



## William Franklin Myers

March 19, 1934 - September 30, 2024

William Franklin “Bill” Myers, of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, died September 30, 2024 at the age of 90.

He is survived by his spouse and friend, Masahiro Kasai, of Chicago.

Retiring from a teaching career at the College of DuPage in 1994, he maintained homes in both Glen Ellyn and Continental, Ohio, where he made it a pastime to restore the family house. In addition to his years at the College of DuPage, he found teaching posts on other continents and as head of the English Department at Hinsdale Township High School in Illinois.

Born to Gaylord W. Myers and Janet Edwards Myers of Continental, Ohio, Bill attended Sugar Creek Township High School in Vaughnsville, Ohio; Ohio Wesleyan University in Delaware, Ohio; and Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.

He had two brothers, Charles Gaylord Myers and John Edwards Myers, both of whom are deceased. Still surviving are a nephew, Daniel Gaylord Myers of Cave Creek, Arizona, and a niece Nancy Myers Gotsch of Archer, Florida, as well as eight great-nephews and nieces.

Donations in Bill’s memory may be made to any of the various organization

dear to his heart over the passing years: the Chicago Opera Theater, the Chicago Architecture Center, Chicago Prime Timers, the University Club of Chicago, the Theatre of Western Springs (Western Springs, IL), Ohio Wesleyan University (Delaware, OH), the Putnam County Historical Society (Kalida, OH), Grace Episcopal Church (Hinsdale, IL) or the Continental United Methodist Church of Continental, OH.

A celebration of life Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 5:00PM at Grace Episcopal Church, 120 E First St, Hinsdale IL 60521.

Interment Saturday, April 5, 2025 at 11:00AM at Sugar Ridge Cemetery, Leipsic OH.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-370-2959 or [www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com](http://www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR 3. 5:00 PM (CT)

Grace Episcopal Church  
120 East First Street  
Hinsdale, IL 60521  
<https://www.gracehinsdale.org/>

## Burial of Cremated Remains

APR 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Sugar Ridge Cemetery  
5411-5489 East Main Street  
Leipsic , OH 45856

# Tribute Wall

MT

“ *Morayo Akande (Sue Thomas) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Franklin Myers.*

Morayo Akande (Sue Thomas) - April 03, 2025 at 08:34 AM

MT

“ *Morayo Akande (Sue Thomas) purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of William Franklin Myers.*



Morayo Akande (Sue Thomas) - April 03, 2025 at 08:34 AM

KH

“ *Bill was a beloved teacher at Hinsdale High School when I was a student from 1960 to 1964. He is one of the teachers I never forgot. He always walked the halls with that big smile on his face. What a great teacher!*  
*50 years later, I moved into a condo in Glen Ellyn to find out that Bill was my new neighbor living across the hall from me. We had so much fun looking at my old year books. He remembered so many of my classmates. He could even remember what subject he taught them and where they sat in his classroom. What a truly amazing man he was. I was blessed to have him as a friend in my adult years. He is so missed by so many. Karen Harbour*

Karen Harbour - April 02, 2025 at 07:24 PM

VN

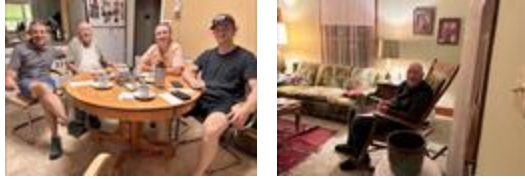
“ *Bill, Guillermo, I will always remember him as a kind and gentle man, who showed genuine interest in what you were all about and always empathetic in every way.*

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**Vincent R. Narea** - March 06, 2025 at 08:11 AM

