



William LaRochelle

JUL 12, 1926 - APR 29, 2011



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William LaRoche

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William (Bill) Donald LaRoche was born in Windsor Ontario on July 12, 1926 to Lawrence and Henrietta LaRoche. He passed away peacefully on April 29, 2011 at the age of 84 after a long battle with an aging body. Bill is survived by his dear sister Inez Ricamore and his faithful brother Roy LaRoche, his children Susan (LaRoche) Fobelli (Bob), John LaRoche (Beth) and Duffy LaRoche. He will be missed by his grandchildren Kevin James Devlin, Kirsten Marie Devlin, Rachel Ann Fobelli and Juliette Whitney LaRoche. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews, his former wife and fellow Olympic teammate Donna Bird, friends and loyal patients. Bill was predeceased by his loving parents and his brother Ken LaRoche. At an early age Bill showed a zest for life, playing the piano while his father fiddled to French Canadian folk songs. He excelled in school and won several awards for track and field, boxing and various other sports. Eventually Bill went on to represent Canada in the 1948 London Olympics in track and field where he competed in the hurdles and the 4 x 4 men's relay. After traveling the world he continued his education at the University of Western Ontario and at the University of Ottawa University (1947-50). While at Ottawa he played football for the Ottawa Roughriders and then went on to play for the Winnipeg Blue bombers both professional Canadian football teams. Later Bill decided to pursue the field of medicine; he attended the University of Manitoba where he received a doctorate in medicine in 1959. He had started a family at this time and after graduation decided to set up his first practice in Stanley, North Dakota where he was a caring country doctor for about five years. Eventually he chose to pursue his dream and moved to California. He set up a clinic in San Mateo, California on Polhemus Drive where he practiced medicine for many years before downsizing his practice and moving to Laurel Street in San Carlos. Even in the last year of his life Dr. Bill was helping his fellow roommate manage his infirmities in the nursing home where he resided. Bill



Obituary

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loved medicine, music and sports and most of all life. He was compassionate and had a great sense of humor. He was a faithful follower of Jesus Christ and though he battled through the ups and downs of life choices, he ended well and went gently into the night and into the arms of his Lord. A light has gone out on earth, but a star is born in heaven. Isaiah 40:31 In Lieu of flowers a tax deductible donation can be made toward the "Dr. William LaRochelle Sportsmanship Award Fund". This award will be given yearly to a high school student that displays sportsmanship on and off the field. Please send donations c/o Alpha Beacon Christian School, 644 Spar Drive, Redwood City, California 94065.



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

Rest in peace##imported-begin##Brian##imported-end##

May 7 at 2:06 PM



Anonymous posted:

Have lots of good memories of Bill! He was a sweet, kind man and a wonderful dad. Rest in Peace!
Thinking bout you Susan!!!Love You,Susan##imported-begin##Susan Styer##imported-end##

May 6 at 11:49 AM



Anonymous posted:

Dear LaRochelle, Fobelli, Devlin and Bird families;We would like to express our sympathy for your loss. I remember Dr. Bill as a gentle man who loved to sing.We wish we could rally with you at this time to share your emotions and memories. We send our love and prayers to you.....Much love,Mike, Liz, Abby and Lily Bussell##imported-begin##Bussell Family##imported-end##

May 6 at 9:44 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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