



Dr. William Joubert Kelly

APR 10, 1941 - DEC 7, 2023



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Dr. William (Bill) Joubert Kelly, a pillar of southern Arizona, peacefully passed away surrounded by his loving family, at Peppi's House (Hospice) on December 7, 2023.

Born on April 10, 1941, in Tucson, AZ, to George and Virginia Kelly, Bill took immense pride in his heritage as a fifth-generation southern Arizona pioneer. He was the great-great grandson of pioneer Captain James and Emma Tevis who settled Bowie AZ, and the Butterfield Stagecoach Stop in the notorious and deadly Apache Pass in the 1850's.

A graduate of Salpointe Catholic High School in 1959, Bill continued his academic pursuits at the University of Arizona, earning a Bachelor's degree, two Master's degrees, and ultimately his Doctorate from the College of Education. Bill's professional career extended to teaching at various schools, including the University of Arizona, and serving as an educator for the Navajo and Gila Native American tribes. His dedication to education culminated into a distinguished career as a School Superintendent for various districts throughout the state of Arizona.

Beyond his professional and academic pursuits, Bill had a deep love for his dogs, a passion for history, genealogy, travel, dancing, and a steadfast commitment to advocating for education. Known for his engaging conversations that often left you with newfound knowledge, Bill had a way of imparting wisdom on unsuspecting ears.

A man of many affiliations, Bill was a proud member of organizations such as the Masons, Shriner's, Friends of Western Art, Angel Charity, UofA Presidents Club, and Wildcat Club. During the heyday of Lute Olsen's coaching era, Bill was an avid supporter of Arizona Basketball, holding season tickets and passionately following the team to numerous away games.

Bill is survived by his daughter Andrea "Annie" North (Tom) and their two children Tyler and Bailey. He is also survived by his former spouse Lynda Kelly, brother Andrew B. Kelly Sr. (Patti,



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deceased), nephew Andrew Kelly Jr. (Liza), niece Maureen Dowers (Ken), great nieces, great nephew, and a great-great niece. Private services will be held to honor Bill's life.

The family expresses gratitude to Bill's neighbors and friends for their support, driving him to appointments, and helping with groceries. Special thanks also go to the staff at Peppi's House for their gracious and respectful care.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial donations to your favorite charity, continuing Bill's legacy of compassion and support for meaningful causes.



Tribute Wall

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RC

Rick Chandler lit a candle in honor of William.

Sorry to hear about your loss. It's never easy losing your dad.

January 19 at 5:24 AM



MM

Melissa (Courter) Martin posted:

Some of my favorite childhood memories are of attending U of A basketball games with Annie, Bill and Linda. He was a quiet and kind soul with a generous heart. Much love to the family.

January 19 at 4:15 AM

SS

Salpointe Catholic High School lit a candle in honor of William.

The Salpointe Catholic High School community extends deepest sympathy to Bill's family and friends. You are in our prayers at this difficult time.

January 18 at 10:38 AM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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