



William Leon Gates

June 10, 1956 - June 5, 2020

William Leon Gates, 63, of Greenwood, went home to be with the Lord early on the morning of Friday, June 5, 2020, at Community Hospital South in Indianapolis following a lengthy illness.

He was born on June 10, 1956, in Enid, Oklahoma, a son of Frank Leon Gates and Thelma Julia (Sandley) Hinds.

Bill grew up in the Beech Grove area and was in the first graduating class of the Nazarene Christian School in 1975. Bill contracted polio at one year of age and spent much time in the Shriner's Children Hospital in Chicago. He was a very good-natured, tender, quiet, and reserved child, but also funny and full of mischief. He had a love for animals and hated to see them treated cruelly. He was kind-hearted and even natured. Bill worked for St. Francis Hospital in Beech Grove in Dietary for 30 years. He had a great work ethic and went 15 years without missing a single day of work. He had also worked part-time at Environmental Services.

Bill enjoyed fishing, building model cars, playing video games, and shopping for Antiques. When he was younger he loved playing basketball and flag football. He was a Pittsburgh Steelers fan and loved Larry Bird as well. Bill loved his five crazy sisters.

Those left to cherish Bill's memory include his loving mother, Thelma Hinds of Indianapolis; five sisters, Sandra (Charles) Murdick, Gloria (Ike) Northern, and Carla Shuck all of Indianapolis, Donna Alexander (fiance: Bob Benson) of Anderson, and Doris "Cupcake" Worley of Indianapolis; two uncles, Bill Sandley and Donald Hinds; an aunt, Kathy Hinds; 18 nieces and nephews; many great-nieces and great-nephews and many cousins and close friends, including Ronnie Wilkerson, Jeff Griffin, and Mike and Bill Sandley.

Bill was preceded in death by his biological father, Frank Gates; the father who raised him, Charles Hinds; paternal grandparents, Charles and Myrtle Gates and James and Elizabeth Hinds; maternal grandparents, Eugene and Beulah Sandley, and several aunts and uncles.

Graveside services will be held at 11:00 am Thursday, June 11, 2020, at New Crown Cemetery, 2101 Churchman Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana, with Austin Shuck officiating.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be offered to either a care fund being established for Bill's loving mother, Thelma Hinds, whom he thought so much of. Donate to Thelma Hinds Care Fund (<https://www.sprolesfamilycares.com/online-payments-and-donations/>) or to the Shriner's Children's Hospital by clicking here (https://donate.lovetotherescue.org/give/161982/#!/donation/checkout?utm_source=shcmain&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=wheels-lightbox2&utm_campaign=wheels-for-love&c_src=shcmain&c_src2=wheels-lightbox2)

The Sproles family and staff are honored to serve the family of William Leon Gates.

Cemetery Details

New Crown Cemetery

2101 Churchman Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46203

Previous Events

Graveside Service

JUN 11. 11:00 AM (ET)

New Crown Cemetery
2101 Churchman Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46203

Tribute Wall



“ *Sproles Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William Leon Gates*



Sproles Family Funeral Home - June 10, 2020 at 05:48 PM



“ *My heart is breaking, but I'm so HAPPY you are no longer in pain!*

I love you!

Cupcake

Doris Worley - June 17, 2020 at 12:39 PM



“ *Dearest bill you where a great Man. Sweet as can be . A great listener and honest I saw you as a great friend but even more so like a father figure me and Zander will miss you dearly but only for a brief time before we get to you in heaven. I may have only cleaned ur room but to me that time spent around you was more the precious. God bless you and ur family. I will miss you. And miss spending that time talking to you and being goofy.*

Sarah Eberle - June 16, 2020 at 12:28 AM

SM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Sandra Murdick - June 10, 2020 at 10:30 PM

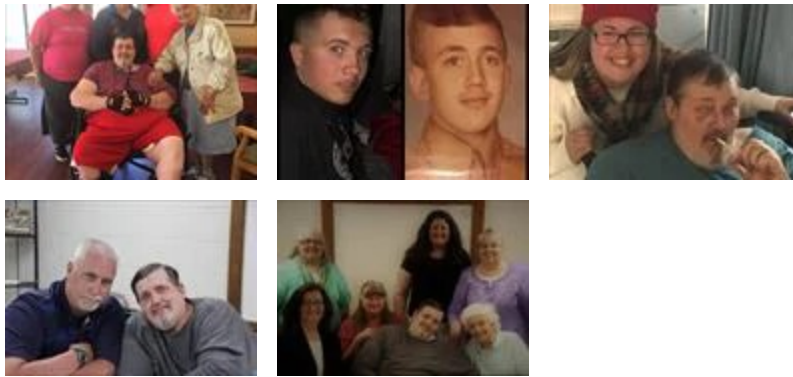
SM

“ Happy birthday ! Miss you so much little brother I miss your beautiful smile. I know your pain is gone you are enjoying your birthday in heaven. Love you to the moon and back!💕💕

Sandra Murdick - June 10, 2020 at 12:03 PM

SN

“ I’m sure going to miss seeing you so much! I know we have many memories together, but my favorite memory was always wanting to come see you at work, or if someone in the family was having surgery, Kara and I would make a run to the cafeteria and yell for you until you came to the window where you were washing dishes, or just coming by the house to see how you were doing. Your door was always opened, because we knew you loved seeing your family so much. I’m looking forward to the day we see each other face to face again. Love you so much!



Sarah Northern - June 09, 2020 at 10:27 PM

DN

“ Remember the times all the neighborhood kids would get together and play jump rope and since it was hard for you to jump. You would always or most if the time would turn it so we could jump. When you were down you would wiggle the rope so we would miss. You and I had our private fights and wouldn't let mom & dad know. When we told them only 14-15 years ago we were laughing so hard because we had kept it quiet. Luv Ya and will MUSS YOU SO MUCH! Bill see you in Heaven when it is my time. We will celebrate big time. Big Sis, Gloria 🥹🥹

Dwight Northern - June 09, 2020 at 10:17 PM

RW

“ *bill was like a brother to me \ he loved the statler brothers I will miss the long talks god be with you RON*

RON WILKERSON - June 09, 2020 at 08:36 PM