



## Mr. Norman "Bill" Wilbert Okum

December 10, 1922 - January 4, 2020

OKUM, Norman Wilbert (Bill) (December 10, 1922 - January 4, 2020)

Bill passed peacefully, surrounded by his family, from this world into his Saviour's presence after a fruitful life of over 97 years. Born in Killaloe, Ontario, the eldest child of the late Martha (Berndt) and Samuel Okum, he was predeceased by siblings Esther Danyluck, Mabel Camp and John Okum, as well as his loving wife Audrey (Willard). He is survived by his brother Jim Okum; and 6 children: Sharon O'Callaghan (Conor), Sandra Kaliczynski (Roman), David Okum (Sharon), Merrilee Pilz (Peter), Janice Keen (Kelly) and Robert Okum (Virginia); 24 grandchildren; 38 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild. Bill is also survived by his wife of the past 21 years, Marjorie (Coote), her 4 children, their spouses and children.

As a teen, Bill set out from home on a bicycle, determined and capable. In 1942 he joined the RCAF serving throughout the Second World War as an air traffic controller. In 1947, he married Audrey Willard and they moved to Sudbury, where he started Nickel City Builders Ltd. Known as a very honest and reputable builder, Bill constructed the Yacht Club, a senior's complex, Algoma Child Care Centre and some of the finest homes in Sudbury during his successful career; also serving as President of both the Sudbury and the National Homebuilders Associations. He and Audrey were faithful members of Berean Baptist Church and very active in The Gideons. They retired to Collingwood, where Audrey passed away shortly after their 49th anniversary. In 1998, he married Marjorie. Since 2018, Bill has received excellent care from the staff and volunteers at Sunnybrook Veterans Centre in Toronto. Bill's patient demeanor as he navigated "placidly amid the noise and the haste" of life blessed all who were privileged to know him. He will be truly missed by his family, friends and associates. Funeral Service will be conducted by Rev. Robert B. Okum on Saturday, January 11 at 2 p.m. at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, 3521 County Road 124, Nottawa (Collingwood), preceded by Visitation at 12 Noon. In Memoriam donations may be made to The Gideons International or The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada. For further information please visit [www.chattersonfuneralhome.com](http://www.chattersonfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery

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**Westmount Baptist Cemetery**

ON,

# Events

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**JAN** **Visitation** 12:00PM - 02:00PM

**11**

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Emmanuel Presbyterian Church  
Nottawa, ON, CA

# Comments

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“ Shocked and saddened to read of Bill's passing. Knew him as a long time customer of Loblaws in Collingwood as well as an acquaintance of my late father - Chic Simonato. He was a lovely man, and he will be missed.  
Sandra Smith

**Sandra Smith** - January 11 at 02:18 PM

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“ Marge, just read of Bill's passing in paper today. So sorry! Our deepest sympathy. Thinking of you and family. Hugs and love, Murray & Betty Brown

**Betty Brown** - January 11 at 01:21 PM

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“ We were sorry to hear of Uncle Bills' passing. May wonderful memories give you peace and comfort at this time. We are all Truly Blessed to know that Uncle Bill is now with His Lord. Our deepest sympathy to all of our cousins and their families.  
Mark & Cathy Willard

**Mark Willard** - January 10 at 03:54 PM

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“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Mr. Norman "Bill" Wilbert Okum.



January 10 at 02:14 AM

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“ Bill has been our neighbour for many years. He was a wonderful friend. He will be missed immensely.

**Leeann Bateman** - January 09 at 07:12 AM

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“ When I was very young (8 or so), I remember visiting Grandpa and Gramma at their house in Collingwood. Grandpa had a big work bench in the garage with woodworking tools, etc. I distinctly remember the smell of that "workshop" and looking at the different things Grandpa was making. In the afternoon we played scrabble and had ginger ale and potato chips and in the evening after supper we would sit in the family room to watch Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy before bedtime. Grandpa was a very serious man but he always made time to have some fun.

**Rebecca Alexander** - January 08 at 11:01 AM



“ Fond Memories of your Grandpa to cherish in your heart forever Rebecca. Our condolences on your families loss.

**garth tedford** - January 10 at 09:30 AM

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“ My sincere condolence for your lost to all the family :(

Sincerely Helen n Scotty



**helen remeikis** - January 07 at 07:55 PM

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“ the Okum family....my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time....so sorry for your the loss...



**susan strager-estes** - January 07 at 07:42 PM

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“ Uncle Bill was always the kindest gentleman. There were many nieces and nephews and he always had a kind word for all. The rock of his family. He will be sorely missed by his family and extended family. Sympathy to all my cousins and keep the

memories close. He is resting with the Lord.

Elizabeth Dillabaugh - January 07 at 02:48 PM

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“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. Norman Wilbert Okum.



January 07 at 02:46 PM