



William "Bill" Q. Pirie

February 7, 1936 - October 11, 2024

William "Bill" Quarles Pirie

William "Bill" Quarles Pirie, 88, of Minocqua passed away peacefully at home on Friday, October 11th, surrounded by his wife, Isabelle, and their five children. Bill was born on February 7, 1936 in Evanston, Illinois. He was preceded in death by his loving parents, John Thomas Pirie II and Alice Quarles Pirie, his sisters Harriet Pirie Pillsbury and Alice Pirie Wirtz, and his infant son, William Quarles Pirie Jr.

Bill was an avid outdoorsman, happiest in a deer stand, on a trout stream, in a fishing boat, or on the golf course enjoying time with friends and family. Known among his peers as a skilled hunter and marksman, Bill felt at home in the woods and cherished every moment spent outdoors. Bill attended high school at North Shore Country Day School in Wilmette, Illinois before attending Hanover College in Indiana, earning a Bachelor's Degree. A talented high school and college athlete, his passion for sports, especially baseball, led him to a tryout and post-collegiate offer from the Chicago Cubs as a prospective catcher.

On June 21st, 1958, Bill married his longtime sweetheart, Isabelle "Bitsy" Luick, in Winnetka, Illinois. Bill began his career working for Carson Pirie Scott & Co. and worked for the company for a decade. Bill and Bitsy spent 10 years

of marriage in the north shore area of Chicago before moving their growing family to the Northwoods, which they have called home ever since. There, Bill opened the Minocqua Marine Mart in 1969, turning his love for the water into a successful business venture for over 10 years. After selling the marina, Bill embarked on a new venture by partnering with six investors to establish the 1st National Bank of Minocqua & Woodruff. Years later, the bank merged with another institution and became part of BMO Harris Bank. After becoming empty nesters, Bill and Bitsy embraced the snowbird lifestyle, splitting their time between the Northwoods and a golf community in Apopka, Florida.

Active in the greater Minocqua community, Bill was a dedicated member of the Minocqua Lions Club, the Howard Young Medical Center Foundation Board of Directors, the Lakeland Rotary Club, the Restless Weasels, and a regular at the Minocqua Men's Morning Coffee Group. Bill was a proud member of the American Society of Arms Collectors and had a love for collecting Civil War era firearms. His commitment to the community and his strong sense of camaraderie touched the lives of those around him.

Bill is survived by his devoted wife, Isabelle; their five children, Laura (Jack) Ziegler, John Pirie, Susan (Scot) Bassett, Ginny Pirie, and Billy (Jacqueline) Pirie; and seven beloved grandchildren: Claire Ziegler, Billy (Jessica) Ziegler, Emmah Pirie, Sam Pirie, Mia Pirie, Olivia Bassett, and Franklin Plahuta.

Visitation will take place on Thursday, October 17, 2024 at Bolger Funeral Home - Woodruff, from 3:00 PM until 5:00 PM. A Funeral Service will be at 11:00 AM on Friday, October 18, 2024 at St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Minocqua. Private interment to follow.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Howard Young Foundation or the Northwoods Youth Deer Hunt in Bill's honor.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 17. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Bolger Cremation & Funeral Services - Woodruff Chapel
1212 First Avenue
(mailing address P.O. Box 40, Woodruff WI 54568)
Woodruff, WI 54568
(715) 356-6006
bolgerfuneral@gmail.com
<https://www.bolgerfuneral.com>

Funeral Service

OCT 18. 11:00 AM (CT)

St Matthias Episcopal Church
403 E Chicago Ave
Minocqua, WI 54548
(715) 356-6758

Tribute Wall

PZ

“ I just found out about the loss of Mr. Pirie. It is with a smile & a tear that I recall this gentle Man's kindness. I love you Mr. Bill Pirie

Pete Zupko - November 30, 2024 at 04:10 PM

BB

“ We spent a lot of time growing up at the Pirie house through high school and college. Bitsy and Bill were always good for a quick chat about life and more than once were handy with a bit of well-timed advice. In later years I would bump into Bill around town and we always had a good laugh about something. I will remember him with the same admiration I had for him in life.

Bryon "Blaz" Black - October 17, 2024 at 08:41 PM

JM

“ sharing life and hunting stories at the Walker "SHACK" . "WILD BILL" missed, the lone BEAR fan. hunt into the snow storm. a great smile and generous fellow.
Josie Wales...alias joe mastalski , and family

joe mastalski - October 17, 2024 at 11:02 AM

KR

“ I was very sorry to hear of Bill's passing and my condolences to you Bitsy and the entire Pirie family. Bill was a man I admired greatly and I really enjoyed our many visits over the last 30 years or so sharing stories and laughs. Those good memories will remain. Kirby Redman

Kirby Redman - October 16, 2024 at 09:08 PM

AF

“ We had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Pirie at his grandson Billy’s wedding. Our deepest sympathies go to Mrs. Pirie, Laura and to the entire family.

Andrea and Carla Ferrara

Andrea and Carla Ferrara - October 16, 2024 at 03:18 PM

JM

“ James M. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Q. Pirie.

James M. - October 16, 2024 at 01:45 PM

AF

“ Ardus and all of the Stone Family purchased the Red Roses and Lily Grass (Silk Cemetery Flowers) for the family of William "Bill" Q. Pirie.



Ardus and all of the Stone Family - October 16, 2024 at 10:22 AM

JH

“ I was saddened to hear Bill has passed. He was one of the last remaining members of the Parkway Coffee Klatch. He was a good friend to our family and a very enjoyable person to share the morning coffee time with. I especially enjoyed his hunting stories - he taught me a lot about firearms. ~~ Joe Handrick

joe handrick - October 15, 2024 at 10:26 PM

MM

“ *I'm very sorry to learn of Bill's passing. I spent a great number of days at the house on Lake Minocqua, playing video games, basketball, and hanging out at the lake. My sympathies to all the family. ~ Mark Mastalski*

Mark Mastalski - October 14, 2024 at 06:27 PM