



## William L. Adams, "Bill" PhD.

July 20, 2012

William L. "Bill" Adams, PhD., age 80, of Powell, Ohio, died peacefully at Riverside Hospital, in Columbus, Ohio on Friday, July 20, 2012. He is preceded in death by his mother and father Dorothy and Robert Adams, his sister Mary Jacobs and his son Robert Adams. Bill is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Claire; his children: Kathy (Mark) Hall of Norfolk, NE; Judy (John) Adams Foelber of Houston, TX; Tricia (Ray) Kelly of Draper, UT; Mary (Mark) Paquette of Claremore, OK; David Adams, Steve (Gretchen) Adams, Dan (Kristen) Adams, Emily (Allen) Lenko, all of Columbus, OH; Jim (Monica) Adams of Loveland, CO; Tom (Mariela) Adams of Ardsley, NY; his 19 grandchildren and one great-grandchild; his sister Barb Deli of Wheaton, IL; his two brothers: John (Mary) Adams of Fairfax Station, VA and Carl (Marlene) Adams of Eden Prairie, MN; and their families. Bill was born in Gay, MI. He graduated from Michigan Technological University in 1954 with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. He earned a M.S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a PhD in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University where he stayed on as an Assistant Professor. He was involved in Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu and Sigma Nu. Bill was a lifetime member of the IEEE Society and the International Society of Automation (ISA). He served in the United States Army as a Lieutenant. Bill moved his growing family to Columbus, Ohio in 1963 to work at Industrial Nucleonics Corporation (Accuray) where he worked for 30 years as an engineer and eventually served as vice president. This was followed by a position at ABB. Bill was responsible for setting up two

innovative joint ventures in Ireland and Russia. He holds a number of automation, control and instrumentation patents. After retiring in 1994, Dr. Adams continued his passion for solving problems and formed a consulting firm that provided engineering and management services (Adtech). Bill was active in his community including leading the team of lectors and RCIA at St. Joan of Arc Parish in Powell, Ohio. He gave back to others by sharing his wisdom and lessons learned through the Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) and Columbus Tech Angels. He loved education and supported the Columbus Preparatory Academy and the Columbus Arts and Technology Academy by serving on the board of trustees . He was an adventurer-earning his private pilot license and enjoying downhill skiing and sailing. Bill's family will receive friends from 2-4 & 6-8pm. THURSDAY at the RUTHERFORD FUNERAL HOME AT POWELL, 450 West Olentangy St., Powell, OH 43065 (614)-792-1471. (The funeral home is located on W. Olentangy St./Powell Rd./SR 750 ¼ mile east of Sawmill Parkway.) Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated 10:00am. FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2012 at ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC CHURCH, 10700 Liberty Road, Powell, OH 43065. Burial will follow at Resurrection Cemetery, Lewis Center, Ohio. Memorial Contributions in Bill's honor may be made to a charity of your choice or to his son's scholarship fund: The Robert L. Adams Scholarship Fund at Michigan Tech. Contribution envelopes will be available at the funeral home or by giving on-line to: [www.mtu.edu/forest/giving/undergrad-scholarships/](http://www.mtu.edu/forest/giving/undergrad-scholarships/) . Please visit [www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com](http://www.rutherfordfuneralhomes.com) to send a condolence to Bill's family.

# Tribute Wall



“ *William L. Adams, "Bill" PhD.*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *My heart goes out to Claire and her family at this time. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.. This is Claire's friend Joan's daughter.. OX*

**Janet Lee Goss** - November 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Claire, You and I met briefly at one OhioTechAngels evening meeting. I wanted you to know what a kind, smart, and thoughtful man Bill was; I worked with Bill at SCORE and he was always figuring out ways to help the clients. A good man. Sincerely, Carol Clark*

**Carol Clark** - July 30, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Adams family, I'm deeply sorry for your loss.*

**Scott McKinney** - July 27, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *To Claire and family, You are in our thoughts and prayers and will remain so as we remember dear Bill. We think of the wonderful caring person he sure was, we will sll miss him, but if you need us we will be there for you. May God walk with you all as you as you say so long for now to Bill*

**RUTH & WENDELL MCNEW** - July 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TC

“ My deepest condolences to the entire family. Dave is a friend and a former working colleague of mine. I know how close you were to your Dad, and how you will miss him. My sympathy for you and your loss.

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**Tony Clark** - July 26, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the Adams family and friends. Bill has countless friends here in Massachusetts. He has been simply one of the nicest people to work with and know and I have been honored and privileged to do so.