KS

“ *2 files added to the album Bill Myers Photos*



**Kathy Sager** - March 03, 2025 at 02:05 PM

TW

“ I knew Bill about 15 years before his passing. He was the penultimate scholar and gentleman. I met him at a social dinner, we chatted about theatre; he said he'd like to take me to a symphony concert, and dinner before at the University Club. He was always chivalrous and delightful. Within a couple years I retired and moved to the Southwest, then started to do rather well in life, mainly from choice investments. (Early life had been a struggle, due to a plurality of misfortunes.) I think Bill felt/knew this early on in our friendship, I now guess. I visited Chicago on several occasions during my retirement, and Bill always invited me to theatre or a show, most typically the Joffrey Ballet. Once I happened to look back from our seats in the orchestra section, and there I saw his husband Masahiro sitting a few rows back. I then figured out the protocol: Masahiro and Bill would normally sit together, but when I came, they got an extra ticket for Masahiro, and I sat with Bill. A couple times Bill and Masahiro visited me at my home in Albuquerque, incident to Santa Fe Opera visits in August, and once visited me at my home in Palm Springs, incident to an LA opera event. I also most enjoyed attending Chicago theatre performances with Masahiro, incident to his Jeff Committee work during my Chicago visits. During retirement, over time, I ended up being open with Bill re my (good) investments, in time he reciprocated on this occasionally. At one point he volunteered that he had been donating something like 200k/yr to his alma mater, Ohio Wesleyan University. I thought what a wonderful thing to do! So many students benefiting from Bill's wonderful generosity. A few weeks before Bill died he called me. He sounded good/strong. He inquired if I was doing OK financially, I said yes. He did mention, unrelated, that he was 90 and probably was near his end. Afterward I figured out he was making sure "his people" were gonna be OK after he departed. What a guy! I regret not know Bill much earlier in life, I needed a mentor and Bill would have been a great one. We miss you, Bill!!!

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Tom Williams - March 03, 2025 at 01:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Team Inclusive Funeral Care** - February 22, 2025 at 12:05 PM

BB

“ I met Bill years ago in some connection with being Chicago Architecture Center river docents and we became sometime friends throughout the years and especially enjoyed seeing each other at Shakespeare plays. He was a so smart, so knowledgeable about theater and books, and I wondered recently why his FB posts had dropped off. Now I know. I celebrate him and will miss him...

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**Barbara Butz** - January 13, 2025 at 01:07 PM

JB

“ When I was a docent in training at the Chicago Architecture Foundation (now, Center) in 1998, Bill was my sponsor. We became friends immediately, bonding over theatre and books (and architecture). Bill's humor, intellect, and generosity of spirit were a joy. I was fortunate to have him as part of my life for so many years. I'll miss our occasional lunches and seeing him at CAC. He was really quite special. Jane Buckwalter

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**JANE BUCKWALTER** - January 04, 2025 at 10:17 AM

DG

“ *Bill was a Chicago Architecture Foundation Docent for over 25 years and he and I were classmates in the Docent class of 1994. He was a mentor to many docents over the years and I always enjoyed seeing Bill at CSO and the Joffrey Ballet. Bill was an enthusiastic participant in many docent trips. I will miss meeting up with him and am sorry to just hear of his passing.*

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**Donna Gabanski** - January 03, 2025 at 04:37 PM

 Jill  
Hughes

“ *2 files added to the album Bill in Michigan*



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**Jill Hughes** - December 09, 2024 at 09:47 AM

JV

“His life was gentle and the elements so mixed in him that nature might stand and say to all the world. This was a man.” Shakespeare

*These words resonated with me for two men in my life, my dad and Bill.*

*I met Bill in Oaxaca in about 2011 when we shared the same Mexican family homestay. Over the years my husband & I shared time in annual Oaxacan stays, plus had the joy of visiting Bill in three of his US homes; Continental, the lake house & Glen Ellyn. Bill was authentic and a man of integrity. He was exceptionally generous, fun, compassionate, intelligent and honourable.*

*The emotional tsunami of grief that comes from Bill's passing will hopefully be balanced by the amount of light Bill brought into this world. Sincere condolences to his family and loved ones, Jo-Anne & Terry Vandierendonck, Canada*

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**Jo-Anne Vandierendonck** - November 08, 2024 at 10:37 AM

KO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Karen L Donaldson, Continental OH** - October 28, 2024 at 11:59 AM

KO

“ Bill came back to Continental to view the April 8, 2024 eclipse. He walked across the street from his home in Continental to have lunch at our church's community Eclipse lunch. He had an opportunity to visit with many that day including my husband who is a distant relative. They talked about the Myer-Fortman relatives and hoped to meet up again to share memories of those long gone. Larry enjoyed learning about his grandparents and others in the family. Bill was a joy to be around!

Karen L Donaldson, Continental OH - October 28, 2024 at 11:55 AM

DS

“ 1 file added to the album Bill Myers Photos



Dr. Alice Faye Singleton - October 28, 2024 at 08:27 AM

DS

“ 7 files added to the album Bill Myers Photos



Dr. Alice Faye Singleton - October 21, 2024 at 12:24 PM

MS

“ I used to meet I'll at the train station in Glen Ellyn when we were heading down to Chicago. We also shared stories n the halls of COD where I taught nursing and he taught English. He was a dear and gentle soul and always had interesting stories to tell. May his walk on Spirit Road be filled with Light and Peace. Mary Gayle Floden-Selfridge

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**Mary Gayle Selfridge** - October 20, 2024 at 04:57 PM

DS

“ My first encounter with Bill Myers was in 1988, when I joined Homer Swander’s TIE/ETE group. Since that time, we had been in the program simultaneously an additional 8 times, the last time being in 2006. The 9 summer contacts with Bill consistently revealed the same descriptions of him: catholic in tastes/interests/ knowledge/pursuits; kind; with a sense of humor.

Since the end of the TIE/ETE programs (2007), particularly during the last few years, Bill and I had been in almost daily e-mail correspondence. Our wide range of subjects included travel, operas, films, theatre, art, ballet--with only occasional references to politics. Not limiting his cultural activities to Chicago, Bill traveled internationally and within the US, in order to attend artistic events. Recent experiences included

1. Operas and Oratorios (La Rondine (Met in HD), Tosca and Cosi fan Tutte at ROH, All-Black La Boheme at Florentine Opera; Oratorio Elijah
2. Films (Chimes at Midnight (1965), Wicked Little Letters (2023), Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence (1983).
3. Theatre –Shakespeare, Oscar Wilde, Stoppard
4. Art: John-Michel Basquiat (Dos Cabezas) and Pablo Picasso (though he wondered whether Pablo was moody).
5. Ballet (most recently, the Joffrey Ballet’s Swedish-style Midsummer Night’s Dream.

Himself an artist, Bill had a lovely piano, which he played.

Bill’s fervor about life lasted until what would be his final days. In June, he embarked on a Rhine River Cruise, book-ended by days in London. While in London, he visited the British Museum and saw 2 operas at the Royal Opera House. From London, via Eurostar, he traveled to Amsterdam, where his cruise began. He enjoyed seeing the real Rhine River Dragon Rock, the site where Wagner’s fictional hero, Siegfried, slew the dragon Fafnir

I shall miss our stimulating e-mail exchanges. I learned a lot from him and appreciated his kindness and wit. My condolences extend to Masahiro Kasai, whom I met (briefly) during the 1990 TIE course.

Signed: Dr. Alice Faye Singleton of Los Angeles, California  
10/20/24

**Dr. Alice Faye Singleton** - October 20, 2024 at 09:55 AM

TF

“ *I was so sorry to hear this news. Such a kind and wise and generous man. I arrived at College of DuPage after Bill had retired, but fortunately, got to know him via college events and always stayed in touch.*

**Tom Fate** - October 18, 2024 at 12:44 PM

KS

“ *1 file added to the album Bill Myers Photos*



**Kathy Sager** - October 14, 2024 at 11:04 PM

KS

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



**Kathy Sager** - October 14, 2024 at 10:41 PM

JS

“ We were very sad to receive the news of Bills passing. Our family fondly referred to him as "Uncle Bill". He was my father's Ohio Wesleyan fraternity brother and a long time family friend. He was with my daughter when she took her first steps as a toddler. He went with us as our family took a new ambulance vehicle to Pakistan from England. Such an adventure. When I went out to Chicago in the late 80s to attend Northwestern Medical school, my wife and I stayed with Bill for a couple months while looking for an apartment. It was one of our fondest times together with such a gracious and generous man. His humor and wit was so contagious. Our last time together was touring Ohio and all of his favorite places, with my father, exactly a year ago. We are so blessed to have had that last wonderful time together and to have shared time and place with him during our lives. You will be dearly missed, Uncle Bill.

*John and Kathy Sager  
Ashland, Oregon*

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**john L Sager** - October 14, 2024 at 10:34 PM

DP

*I am posting this information in as many places as I can find—I don't see my previous remembrance about Bill on this site, so assume there is more than one:*

*The date of the memorial service has changed to Thursday, April 3, at 5:00 PM at Grace Episcopal Church in Hinsdale, 120 E First Street, Hinsdale, IL. His ashes will be brought to Sugar Ridge Cemetery in Leipsic, Ohio, on Saturday, April 5, and buried, with a ceremony at 11:00 AM at the cemetery.*

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**David Parrent** - January 24, 2025 at 02:03 PM

MR

“ Bill was a friend and colleague of mine at COD and TWS. From my very first year the in 1968 until we retired, he represented an ideal -- students, fellow faculty and all who ever met him or got to know him loved him for his gracious gentlemanliness, he aura of good humor, fun wit, and formidable academic and teaching prowess. His loss evokes deep seated emotions or fondness, love, and appreciation. An exemplar of God's love.

Marion J. Reis - October 14, 2024 at 12:40 PM

 Connie Howard

“ I knew Bill from College of DuPage. When I started in the late '80's at the College, in the Theatre Department, Bill was a big source of encouragement, along with Jodie Briggs. He made me feel welcome and valuable - as he did with everyone. My very best wishes to his family and friends. I'm so fortunate to have known him then. "May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest" Hamlet - Connie Canaday Howard

Connie Howard - October 09, 2024 at 05:26 PM

GB

“ I used to see Bill downtown Glen Ellyn at starbucks . He always had something to say and had a witty sense of humor

grant Bell - October 09, 2024 at 04:07 PM

DP

Grant, I believe your dad and you joined us on a bicycle camping trip to Wisconsin when you were a boy?

David Parrent - January 24, 2025 at 02:05 PM

CC

“ To all of Bills loved ones,  
We are sad to hear this news about our friend Bill. His friendship with our parents, Mel and Esther, filtered down to us. Our family has grown to 90 members now and they all know ‘Bill from the lake’, a friend of Grandma. He was always so gracious and kind. We enjoyed talking with him. Mom and dad simply loved him, a relationship that started over 20 yrs ago! Peace to you all now and in the days ahead. The Schroeder Family

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**Connie Cassidy** - October 09, 2024 at 02:02 PM

KR

“ I am related to Bill on my father’s side. We have a family cottage on Matteson Lake and often visited with Bill who was always such a positive person with a great sense of humor. He will be greatly missed.

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**Karen Rehkopf** - October 05, 2024 at 02:12 PM

DO

“ I received a postcard from Bill, sent just a week or so before he passed on. He was responding to a postcard I had sent him of My Old Kentucky Home. He wrote: "I'm sorry I never toured Kentucky more; will save your postcard under places I've never visited, but wish I had." He was always curious and ready for new places and adventures. And he 'promoted' me by addressing the card to David Olson, Esq. Just like Bill, always doing something positive and surprising. We love you, Bill, and will always treasure our memories of you!

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**David Olson** - October 04, 2024 at 01:12 PM

NO

“ 1 file added to the album *Bill Myers Photos*



Nick Obis - October 04, 2024 at 12:30 PM

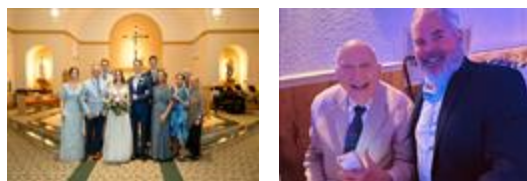
CG

“ *My (Great) Uncle Bill was a thoughtful, caring and considerate man. While I only began to appreciate his wit and sociability when I grew out of adolescence, his patience with my siblings and I during our many trips to the lake in Michigan while growing up. I am so grateful him and Masahiro were able to attend the wedding of my wife and me. He will be missed.*

Charles-Henry Otar Gaylord Gotsch - October 03, 2024 at 09:05 PM

CG

“ 2 files added to the album *CG Wedding and Reception - Aug 2024*



Charles-Henry Otar Gaylord Gotsch - October 03, 2024 at 07:48 PM

TO

“ Larry and I knew Bill for many years. He was one of my dearest friends and I will miss him very much. We spent many hours together at Ladies Who Lunch meals and breakfasts out together. Even after I moved to Wisconsin we managed to meet for lunch and he had visited us several times. We spoke several times a week on the phone and I always treasured our conversations and his advice. Our sympathy goes out to Masahiro. Rest in peace my friend.

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**T.J. Meehan & Larry Ortt** - October 03, 2024 at 01:43 PM