



# William Henry Vernon

JUN 29, 1944 - MAR 10, 2014



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## **William Henry Vernon**

JUN 29, 1944 - MAR 10, 2014

**W**illiam H. Vernon, former Delaware State Representative.

William Henry Vernon, Sr. courageously lost his yearlong battle with cancer on March 10, 2014. He is now at peace in heaven.

Bill was born in Odessa, DE on June 29, 1944. He grew up in Rehoboth Beach, DE and graduated from Rehoboth High School in 1962. He then attended Georgia Tech in Atlanta, GA where he belonged to Phi Delta Theta fraternity. His summers lifeguarding for the Rehoboth Beach Patrol and his days at Georgia Tech held some of his fondest memories. He loved going to the beach, boating, fishing and driving his Corvette. He was a member of the Beachcombers Corvette Club. He especially loved his Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets. He flew to Atlanta almost every year to attend the football games. It was in Atlanta that he met his future wife, Sharon Soden, of W. Palm Beach, who was teaching there. Bill could often be seen early in the morning riding his bike to the boardwalk and then going to gym where he liked to work out.

After graduation, Bill went to Officers Candidate School and served in the U.S. Coast Guard which included a tour of Vietnam.

Upon return to the states, Bill went to work with Anderson-Stokes Real Estate in Ocean City. In 1975 he became the owner of Vernon Real Estate. Vernon Real Estate was eventually sold to O'Connor, Piper, and Flynn, which was bought out by Coldwell Banker Realty, it was later bought out by Coldwell Banker Resort Realty. At Coldwell Banker he was the Senior Vice President of Commercial and Investment Real Estate. He recently was bestowed with the prestigious 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award by the Sussex County Board of Realtors.

Bill is a former president of the Rehoboth Beach Chamber of Commerce and also served in The Delaware House of Representatives under Governor Pete duPont from 1977 to 1981.



## Obituary

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For 4 years, Bill served as chairman of the building committee for the New Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lewes, DE, of which he was a member. He was very proud of what the building committee accomplished in building a new church.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Sharon Vernon, his daughter, Jennifer B. Vernon, and his son, William H. Vernon, Jr., his brother, Geoffrey Vernon and his wife, Allison, his brother Gainan Vernon and his nephew, Glenn Vernon. Also a brother-in-law, Larry Soden and a niece, Debbie Soden Safranek.

A Memorial service will be held on March 25th at 11 a.m. at New Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lewes.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes donations to be made to the American Cancer Society or the Building Fund of the New covenant Presbyterian Church, 3072 Savannah Rd., Lewes, DE 19958.

Please sign the guestbook located on this site.

[PDF Printable Version](#)



## Events


**William Henry Vernon**

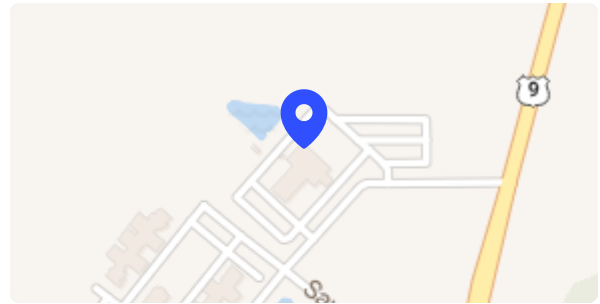
JUN 29, 1944 - MAR 10, 2014

### Memorial Service

 **Tuesday**, March 25, 2014

 11:00 AM ET

 **New Covenant Presbyterian Church**  
3072 Savannah East Drive, Lewes DE





## Tribute Wall

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KL

**Ken/Carol Lingo** posted:

Sharon: What can I say? Kenny and I are thinking of you and your family during this time of your loss. We have talked about you guys over the years, how Billy made his backstop and played ball by himself until his dad came home. No matter how tired, stressed, whatever, he always made time to go and throw that ball with his son. What a great father, husband, and person. He gave tirelessly to his family, friends, and community. He will truly be missed. God bless you in this time of your loss and the days ahead. Carol Lingo

March 23 at 8:00 PM

BM

**Bill & Cheryl McMahon** posted:

Our sincerest thoughts and prayers go out to Sharon and the family. Bill was truly a great and respected man and will be missed.

March 23 at 8:00 PM

DR

**Doug Riniker** posted:

Sharon, So Sorry for your loss. My Thoughts and Prayers are with you and your family. The Memories will be with you Forever, stay strong.

March 23 at 8:00 PM

BL

**Barbara O'leary** posted:

With sympathy to Sharon and the family. He was one of the best realtors Rehoboth ever had.

March 23 at 8:00 PM

JM

**Judy Mckay** posted:

Sharon My deepest sympathy to you and your Family. Jack and Bill were in the House Of Rep. the same time. Jack passed away in oct. He always thought highly of him. Both good Phi Delta Theta, s Fondly, Judy

March 22 at 8:00 PM



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DS

**Diane Stacy** posted:

"My home is in heaven. I'm just traveling through this world." -Billy Graham  
Bill's smile, sincerity & warmth radiated these beautiful sentiments by one of the greatest and most well respected Evangelist of all time. Bill's final journey lead him to his Heavenly Home where there is no more pain or suffering. May he rest in peace until the resurrection.