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**Jim Blute** - July 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SC

“ On behalf of the Columbus Chapter of SCORE I convey our deepest sympathies to Bill's family. Bill joined SCORE about 20 years ago and shared his business knowledge and experience with countless aspiring and existing small business entrepreneurs. His personal contribution extended to assisting our office in solving our IT problems, to the extent of recently donating a PC. His contributions and cheerful spirit will be remembered

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**SCORE** - July 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ I've been deeply saddened by Bill's passing. I knew him from the IN and Accuray days, and even though I was not in direct contact with him on a routine basis, his influence and contributions were well know company wide. It was eventually a very pleasant surprise to cross paths with him at SCORE, were Bill had already contributed his time for 17 years when I joined in 2008. Deep condolences to all his family.

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**Mike Hadra** - July 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

GV

“ Please accept my sincere condolences as you grieve the death Dr. Bill. It was honestly a pleasure to meet him during: Dan’s Dj sessions, Volleyball in Hilliard, Jim’s move to Colorado, and of course at the wedding. Please hold all your memories dear, and do share with the children and friends going forward. He was obviously a terrific Husband, Father and Engineer. I do believe that we will all meet again; as I’m sure Bill and Bob are catching up on old times, as we speak. They I’m sure are having a cold one at the “Rusty Bucket” in heaven, or even at the “Fat Tire” brewery in Ft. Collins. Time and distance is of no concern there, after all. May God Bless you and keep you strong during this time. Hugs, Germaine “Germ” Valentine

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**Germaine Valentine** - July 25, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ sleep well, O kindly Mentor; you'll be sorely missed. With fond regards, Jim Spillers

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**Jim Spillers** - July 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ I was priviledged to meet Bill when he was assigned to be my counselor at SCORE. He gave me wise advice that has served me well and he connected me with his daughter Judy who has been an invaluable resource to me in my business. What a wonderful man, so helpful and giving and so proud of his family!

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**Tami Knight** - July 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ My heart breaks for all of you! Your dad was an amazing person. He will be deeply missed. May all your wonderful memories bring you much comfort during this difficult time. Please know that you are in my heart and I am praying for peace and comfort for all of you.

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**Alicia Ruth Brown** - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ I'm so sorry for your loss. Knowing Judy for so long, I knew her father had to be an amazing, wonderful person. I will be thinking of you all during this time and praying for comfort.

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**Bonnie Sheeren** - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ I was deeply saddened with the news of Bill's passing. I knew Bill from Industrial Nucleonics (ABB) as well as St. Joan of Arc church. Bill was a source of inspiration for many and will always be remembered for his positive approach to life, his dedication to his family and the many hours he attended to the needs of his church and God. May God Bless all of you.

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**Karen Hilliker** - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Sorry to hear of the passing of "Dr Bill" I had the opportunity to know Bill through Industrial Nucleonics and Accuray. He taught us all many lessons through the years and help grow not only the company but all of us as men and women. He will be missed

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**Jim Flading** - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dan, We are saddened to here of the loss of your father. Our heart felt condolences go out to you to you and your family.

June and Eric Murnieks - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

HW

“ Claire and family, I am very sorry for your loss. May his soul rest in peace. Harold

Harold Weingartner - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ My most sincere condolences to Claire and to all of Bill's family. As much as I admired Bill in his professional role, I was equally inspired by his commitment to home and family - his incredible ability to give family the same energy that he gave to his work. Bill meant a lot to me in my earlier years at AccuRay and eventually ABB. Bill gave me a chance early in my career to work with the executive staff and to learn much about managing within a high technology organization. I considered him a mentor and learned much from him through his leadership and personal style. He has always provided me good memories of AccuRay and his memory will linger with me for all of my years.

Al Brehl - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ My Deepest Sympathy Claire and Family, Bill will be deeply missed, you had such a wonderful life together. We were always proud to be called your neighbor and friends. Blessings to all... Love Melinda

Melinda Banks, Estero, Florida - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ I have had the privilege of working with Bill for the last 9 years and am deeply saddened by the news of his death. Not only was he incredibly experienced in multiple fields but he also had the time and patience to demonstrate his knowledge and help anyone who needed it. He always had a smile on his face and had something either witty or profound (or both) to say when he met you. My sincerest condolences to his wife and family at this sad time.

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**Debbie Schatzlein** - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ I was at I.N. from '64-72. Knew Bill well and worked with him often. Great guy! Very smart, eager to help, and wonderful jokester. Claire, my sincerest sympathies. I am saddened. Bill

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**Bill Ryan** - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Dear Claire, please accept our deepest sympathies. Our hearts go out to you and your family now and in the times ahead.

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**Jack & Kay Dukes** - July 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Claire, I have admired you and Bill and the love you shared together. He was an amazing man so giving and kind. I will miss seeing him at morning mass with you. You will meet again in the heavenly kingdom!! May you find comfort and peace during this difficult time. Please know that your parish family is lifting you up in prayer through our Masses and Rosaries.

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**Colleen Lewis** - July 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM