

## *Remember Me*

Don't remember me with sadness,  
Don't remember me with tears,  
Remember all the laughter,  
We've shared throughout the years.

Now I am contented  
That my life it was worthwhile,  
Knowing as I passed along the way  
I made somebody smile.  
When you are walking down the street  
And you've got me on your mind,  
I'm walking in your footsteps  
Only half a step behind.  
So please don't be unhappy  
Just because I'm out of sight,  
Remember that I'm with you  
Each morning, noon and night.



*Harrisburg*  
FUNERAL & CREMATION

## *Celebration of Life* **William Francis Bateman**

September 2, 1950 — September 25, 2023



Tuesday, October 3, 2023  
Visitation: 4:00 PM  
Celebration of Life: 5:00 PM

Harrisburg Funeral & Cremation  
3840 NC Hwy 49S  
Harrisburg, NC 28075

## Obituary

William Francis Bateman, known affectionately as Bill, passed away on September 25, 2023, at his home in Concord, NC. He was born on September 2, 1950, in Columbia, NC. Bill led a remarkable life as a painter, leaving behind a colorful legacy not just in the paint on residential and commercial properties but also in the hearts of all those who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Bill was more than just a skilled painter; he had an infectious personality that could light up any room. He was known for his incredible generosity and willingness to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. Whether it was giving someone the shirt off his back or expressing gratitude for even the smallest gestures of kindness, Bill's genuine appreciation for others was truly remarkable. Known for his quick wit and sense of humor, Bill had a knack for making others smile. Even during challenging times, he used humor as a coping mechanism, bringing lightheartedness into the lives of those around him. His infectious laughter filled rooms and lifted spirits wherever he went.

One of Bill's greatest joys in life was Carolina Shag dancing. Not only did he teach the dance to both children and adults, but he also competed in various competitions himself. For 11.5 years, Bill and his life partner Fran Taylor selflessly devoted his time to teaching the Junior Shaggers, never asking for any payment from the children he mentored. His love for dancing was best summed up by his motto: "practice doesn't make perfect, perfect practice makes perfect." Through dance, Bill found joy and brought joy to others. Other hobbies he enjoyed were sailing on Lake Norman and playing golf with his buddies.

Despite facing challenges early in life, Bill overcame his upbringing and lived life to its fullest. He cherished every moment and embraced every opportunity that came his way. His indomitable spirit inspired those around him to appreciate life's blessings and live with enthusiasm.

Bill leaves behind a loving partner, Fran Taylor, who journeyed through life by his side. Their shared experiences and unbreakable bond were a testament to their deep love and commitment.

In addition to Fran, Bill is survived by cherished memories held close by many special friends whose lives he touched in meaningful ways. He was also preceded in death by his parents, William and Pauline Bateman, who undoubtedly shaped the man he became.

Bill's passing leaves a void that cannot be filled. However, his timeless spirit will continue to inspire those who had the privilege of knowing him. Let us remember him for the love he shared, the joy he brought, and the paintbrush he wielded with skill and passion.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations be made in Bill's memory to The Shaggers Hall of Fame Foundation (PO Box 4070 North Myrtle Beach, SC 29597). This would be a fitting tribute to a man who dedicated so much of his life to uplifting others through dance and kindness.

To know Bill Bateman was to know a larger-than-life character whose presence brightened countless lives. The impact he made will forever remain etched in our hearts, serving as a reminder of what it truly means to live a life filled with love, generosity, and zest. May his soul find eternal peace as we hold onto precious memories that will never fade.

## Order of Service

Welcome		Phil Goodman
Scripture Reading	Psalm 149:3 John 3:16	
Prayer		Phil Goodman
Music	<i>The Lord's Prayer</i>	Dino Kartsonaskis
Message		Phil Goodman
Music	<i>I've Just Seen Jesus</i>	Larnelle Harris & Sandi Patti
Sharing of Memories		Friends of Bill
Closing Prayer		Phil Goodman
Recessional	<i>Hallelujah Chorus</i>	Mormon Tabernacle Choir

*Let them praise his name in the dance: let them sing praises unto him with the timbrel and harp. – Psalm 149:3*