March 19 at 8:00 PM

TL

**Tracy Langford, Rn** posted:

My heart and prayers are to you and your family. I feel fortunate to have been touched by Bill and Sharon. Always, Nurse Tracy

March 19 at 8:00 PM

MH

**Mike And Donna Harrington** posted:

We were blessed to know Bill. He truly was a wonderful friend and will be greatly missed. Our hearts and love go out to Sharon and family. May the love of friends bring you comfort at this time. God bless you all.

March 18 at 8:00 PM

GU

**Glen And Angela Urquhart** posted:

Bill will be sorely missed here; heaven is rejoicing. May God's peace, strength and blessing be with you, Sharon and Jennifer and Billy.

March 18 at 8:00 PM

RP

**Roger And Paula Roy** posted:

We will miss you Bill. Your grace and faith will be an ongoing inspiration to everyone. Friday night "Happy Hour" and impromptu lunches on the dunes will never quite be the same. I'm sure we join many in saying that the value of our friendship cannot be put into words. We are so thankful that after four fun and noteworthy years together in the House of Representatives, we were able to maintain such a lifelong friendship. Although we know you are in a better place, we will continue to stay in touch with your family and always keep you memory close to our hearts.

March 17 at 8:00 PM



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RN

**Rita Needham** posted:

Sharon, Am so sorry for your loss. I didn't know Bill had been ill. A friend is visiting here in FL from Rehoboth and told me today. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family, Rita

March 16 at 8:00 PM

DN

**Denney Noble** posted:

Hello Sharon & family, This website is a cool upgrade for Parsells/Adkins. This is such sad news! I'm still in shock, since I didn't know whether or not Bill was recovering following his surgery ....until I received a note from Sue Truitt on Tues....apparently sent the day following his passing. My love and support go out to my very dear friend Bill and each of his family.

March 15 at 8:00 PM

SG

**Sandra And Tad Gardner** posted:

We enjoyed many great times at tech together .save us a space in your heavenly home!!!! Your friends in Christ Our 4- Ever Savior !!!!!!!!! Sandra and Tad

March 14 at 8:00 PM

CM

**Christine And Bruce A. Moore** posted:

Our prayers are with you Sharon and the children. A wonderful person who we all respected and should emulate. God Bless

March 14 at 8:00 PM

JK

**Janet Koch** posted:

Sharon: So sorry to know of your loss. Your husband certainly had a distinguished life. May you have comfort from all your friends and family. With sympathy, Janet from the "Y"

March 13 at 8:00 PM

RS

**Robert D Stearns** posted:

A true and enduring friend, loved and admired by all. Bill's interest, encouragement and ever-optimistic view of life has made a difference in my and many other lives. Now, at peace.

March 13 at 8:00 PM



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BL

**Bob & Diana Lawson** posted:

Sharon, So sorry to learn about Bill. Our deepest sympathy to you and the family. The area has lost a great guy! Take care.

March 13 at 8:00 PM

RH

**Roger And Mary Hetchler** posted:

So sorry for your families loss.

March 13 at 8:00 PM

CM

**Connie Magee** posted:

Bill the Beachcombers Corvette Club will miss you dearly. You were loved by all with your wit and humor and good road trips you planned for us. Connie Magee

March 13 at 8:00 PM

BT

**Bill And Ann Tansey** posted:

"Only the good die young" Billy Joel

March 13 at 8:00 PM

RA

**Rick Allamong** posted:

Bill -- you were an amazing mentor to me. Always willing to help, always willing to accept suggestions, always willing to listen. Thank you Bill.

March 12 at 8:00 PM

SW

**Sandra Ware** posted:

Your spirit of excellence lives on. Thank-you for all of your multitude of contributions to our community.

March 12 at 8:00 PM



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BC

**Buddy Clark** posted:

I will miss you my friend. May God give comfort to Sharon and the rest of your family. Godspeed

March 12 at 8:00 PM

RR

**Ron Blakely : Coldwell Banker Resort Realty** posted:

A beaming smile and a hearty "hello, how are you doing?" ... this was Bill. Commenting on the weather and how, if it was dismal, it would get better, and if it was beautiful, how fortunate we were to be the beneficiaries of it. I can't remember ever seeing a frown or scowl on his face and his demeanor lit up his surroundings. That light has been dimmed now and it's glow will be sorely missed. God and Heaven have welcomed a kind and good man and he will be there to greet each of us when our earthly time expires. May his family be blessed in their sorrow by knowing how much joy he brought to so many people during his time here on earth.

March 11 at 8:00 PM

PS

**Paul Soule** posted:

I worked on the mortgage side with Bill and Coldwell Banker for many years. I always appreciated his kindness and professionalism, he was a true gentleman and we will miss him greatly.

March 11 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

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



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