



Mr. William Dettman

August 25, 2016

Bill Dettman, the most generous, caring man, quietly passed away on August 25, 2016 after a three month battle with cancer.

Bill always greeted everyone he met with a smile and he was quick with his own style of jokes, cracking up restaurant staff, especially when they'd ask if he had reservations. He would reply, "Yes, but we came anyway".

In the hospital when the doctors would ask him how he was feeling, he would reply, "With my hands".

He never complained, never asked why. He always had said that God has a plan for each of us and it seems that he accepted that.

Bill was an avid golfer and a great chess player. He had an ongoing 45-year match with his best friend in Vancouver, Frank Hook.

Anyone who knew Bill knew his love of cars, RV's, boats, planes, trains and any kind of technology. He would research anything and everything and always negotiated the best deals and believed in having the best not only for himself, but for those around him.

He also loved Hawaii where he had a home on the Big island for several

years. He lived in Huntington Beach and Newport Beach prior to relocating to La Quinta in the early 2000's.

Bill was born in Chicago but raised in West Covina from the age of four. He joined the Ice Capades at 19 and traveled the world with them, until 1973 when he settled in Vancouver, Canada taking on sound and lighting for groups such as Heart and Tina Turner at the Oil Can Harry nightclub. Following this, he started one of the first mobile DJ businesses and grew that into Pro Sound and Stage Lighting, which this year, is celebrating its 40 year anniversary. Bill sold Pro Sound in 2005 and tried retiring but his entrepreneurial spirit would not allow him to.

He met his wife, Sheri, in La Quinta in 2005 and three months later they were married. When they went to get their marriage license, the clerk said to Sheri, "He's never been married, never had kids?" and Bill's reply was always that he had been waiting for the best. About 5 minutes later the clerk's system crash and she joked that it was Bill's information that did it.

In 2007 Bill and Sheri started Sheri Dettman & Associates and quickly became one of the top producing teams in the desert. Bill stayed behind the scenes and developed the state-of-the-art marketing that drives the business. Always ahead of the curve, he was the first to use drones to produce real video, with Sheri doing the narration. As one of Bill's friends recently said to Sheri, "Bill does the work of four people"!

Bill was appreciated by his friends and associates for being so very generous and kind-hearted and for kick-starting so many people's careers. His honesty and integrity was no surprise to those who knew him. As his accountant said to Sheri, "Bill always did the right thing even if it meant that he wouldn't profit as much. He didn't even try to bend the rules. He was always honest."

Bill loved to travel and he and Sheri enjoyed memorable trips to Italy especially. Bend, Oregon was another of their favorite places to visit in the summer.

Bill and Sheri adopted two cats from the "orphanage" in Bend the year they were married and the kitties were always a source of joy to Bill.

Many thanks to all of Bill's friends that came to see him and share with him how much they loved him. Up until the end Bill was giving fist bumps.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Perry & Evelyn Dettman and his sister, Sandy Tannahill. Survivors include his wife Sheri Dettman and his 7 nephews.

A memorial service will be held this fall in La Quinta, CA. Memorial tributes can be made to an organization that Bill deeply believed in:

<http://agapechildrensvillage.com/>

Bill was one of a kind and will be missed and remembered by everyone who came in contact with him.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. William Dettman*

October 05, 2023 at 09:38 PM



“ *Hi Sheri, I was at the NAMM show recently in Anaheim and heard the sad news of Bill's passing. I use to work along side with Bill at Pro Sound & Stage Lighting in the purchasing dept. in the mid 90's. It's true, he always greeted you with a smile on his face and if there was ever an issue in the office, he would not hesitate to help you if you needed his advice. It was always funny to see Bill ask those applying for a job to try and roll up a speaker cable properly. Those who succeeded got the job. easy as that. He created an environment at work where many 'til this day are still very close friends. He really did inspire those around him to achieve excellence in their lives. He was a good man I will always remember. God Bless,*

Dave Lopez - January 30, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sheri - I'll never forget the first time I met you and Bill at RiverRim in Bend, Oregon. As a real estate professional myself, I had asked Bill if he could provide marketing services for me. I was so impressed with your on-line marketing. He replied and chuckled, "My fee would be outrageous". That is an understatement about one of his amazing talents. Everything about your marketing has always been truly "the best". I'm so sorry for your loss. God's blessings to you and your family. May you continue to shine, as I'm sure Bill would expect... and when I'm ready for that part-time home in the desert sunshine, I'll be in touch.*

Arlene Edwards - December 07, 2016 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ *Bill, a good guy!Ice Capades broomball 1970-71.*

Mike Edwards - September 28, 2016 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ *I met Bill at the West Covina Ice Arena in 196...7? 8? He and I were skating friends for only a short while until I joined Ice Capades and was delighted when he also joined. I remember him as a warm and friendly guy who was lots of fun and always smiling.My heart goes out to Bills family - may your memories of him give you warm "hugs" you all your days.*

Gail Barnhill (nee Berger) - September 28, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DA

“ *I worked with Bill in Ice Capades for many years and remember Bill as a kind gentle giant, always with a smile on his face. I am sure he will be dearly missed and I hope you can take comfort in knowing he had a full life and had you , Sheri, to share in his pleasures in that life. At times like this I can't help remembering how fragile life is. I will remember Bill as truly one of the "good guys". My heartfelt sympathy goes out to you and Bill's family."Pepe"*

Darlene "Pepe" Anthony - September 28, 2016 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Sheri,I heard of Bill's passing from the Ice Capades Alumnai group.I did not know Bill as it appeared that he was involved in the show after my departure. I also live in La Quinta and I wish I had met him.God Bless and rest his soul and Blessings to you and yours.Tommy Sheridan*

Tom Sheridan - September 27, 2016 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ Dear Sheri, we were deeply saddened by the loss of your beloved Bill. You two were a beautiful team together in life and business. We are truly sorry for your loss. With warmest regards, Annie & Gene Nathenson LaQuinta, CA

Annie Nathenson - September 22, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KR

“ Sheri, I am so sorry for your loss. I remember when you met Bill, he was a very sweet and kind man. I know he will be missed. Please remember, I'm here for you, old friend, whenever you need someone. Much love, Kim

Kim Ray - September 18, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PC

“ Dear Sheri, We've known you and Bill a short time, but shared some fun evenings in the Griffin Club. Bill was always fun and kind and so proud of you. That was clear in every conversation and he always talked about you with a twinkle in his eyes. We know you have incredible memories to treasure and many friends surrounding you. Please know that we are thinking of you and here for you anytime. Fondly, Patti and Dan Carson

Patti and Dan Carson - September 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ Just learned of Bill's passing and wanted to send my deepest condolences to those who are left behind. I cannot imagine the loss you are feeling. He was a kind and good man, and now he's somewhere where there is no pain. So sorry.

Kirianah Klinginsmith - September 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM