



## William Trotter

August 12, 1934 - March 24, 2018

William Cyrus “Bill” Trotter died peacefully on Saturday, March 24th in Powell, OH after a long battle with Alzheimer’s disease. He was 83. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Elizabeth “Betty” Trotter; daughters Cathryn Story (Douglas) and Carol Stewart; grandchildren Matthew Story (Beth), Daniel Story, Aislinn Gerlach (Manoel) and William Stewart; and great-grandchildren Hannah Story and Caleb Gerlach. William was preceded in death by his brother James Trotter, sister Genevieve Cummings, and son Christopher Trotter. Bill was born August 12, 1934, in Omaha, Nebraska, to Martha and Cyrus Trotter. As a young boy, Bill loved baseball and spent many hours on the field and played the game through high school in Omaha. Bill began college studies in chemical engineering at Rice University, where he also played varsity baseball. He later transferred to Northwestern University and, while still in school, married his high school sweetheart, Betty. Bill earned a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering in 1958 and went to work for the Quaker Oats Company. During his 40-year career with the Quaker Oats Company, Bill worked his way from Chemical Plant Manager in Omaha to Manager of Chemical Division Operations and then to Vice President of Chemical Division Operations at the Chicago headquarters office. He then moved into other corporate departments, serving as Vice President of Research and Development, Vice President New Areas–US Foods, President of Pritikin, President of Asia-Pacific, and President of Development–International Food Products. Throughout his career, he travelled extensively

through Europe, Asia, Australia, South America, and Africa. Outside of work, Bill was an involved parent and husband, who supported the needs and dreams of his family while expecting the best of them at the same time. Bill enjoyed baseball and softball, bowling, golf, and bridge. He was a loyal fan of the Chicago Cubs and Blackhawks. He was a faithful member of the local United Methodist Church in every town he lived in, serving as Sunday School teacher, Chair of the Administrative Board, and on several building committees. Bill also gave many years of service as a board member for ChildServ Homes for Children in Chicago and Good Shepard Hospital in Barrington, Illinois. Please join the family for a memorial service on Wednesday, March 28th at 4:00pm at Powell United Methodist Church, 825 E Olentangy St, Powell, OH. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to the Alzheimer's Association, [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org). The family would especially like to thank the staff of Ganzhorn Suites for the care, compassion, and attention given to Bill during the past two years. Condolence may be made to the family at [www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com](http://www.rutherfordfuneralhome.com)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

MAR 28. 4:00 PM (ET)

Powell United Methodist Church  
825 East Olentangy Street  
Powell, OH 43065  
<http://www.powellumc.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Trotter*

January 28, 2023 at 10:24 AM



“ *Mildred and I would like to add that Bill was also a good neighbor and friend and a good golfer. We are grateful that Bill, Betty and family have shared a part of their lives w/ us  
Marion & Mildred Culpepper.*

Marion Culpepper - March 29, 2018 at 09:55 AM



“ *I have so many wonderful memories of Bill and Betty from my days as a young married woman. I married one of Bill's best friends - Don Smith. We shared many dinners, picnics, bridge nights, and weekend trips. When Chris, Cathy and Carol were born into the Trotter family I think we filled a new roll of honorary Aunt and Uncle. The last time I actually spent time with Bill and Betty we enjoyed lunch along with Ron Ruh another high school buddy. It had been years since we had last seen each other and Don had died but we just fell into that comfortable way of visiting that often goes with knowing someone very well. We did keep in touch through the exchange of cards every Christmas. I love Bill and Betty and their devotion to one another is an example for couples everywhere. Rest in peace Bill. And Betty - courage. The road of grief you are now walking can only make you stronger.  
With Affection  
Kay Smith*

kay smith - March 28, 2018 at 04:57 PM

AD

“ *All the Cummings family in Omaha and Denver purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of William Trotter.*



---

**All the Cummings family in Omaha and Denver** - March 28, 2018 at 08:01 AM

MJ

“ *I first met Bill and his family in the late 1960's. My future wife Susan was Betty's sister. They invited us to their home in Arlington Heights many times and the entire Trotter family attended our wedding in Chicago in 1971.*

*Bill and I had a shared interest in golf. He arranged some golf outings in Illinois and in Georgia. I arranged some when he and Betty visited us in Hawaii. I've added a photo of them with my daughter and me during their visit to Hawaii in 2010.*

*Bill and Betty were always gracious hosts and I have fond memories of our visits. My family had an especially memorable visit around Christmas in 1987. I also appreciate their support during Susan's illness.*

*Michael Jones*

---

**Michael Jones** - March 27, 2018 at 08:32 PM

JT

“ I like to think Uncle Bill has found a joyful rest now. While he was blessed with much, he also gave much. He will always be my favorite uncle, whom I deeply respected. Both Uncle Bill and Aunt Betty helped my side of the family many times and didn't hesitate to help in ways that really meant the most to me. He helped me appreciate my father, his older brother, even more as we went through my father's things.

*I pray that the time at the memorial service is both filled with tears of joy as well as good memories and stories, knowing that Uncle Bill is able to rest in peace and find a new venture in heaven where he can thrive again. My condolences to everyone.*

---

**Jim Chow Trotter** - March 27, 2018 at 06:31 PM

JT

“ 3 files added to the album Uncle Bill



---

**Jim Chow Trotter** - March 27, 2018 at 04:58 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Trotter.



---

March 27, 2018 at 09:26 AM

AJ

“ Dear Family,  
I am so sorry for your loss, after reading this obituary i wanted to share an encouraging thought with you from the bible. This scripture at (Revelations 21:3,4) tells us of a future promise that god has given us. “With that I heard a loud voice from the throne say: “Look! The tent of God is with mankind, and he will reside with them, and they will be his people. And God himself will be with them. And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away.” So isnt that a nice thought, that one day there wont be anymore death, crying, suffering, or pain. What a time to look forward too. I send my condolences to your family.

---

**Allie Jarvie** - March 27, 2018 at 07:39 AM

MJ

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



---

**Michael Jones** - March 26, 2018 at 03:56 PM