



William McGuire

October 9, 1922 - November 29, 2008

William Saxon (Bill) McGuire, 86 died on Saturday, November 29th at the Corvallis Manor. Bill was born on October 9, 1922 in Prescott, Arkansas to Saxon P. McGuire and Ida Dillon McGuire. He attended Prescott schools and graduated from Prescott High School in 1940. He was a graduate of Arkansas State A & M (now South Arkansas University) in Magnolia, Arkansas; the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Arkansas and Master's of Agricultural Science at Lincoln University in New Zealand. He received his PhD from Washington State University in Pullman, Washington.

Bill served as an officer in the U. S. navy aboard an LST in the Pacific during World War II. He was involved in 9 invasions, 2 typhoons and constant threats from torpedoes and kamikaze pilots.

In 1951, he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to New Zealand where he met his future wife, Joan Stoddart. They were married in Hot Springs, Arkansas on December 21, 1952. Their first home was in Starkville, Mississippi where Bill was employed by Mississippi State University. From there, the family moved to Artesia, New Mexico and finally to Corvallis, Oregon in 1956 where Bill served as a professor in the Crop Science Department at Oregon State University. He retired in 1985.

A favorite saying to his growing children was "count the day lost when you don't learn something." He enjoyed farming, gardening, travel, golf, hunting, fishing and camping.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; sisters Ida Mae Clark of Millington,

TN and Ethel Rae Fergeson of Hot Springs, AR. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Joan; daughter Jennifer of Coos Bay; sons and their spouses Tim and Terri of Portland, Michael and Jana of Snohomish, WA, Jonathan and Kathleen of Seattle, WA; sister Anne Rodgers of Bellevue, WA; grandchildren Colleen, Ian, Amanda, Madeline, Tyler, Emily, Jacob, Finola and Grace and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Memorial contributions can be made to the McGuire Crop Science Scholarship Fund in care of the OSU Foundation 850 SW 35th Street Corvallis, OR 97333 or to a charity of your choice.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, December 13th at the Episcopal Church of the Good Samaritan in Corvallis. Following the service will be a reception at the church with interment at Oak Lawn Memorial Park at 2:00 pm.

Tribute Wall

KD

“ We are so sorry we cannot attend Bill's funeral service.He was a great friend for so many years, and we loved him dearly.Our family relishes all the memories of visits to the "Pink Palace" in the early days of our friendship, later trips to the farm, neighbourhood gatherings in Crescent valley and summer camping trips at Honeyman and Crane Prairie,especially round the campfire at night where his yarns in a Southern drawl entertained us for hours. We were fortunate to have known him and will certainly miss him, but there will always be the warmth of remembering him for his humanity, his integrity, and his wonderful sense of humor.

Kath and Murray Dawson - December 11, 2008 at 11:15 PM

CB

“ *William McGuire*

C.D. Baugh - December 11, 2008 at 03:59 AM

RF

“ *I'll always remember the friendship my father and mother Wilson & Eleanor Foote had with Bill and Joan all those years at OSU and beyond. I especially remember what a great time we had with the McGuire Family during the Farm Crops camping trips at Honeyman State Park. Bill was always nice to all the young kids.*

Robert W. Foote - December 05, 2008 at 10:24 AM

PB

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you dear Joan...Bill leaves a wonderful legacy of love, learning and family...a life fully and well lived! Pat and Buzz*

Pat Newport and Buzz Berra - December 04, 2008 at 11:40 AM

DO

“ *A colorful man; I am sorry for your loss!*

Dan Orman - December 03, 2008 at 09:02 PM

RC

“ *My beloved Uncle; You are much loved and will be greatly missed.
My prayers are with my sweet aunt, and all my cousins.*

Rebecca Clark - December 02, 2008 at 10:22 AM