



## William J. Mrukowski

May 7, 2012

William J. "Bill" Mrukowski, of Worthington, OH, died peacefully on May 7, 2012, after a valiant battle with cancer. Bill was born in Elyria, OH, on July 26, 1941 to the late Frank and MaryLou Mrukowski. He was voted All-Ohio in football, basketball, and baseball during his playing days at Elyria High School, as a member of the Class of 1959. He was one of the early inductees into the Elyria Sports Hall of Fame. Bill graduated from The Ohio State University with B.S. and M.A. degrees. He was quarterback on Woody Hayes' 1961 National Championship Football team. He represented Ohio State in the East-West Shrine game and the Hula Bowl. He was a grad assistant coach at Ohio State under Woody Hayes. He also coached at Mohawk High School (Sycamore, OH), Norwalk, and Elyria High Schools. After leaving the coaching field he joined Cole-Layer-Trumble Company of Dayton, OH, to begin his business career. He later moved to Columbus and began a lengthy career with Liebert Corporation, where he became Senior Vice-President of Sales. After retiring from Liebert, he became Senior Vice-President of International Sales for Applied Innovation in Dublin, traveling worldwide. Bill was a member of Varsity "O", member of the OSU basketball 6th Man Club, Buckeye Boosters and a Committeeman. He loved supporting the Buckeyes home and away. Every five years he was an integral part of planning and hosting reunions for his 1961 team. Bill loved RVing and enjoyed summers boating and fishing on Lake Erie at their summer home in Vermilion. He was a member of the Circle of Grandparents in the Worthington Schools. Bill was a

long and faithful attendee of Linworth United Methodist Church. Bill is survived by his wife, Linda, married 47 years; sons and daughters-in-law, Bill D. and Tina, Jay and Ellen; four grandchildren, Marissa, Claire, Meredith, and Troy; sister, MaryAnn (Bob) Walker of Elyria; mother-in-law, Millie Nelson Somers; nieces, Sandy Underwood and Sharon Koepp, both of Elyria; nephew, Bob Walker of Maryland. Friends may call from 1-4 and 6-9 p.m. on Friday, May 11, 2012 at RUTHERFORD-CORBIN FUNERAL HOME, 515 High St., Worthington. Family and close friends to gather at the funeral home at 9:15 a.m. Saturday for procession to Walnut Grove Cemetery for a graveside burial service at 9:30 a.m. A Memorial Service and Celebration of Bill's life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Linworth United Methodist Church, 7070 Bent Tree Blvd., Columbus, OH 43235 with a reception in Bill's memory immediately afterwards. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Bill's memory to the Church.

# Tribute Wall



“ *William J. Mrukowski*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Dear Linda I am so sorry for your loss of dear Bill. Oh how I wish I could be at his memorial...to see you..to give a hug. Know you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers, including your darling Mother. Love, Sue*

**Sue Van Dyke** - May 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bill will be dearly missed. He so positively affected our lives and we will never forget him. Eric Ollerman & Dick Ollerman Data Center Systems, Inc.*

**Eric Ollerman** - May 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Linda, You have always been a special person to me. I am so sorry for your loss. God bless you and your family. Gary*

**gary porterfieldL** - May 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Linda, I just learned of Bill's illness and passing via this week's WHS Alumni e-newsletter. Although I never met him, I of course remember Bill's playing days at OSU. Those exploits were certainly not the measure of the man, however, as described so eloquently in the published remembrance. Peace and blessings to you and your family during these difficult days and always.*

**Dick taylor** - May 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Bill and I used to pretend to talk about OSU football as my father, Frederick Crow, also played football at OSU, but in the 1930's. He humored me and it was fun! Jay and Nathaniel both played Worthington Steel baseball together in the olde days. Toby and Bill were both in the Class of 1987 so our paths often crossed. Rest in peace, Bill....

Ted and Linda Crow Beegle - May 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ To Linda and Family. We are sorry for your loss, and would like to extend our sincere condolences. We knew Bill as Liebert Rep's in Los Angeles, and enjoyed working with him. He was always a gentleman and a pleasure to know. Sincerely, Jim Beecher and Nancy Buckner

Jim Beecher - May 12, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ I lost a friend, and a classmate who I grew up with in the neighborhood, and played sports with Bill at Elyria High. I will miss my friend.

Jim Guest - May 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ We are so sad for your family and want you to know that we are holding all of you close within our hearts and prayers. What a wonderful man Bill was and what a valiant fight he made during his illness. Life goes so fast....but Bill made the best of it. Please know that we share deeply in your sorrow.

Larry and Leslie Snyder - May 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Linda, Carl Wick of our WHS 1956 Class circulated the obituary of your husband Bill. I do recall his football years at OSU. This must be a most difficult time for you and your family. May you discover anew strength and comfort in the Gospel message. I remember fondly your father from my years at Worthington. Cherish all your grateful memories from over the years.

