

CELEBRATION *of Life*

John "Bill" William Asher

April 12, 1927—December 14, 2023

Saturday, December 30, 2023 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

a Celebration of Life Gathering will be held at the Unitarian Universalist Church followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

John William "Bill" Asher, of West Lafayette, passed away on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at Westminster Village in West Lafayette. He was ninety-six and a half years old. A 7th generation Hoosier, he was born April 12, 1927, in Gary, to the late Floyd Gaylord and Ruth (Williams) Asher. Bill went to grade school during the Great Depression and high school during WWII. He was a graduate of Lew Wallace High School where his father was the Principal. In 1943, at 16 years old, he worked shift work at the Steel Mill working on the open-hearth labor gang. In 1944, he worked on the mason labor gang, working 60 hours per week.

At the end of WWII, Bill enlisted in the United States Navy at 17 years old. At the age of 19, he was promoted to Petty Officer Third Class while stationed in Washington D.C. Following his honorable discharge, he attended DePauw University, earning his Bachelor Degree in Psychology in 1950. Bill then transferred to Purdue University where he earned his Master Degree in 1951 and his Ph.D. in 1955. In 1955, Bill married Katherine Collyer; they had four children, Bill, Ruth, Jim, and Chris. Katherine preceded Bill in death 1995, after 40 years of marriage. Bill then married Dorothy Alford in 1997; they have been married 27 years.

From 1956 - 1960, Bill worked at the U.S. Office of Education and taught part-time at American University and the University of Maryland. He also taught at the University of Pittsburgh and had a sabbatical at Harvard University, and a semester at Universidad Central Quito, Ecuador. He taught part time at the University of Louisville, University of Hawaii, and the University of Colorado. In 1966, Bill went to Purdue University as a Professor of Education and Psychology. He authored one book, and co-authored two. He wrote and co-wrote more than 100 journal articles, and taught Research Methods, Statistics and Measurement. Bill retired in 2003 as a Professor Emeritus of Education and Psychological Sciences. Bill was a Fellow in the American Psychological Association, the Association of Psychological Science, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Educational Research Association. He was also the President of the Division of Education Psychology for the American Psychological Association.

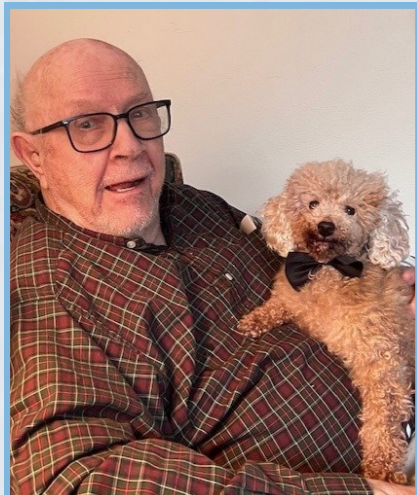
Bill was very proud of his heritage. In 1778, his 3rd and 4th great-grandfathers were with George Rogers Clark during the Revolutionary War. Unfortunately, the 4th generation was killed in the war and the 3rd went on to farm in Louisville, then moved to Owen County in 1830. The family continues to farm in that area. Bill enjoyed ballroom dancing, playing bridge, and international travel. He traveled to Canada, Central America, Europe, Asia, China, and Japan. He also traveled extensively throughout forty-nine of the fifty states.

Along with his wife, Dotty, he is survived by his four children, William (Lynn) Asher of Dallas, Texas; Ruth (Dan Lynch) Asher-Lynch of Indianapolis; James Asher of Indianapolis; and Christopher Asher of Quinlan, Texas; and four grandchildren, David (Britni) Lynch, James Lynch, Hope (Andrew) Neels, and Galileo Asher. He was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd and Ruth Asher; and his wife, Katherine (Collyer) Asher.

(See back page for Celebration of Life Service)

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Remembering
John William "Bill" Asher
April 12, 1927 - December 14, 2023
"A Life Well-Lived"



*The Unitarian Universalist Church
Of Tippecanoe County
333 Meridian St., West Lafayette, Indiana*

*Saturday, December 30, 2023
One O'clock in the Afternoon
And Via Zoom at www.uuctc.org/Sunday*

*The Rev. Jennie Ann Barrington, Minister
Technical Support: Noemi Ybarra and Larry Guentert*

Gathering Music

Chalice Lighting Words "A Life Well-Lived"

Rev. Barrington

*Welcome and Opening Words by Henry Adams "A teacher affects
eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops."*

Prayer or Meditation

Reading "The New Colossus," by Emma Lazarus

*Invitation to Share Remembrances from Family, Friends, Parishioners,
and Colleagues*

Reading "On Work," by Kahlil Gibran

Eulogy

Rev. Barrington

Benediction [Adapted from the words of Alfred S. Cole]

*Parting Music Meditation on "The Feather Theme," composed by
Alan Silvestri*

*Please join us for a reception and fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.
We thank everyone who helped make this occasion so gracious.*