



## William Joseph Baker

May 15, 1933 - June 14, 2017

William Joseph “Bill” Baker, age 84, of Bourbonnais, went home to be with Jesus on Wednesday, June 14, 2017.

Bill was born May 15, 1933, in Eldorado, the son of Joseph & Mary Elsie Brinkley Baker.

His work experience included years at Inland Steel in Gary, IN; U.S. Rubber; A.O. Smith in Kankakee; and the Manteno State Hospital. Finally, he retired from Ford Motor Assembly Plant in Chicago in 1990, after 37 years of service. Bill was known as “Mr. Fit-it” and could fix almost anything.

Bill married Muriel Turner on October 5, 1952 in Manteno.

He had been a charter member of his church, River Valley Christian Fellowship. He served through the years as a trustee, on the building committees, as a visitation director, a Sunday school teacher, and at one time, as a deacon.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge Worshipful Master, a member of the UAW 551, gun clubs, local, state and national AACA, and of the church’s Golden Agers. He enjoyed flying. Bill, along with different partners, flew their own airplanes for more than 35 years. The most consistent and enjoyable times were spent with his “coffee buddies at McDonald’s on Route 50.”

Bill is survived by his loving wife, Muriel Baker of Bourbonnais; his children, Debi (Larry) Dawkins of Bourbonnais, Carol (Dr. Mark) Vidas of Bourbonnais, Michael (Trish) Baker of Plainfield, and Lorrie (Andy) Zarch of San Diego, CA; his grandchildren, Nan, Justin & Amanda, Joe & Sara, Matthew, Ginny, Wendy

& Greg, and Caitlyn; his great-grandchildren, Sean, Austin, Haylee, Rhianna, Audrey, Norah, Devin, Danielle, and Aiden; one great-great-grandchild, Kolton; and several cousins, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; grandparents; his mother-in-law and father-in-law; his brother-in-law, Troy; and his sister-in-law, Wanda.

Memorial visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the 12:00 Noon memorial service on Saturday, June 17, 2017 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais. Rev. Sam Goebel will officiate the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hospice of Kankakee Valley.

Please hold the memory of Bill in your hearts always. He loved his God, his family, and all his friends, who meant all to him even if it was difficult for him to show. His words have been spoken many times to many people, "I've had a good life. God was so good to me and my family."

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

JUN 17. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

## Memorial Service

JUN 17. 12:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
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# Tribute Wall



“ 74 files added to the album *Life Tributes*

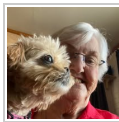


**Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes** - June 16, 2017 at 11:10 AM

TM

*Sorry I am out of town and couldn't make the service or visitation but while I didn't know Mr. Baker I know his daughter I know his daughter Carol and Larry his son in law very well I am sorry to hear of his of your loss you're in my prayers and wish the family the very best*

**terry meyers** - June 16, 2017 at 04:33 PM



*Sorry for your about the passing of Bill he was one of the first person that greeted us when you joined the church. Muriel and Bill were true friends from a long time ago and Bill you will be missed. I remember how Bill called his old car his baby and was so proud of it he even offered to take Jack and I for a ride in it now how I wished we had taken him up on his offer. Muriel you know that he is really not gone he is just where he can watch over everyone he will be missed in sight but never in our hearts. Love and prayers to the family Pam & Jack*

**Pam Gal** - June 17, 2017 at 10:57 AM

JM

*My sincerest sympathies Louise Glover Patton*

**Johnita Moore** - June 17, 2017 at 11:29 AM

JM

*We remember Bill at the All School Reunions, we will miss you. Johnita Bennett Moore*

**Johnita Moore** - June 17, 2017 at 11:30 AM

EL

“ *Our deepest & sincerest condolences to you all during this very difficult time. Please know that you all will be in our thoughts & prayers.*

*Sincerely,*

*Ed Lube & the entire FAN team at Riverside MC*

**Ed Lube** - June 16, 2017 at 09:31 AM



“ *I had lost my last living grandfather right when i met Bill. Then after finding out we had the same birthday he became twin and muriel you were my momma m. Between him and doc p and the other 'boys' they filled in that grandfather gap and made my mcd years much better. I can't even start how sorry and how I'm praying for you all. Bill was the best and I'll never forget.*

**Jennifer LaVoie** - June 15, 2017 at 06:29 PM

PN

“ *Don't know if this went through before but want to wish all of Bill's family our sympathy.*  
*Penny & Jerry Noe*



**Penny & Jerry Noe** - June 15, 2017 at 05:22 PM

VB

“ Dear Muriel and Kids - where would I begin listing the memories? All the way back to 23 and 32 Jordan our memories begin. What a wonderful, priceless and precious friendship our families have been blessed with. I have loved this man as well as all of you for the biggest part of my life and I will cherish that in my heart until the day I meet my Lord and Savior just as he did. My heart aches to know he is gone but I am thrilled that he is now at rest.

*With all my love to my extended family,  
Vickie Bradley-DuBree*

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**Vickie Bradley-DuBree** - June 15, 2017 at 05:03 PM

JB

“ Calling up so many memories of our dear Bill and sending deepest sympathy to his family who loved him so much. Joyce and Len

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**Joyce B. Baldyga** - June 15, 2017 at 03:22 PM

MB

“ So sorry for the loss of your father, Debi. Life is never easy, but these type of losses are so hard to comprehend and accept. Please know Lee and I are sending our sympathy. Love to you and Larry and your entire family.

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**Mary and Lee Bouchard** - June 15, 2017 at 01:42 PM

CS

*I am so sorry for your loss of your father . Reading is obituary he was so like my dad could fix anything and also was a Mason prayers to you and your family*

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**Cathy Martin Schley** - June 15, 2017 at 03:03 PM

BM

“ *I am sorry to hear of your loss. May you find comfort in all of life's blessings shared with Bill.*

Bill Mickus - June 15, 2017 at 01:35 PM

MN

“ *Didn't know Bill too well but he and his wife were always good to my brother even after his divorce from their daughter. So sorry for your loss*



Mr. :& Mrs. Gerald Noe - June 15, 2017 at 11:09 AM



“ *Sherry Trammell lit a candle in memory of William Joseph Baker*



Sherry Trammell - June 15, 2017 at 11:03 AM

JB

“ *So sorry Murl,*

*Jerry the Mailman*

jerry bjick - June 15, 2017 at 10:09 AM