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**Jim Bailey** - May 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Linda, my heart goes out to you and your family. Bill was such a great guy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless

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**Bob Stock** - May 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I was a classmate of Bill's. We knew each other, but didn't run in the same circles. I do know that he was always a nice guy and did very well. My sympathies to his family and friends. Jane Hochenedel Hutson, EHS, 1959

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**Jane Hutson** - May 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Jay, I'am sorry to here of the passing of your dad, my condolences to you and your family.

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**Bob Croft Sr.** - May 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ I am so sorry to hear of the passing of Bill. We were classmates at EHS. Bill was a very nice and kind person. He loved to laugh, I'll never forget his smile. He was an excellent athlete. He will be missed by many. God Bless your family. I am certain God was waiting to take his hand and lead him home. Love to All Connie Kerner

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**Connie (King) Kerner** - May 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Linda and family, Sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. He always was welcoming to us no matter what the situation. He will be missed in section 232. - Patty and Pete

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**Pete Hohlbein** - May 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Linda, Bill jr, Jay and the extended Mrukowski family - I am so sorry to hear the news of Bill Sr.'s passing. I will always remember fondly my time spent in the Mrukowski house in Worthington as well as Gulf Shores and Vermillon Ohio and the graciousness of both Bill Sr. and Linda in every interaction I had with them. I will remember the OSU football games in which tickets were made available for me to attend (especially in the seasons the Buckeyes weren't doing so well!). All great memories that I still cherish to this day. Although I will not be able to make it to the services in person this weekend in Worthington, I will be there in spirit. Prayers to the Mrukowski family during this very difficult time. Drew & Jill

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**Drew and Jill Dawson** - May 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ To the Mrukowski family: I am so sorry for your loss. Bill was very instrumental in my 30 year career with Liebert that started in internal sales in the early 80's to motivating me to go external sales office in Miami and now 30 years later still selling Liebert in Nash. TN..... Thank you Bill for being my leader and motivator in sales.

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**Bob Walick** - May 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Linda - so sorry for your loss. With our names so close Bill and I wee always in the same homeroom in High school. Always enjoyed reconnecting with you two at our reunions. We'll all miss him and think of you often. Alan Murphy EHS class of '59

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**Alan Murphy** - May 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Linda, I am so sorry to learn of Bill's passing. Please know that you have our deepest sympathies and that you and your family are in our prayers. Chris and Deb Caudill

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**Chris Caudill** - May 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ I was shocked and saddened hearing about the death of my good friend Bill. Then much joy of the great memories I lived with him lifted my spirits. He was one of my best friends throughout high school. We really lived a lot of life together playing EHS basketball, football & baseball. A lot of our free time was hanging out together as well. Our teams were always in the top rating in the state in all our sports and a big reason was Bill carried us on his shoulders. I'm sure he gave his cancer a "full court press" and we are comforted that he is no longer in pain. If there are sports teams in Heaven (and I'm sure there are) Bill will be leading his to victory. I have been blessed to know my special friend and he will be missed, but the memories will live on. Praying for peace, strength & comfort for his wonderful wife Linda & family. Brian & Marg Hays, EHS 1959 "Go Pioneers"

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**Brian & Marg Hays, EHS 1959, "Go Pioneers"** - May 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

WS

“ Condolences to the family. Mruk - you will be missed.

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**Will Sander** - May 10, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DR

“ Linda-Only those of us married for so many years can realize how painful it must be to lose one's life partner. We remember that you and Bill were one of the rare couples who deeply loved each other. Certainly that will never change. Our prayers are with you during this time, as you say goodbye but know you will be together again. Fondly, Lesley and Danny

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**Danny and Lesley Rife** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BC

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Carrie and I send our condolences and your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

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**Bob Croft and Carrie Croft** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ My deepest condolences to out to Linda and her family on their loss. From one "Grandparent" to another in the Circle.

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**Joan Van De Weghe** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Mrukowski FAmily, I was just starting my career with Liebert during Bill's last couple of years with Liebert but in that short time I have never known a more powerful motivator or a more charismatic leader. My father who passed in 1999 thought Bill Mrukowski was the best sales leader he had every worked with. Given the little time I was around Bill and the impression he made on myself and my father in that time, I know the Mrukowski family is devastated. I am so sorry for your lose. Mark Gwyn

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**Mark Gwyn** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

PD

“ Dear Linda: With all my heart I want to be there for Bill's memorial service but, sadly, it's not possible. Do know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers as you celebrate Bill's remarkable life. I will always remember hearing his name over the radio when I still lived in Worthington as he led the Buckeyes to victory time and time again. May you find comfort in the love and caring of so many family, friends and fans, including me! Love, Pam

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**Pamela Harman Daugavietis** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JN

“ Dear Linda & Family, We were so sorry to hear of Bill Srs. passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time. We always had so much fun with you and your family when we got together. Bill Srs. generosity and sense of fun will be remembered for a long time to come. With Love, David, Janet, Ryan and Haley

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**Janet & David Nardella** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CM

“ Dear Linda & Family, You have all been in my thoughts and prayers daily. I will continue to be inspired by Bill's amazing faith for the Lord and love of his family & community. I wish I could be with you at this time, but please accept my condolences and prayers.

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**Campbell Minister** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Bill & Tina, We are so sorry for your loss. Our prayers are with you and your entire family as you mourn and remember your father. May the knowledge that he was welcomed safely in Jesus arms and is experiencing Heaven right now bring you peace.

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**Tim & Tricia McConnell** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Dear Family & Loved Ones - my deepest condolences. Bill will always be remembered fondly in my heart. I was and am, deeply moved to have known him. Peace to you Bill in your much earned heavenly Rose Bowl.

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**Dave Crago** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Jay - So sorry to hear about the loss of your father. I've seen the devastating affects of cancer and know how much it hurts to watch the slow decline of a close family member over time. God willing he's in a better place now and his suffering and pain has ended. Keep his memory and influence close to your heart and try to use it as a source of inspiration for your own life. If you need anything at all, please don't hesitate to reach out. I'll keep you and your family in my prayers. -Todd

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**Todd Briggs** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Condolences to the Mrukowski family on your loss. Whenever I think of Bill I remember a man who was always happy to see you no matter the circumstance. He would always greet me with "Stevie boy how ya doin!?" and a big smile. Bill will be missed by many and not forgotten by me. Regards, Steve Sillato

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**Steve Sillato** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KP

“ I lived with Bill at Park Hall at OSU and had many card games with him. When we we're studying, of course. My roommate, Dave Petrigan had a home on the Lagoons in Vermilion right across from Bill and we'd throw the football across the water. He was a fun guy and I know he'll be missed. Just realized we had the same birthday...July 26. Leos are leaders.

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**Ken Polyak** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ I was so sorry to hear about Bill. Ken Meyers and Jim Davidson have been keeping me updated. I have been a Liebert agent since 1979 and Bill was the first person I met at Liebert. He picked me at the airport and I knew immediately that Liebert was a first class company because he certainly was. He had a way of making you want sell. He will be missed. Louis Schweizer - New Orleans, La.

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**Louis Schweizer, Jr.** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Linda and Family...We just wanted to express that our hearts are broken over Bill's passing! Our hearts are also broken for the loss that you and your family has endured! Bill was one of the truly unforgettable unique people in my life and his passing will leave a big void! However, I spent last night and a lot of time today reflecting (and will continue to reflect!) on so many wonderful times we all had with Bill that will never be forgotten! Our business success is a direct result of what Bill did for me and my family and that will always be remembered! Look forward to being with you later this week! Prayers and love to you and yours! Jim (and Karen) Davidson & family

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**Jim Davidson and Family** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

VM

“ To Jay and your family. I will keep you and your family in my prayers during this time of sadness. Seek God for the ultimate comfort. He will always be there for you. Peace be with you.

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**Victor McComas** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Linda, So sorry to hear of Bill's death. We've been out of touch for many years but I always credited Bill for my success as a Kiebert Rep. Please accept my and Bernie's sincere condolences. I just had my second infusion of chemo for Lymphoma cancer so won't make it to Columbus but know that we will be praying for God's grace during these trying days. Sincerely, Bud Hedrick

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**Bud Hedrick** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Linda, I just received the notice today of Bill's death. I am so sorry. I pray that your loving family and friends will surround you at this difficult time. Suzy

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**Suzy Peters** - May 09, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He was a great, and he was also a pretty darn good football player.

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**Tim May** - May 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

KF

“ To: Mrs. Mrukowski, Jay, Bill, Ellen, Tina and the entire Mrukowski family- I am so profoundly sorry to learn of Mr. Mrukowski's passing. Mr. Mrukowski was a role model for me to aspire to because he showed how to live a life full of purpose, accomplishment and empathy for others through all ages and phases. He created a tremendous legacy in athletics and business but he also created an even better family. I hope that time passage and great memories of a life well-lived will soon outweigh the grief you all feel and we all share. May God's Love Be With You All. Kurt Feldmann Cincinnati, Ohio

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**Kurt Feldmann** - May 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ So sorry for your loss. Bill was a gifted person in many ways. May God watch over your family during this difficult time. Jack Strauss  
EHS '59

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**Jack Strauss** - May 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ Truly one of my heroes growing up in Elyria. "Mruk" was an outstanding athlete and a great guy. As a trustee on the Elyria Sports Hall of Fame, it was an honor when he attended our annual banquet. Rest in Peace No. 44.

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**Tim Gebhardt** - May 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ Linda and Family, We were saddened by the news of Bill's passing. We are praying for your family that you may find some comfort in the fact that he is no longer feeling pain. He was one of our favorite "tent people" during the garage sales at church. He will certainly be missed. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

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**Tim & Sara Mitchell** - May 08, 2012 at 12:00 AM