



Willis W Shaner

November 9, 1926 - July 21, 2021

Willis W. Shaner, 94, of Fort Collins, CO, passed away July 21, 2021.

Bill, as he preferred to be called, was born to Willis and Elnora Shaner in New York City. He is survived by his sons Tim of Eugene, Oregon and Mike of La Quinta, California, and is preceded in death by his parents, wife Victoria, daughter Becky, and son Paul.

Bill met Vicky in Maracaibo, Venezuela, where she was visiting family and he was employed as an engineer for Creole Petroleum. A month later they married and remained happily so for 65 years.

Not content with a career as an engineer for an oil company, Bill had greater ambitions and decided to further his education and pursue a career in economic development. After receiving his MBA from Harvard, and then a PhD from Stanford, Bill, employed by Stanford Research Institute, traveled with his family to Madrid for four months, followed by five-and-a-half years in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Securing what would eventually be a full professorship with Colorado State University, he moved with his family to Fort Collins in 1972, teaching at CSU and working abroad as an economic advisor.

Bill's remarkable career brought him and Vicky to numerous countries, from Peru to Swaziland, Jordan, Yemen, Pakistan, Indonesia, and elsewhere. Bill

and Vicky were both excellent golfers and later Bill discovered the wonders of scuba diving. In high school, he excelled at football, earning an honorable mention as an offensive guard, and went on to play at Iowa State University where he received his BS in engineering. Having discovered his love of literature at a young age, Bill became an avid reader of the classics upon retirement, tackling everything from Joyce's Ulysses to Don Quixote, and the novels of Salmon Rushdie. He will be greatly missed.

Tribute Wall



“ *Willis W Shaner*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *Bill and Vicki were great. Bill joined CSU about the same time as I did. He had a lot of experience and was always helpful in projects, with students, or anything where he was needed. Vicki was always friendly and joined into many things at the university. We will miss them.*

Neil Grigg

Neil Grigg - August 01, 2021 at 06:17 PM



Thank you, Neil. It's nice to hear of your experience with my father at the workplace, as well as your thoughts about my mother. They had quite the life and I am happy to have been part of it. Missed, they surely will be... - Tim Shaner

Tim Shaner - August 03, 2021 at 09:17 AM