill" Bruss*

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October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM

JU

“ Jenny,

*I am very sorry for the loss of your father.*

*Julia Ruppel Crawmer*

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**julia** - March 11, 2019 at 12:58 PM

GC

“ Dear Lois and Family,

*I loved having Bill as my principal at Bauder. He was such a special person. He was full of fun, generous as could be, understanding, and a wonderful leader. You always knew exactly where you stood with Bill. I appreciated that about him. He treated us all with respect and was always a gentleman.*

*He took a little time each day to enjoy the moment. It made working at Bauder so much fun. He worked hard to create a family feeling where we all felt cared about and appreciated.*

*He had a laugh and a smile that would light up a room. He never took anything too seriously. He was a problem solver. He never let little problems become big problems. He handled everything that way. He was a great principal.*

*And Lois, he talked about you all the time. And when he did, he always had a big smile on his face. He loved you so much, that I know!*

*What a wonderful man! Ginny Conahan*

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**Ginny Conahan** - February 24, 2019 at 11:43 PM

IM

“ Dear Lois and family,  
I was sorry to hear that Bill passed away. I worked at Bauder for 8 years as a para professional and then as a media aide. Bill was full of life with a great sense of humor. He was a great one to work under and I will remember him with fond memories!! Irene Mason

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**Irene Mason** - February 23, 2019 at 01:43 PM

TB

“ Dear Lois,  
We have so many great memories of Bill and of sharing good times with the two of you. Jackie enjoyed so much working with Bill at Bauder, and after he left, she had to leave too! One of her best memories was sharing Christmas ornaments with Bill and the special ed team. One year, Bill gave us all pictures of himself to hang on our trees. We returned the favor by placing a dead Christmas tree on his desk and hanging ornaments on it. Tim always enjoyed his great insight into all matters of the world, always punctuated with humor. Nobody could tell a joke like Bill Bruss! Even though we hadn't seen you guys for awhile, we often talked about the great times we had together. I'm sure he has Tom and Susan Fisher laughing heartily and is surrounded by his many canine pals.  
Rest in peace Bill and be assured that we all have many happy memories of you!  
Tim and Jackie Bennett

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**Tim Bennett** - February 23, 2019 at 01:16 PM

JH

“ Dear Lois, Jennifer, Bill Jr. and Family,  
We were so sad to hear that Bill had passed. He was a dear, kind, and caring man. I, Joyce, was very grateful to have worked with Bill at Bauder. He hired me to teach first grade in 1972 and set the stage for a wonderful career teaching there for the next 30 years. Bill was my principal for 27 of those years. He created a family atmosphere where classified and certified staff were treated equally. He was very supportive of me as a young teacher developing her skills. He was very encouraging, gave wise advice when needed and created a positive culture that allowed me to do my best in the classroom. Teaching at Bauder was the best experience I could have ever had as an educator thanks to Bill. It was a pleasure to be part of the wonderful family he created. I refer to that time as “the Golden Years of Teaching.”

*I will always treasure the good times we had at Bauder - the staff meetings with food, progressive dinners, FACs, the programs in which we as a staff were participants, helping with the design for the new addition, and so much more. So many great memories! Most of all, I will remember Bill's sense of humor and his laugh. He loved telling jokes and hearing ones from others. His laughter echoed through the building. When I heard him laugh I would smile and know all was well with the world. I really missed hearing his booming laugh after he retired.*

*Jerry appreciated all the visits, jokes, car racing stories, and trap shooting tips Bill generously shared with him. Lots of laughs, for sure!*

*We will carry many sweet memories of Bill in our hearts. He was one of a kind!*

*With Sympathy and Love,  
Joyce and Jerry*

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**Joyce and Jerry Hubka** - February 18, 2019 at 08:24 PM

GC

“ Lois I am so sorry to hear my dear friend had passed. He will be missed dearly and I am so glad I was able to give him a big hug the last time he was here and found out things were good. Please come visit when you can and able we will miss seeing you also. **\*\*HUGS\*\***  
Genese Infusion check in/Scheduler

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**Genese Carsrud** - February 18, 2019 at 09:19 AM

DO

“ Bill and I traveled to several out of state trapshoots together so the laughter and times were memorable for sure. Bill, I will miss you much my friend and you will linger in my memories forever. See you on the other side.

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**Dick Ogle** - February 17, 2019 at 08:36 AM