



William "Bill" Lewis Earls

August 10, 1971 - December 29, 2015

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William "Bill" Lewis Earls, 44, died peacefully at home in the early hours of Tuesday, Dec. 29, 2015.

He was born in Lebanon on Aug. 10, 1971. Raised primarily in Brownsville, Bill attended the Brownsville Elementary School. Upon completing his sophomore year at Central Linn High School, he joined the Job Corps. Two years later, Bill obtained a full scholarship to Washington State University located in Pullman, Washington. He would go on to earn a bachelor's degree in physics, math and computer science.

Bill did two tours in the Army, 1989-1994, in Desert Strom and Mogadishu and 1997-2000, with the Army Special Forces. He began a career as a stock broker and financial advisor for a firm located in Portland. Life was interrupted by a stroke at the age of 36. What followed over the course of the next eight years, would be a series of medical problems and various diseases, lived out in Corvallis.

In spite of it all, William built rockets and launched them at Black Rock, Nevada (The "Rocket Man" in the GT). When he no longer was physically able to continue that, he learned online to roll cigars and started a cigar

business. He went to school online and earned a master's degree in theology at U.C. Berkeley. He started in a doctoral program at Grand Canyon University in Arizona, which was well along, but not yet finished. Recently William had opened an online jewelry store on Shopify.

He is survived by his partner and caregiver, Chet Earls, his mother and stepfather Brenda and Larry White, a stepsister, three nieces, and five siblings: Barbara, Janis, Daniel, Melburn and Michael.

A service of celebration will be at 3:00 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 3, at First United Methodist Church, NW 11th and Monroe in Corvallis.