



## William Duncan "Bill" Byars, Jr.

September 10, 1916 - March 28, 2011

William Duncan "Bill" Byars, Jr. 94, longtime prominent businessman and husband of 63 years to the late Elouise Marie Byars, died in Oklahoma City on Monday, March 28, 2011. He was born in Mt. Vernon, Illinois on September 10, 1916 to William Duncan and Mildred Bella (Scott) Byars Sr. After graduating from college, Bill pursued the business world. Along with his wife he owned Bill Byars Trailer Company, a Western Auto Store, Bill Byars Boat Lot, Bill Byars Furniture Store and they were the first Maytag Dealership in the state of Oklahoma. He at one time had been attached to the U.S. Army as an advisor. Bill also enjoyed being a farmer and rancher in Okmulgee County. His memberships included the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce, Elks Lodge, First Christian Church, and he was named Chairman of the Democratic Party of Oklahoma in 1956. His parents, wife, Elouise, a grandson Brent Rosdahl, brothers and sisters preceded him in death.

Survivors include his daughter Karen Byars and Richard Anderson of Oklahoma City, a son William Robert and wife Caron of Okmulgee, one sister Irene White of Pittsfield, Illinois, son in law Richard Rosdahl of Tulsa, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Funeral services celebrating his life will be on Friday, April 1, 2011 at 2 pm at the First Christian Church in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. Rev. Charles Green will officiate. Burial will follow in the Okmulgee Cemetery. The family suggests

memorials in his name be made to Okmulgee Memorial Hospital Foundation, 1401 Morris Dr., Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447. Visitation will be on Thursday, 1-6 pm at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home in Okmulgee, OK. Condolences may be made at [mcclendon-winters.com](http://mcclendon-winters.com).

# Previous Events

## Service

APR 1. 2:00 PM (CT)

First Christian Church  
211 West 8th Street  
Okmulgee, OK

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Duncan "Bill" Byars, Jr.*

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December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *Karen, Sorry for your loss you will be in my prayers.... Class of 82##imported-begin##Lisa Lunsford - Swinney ##imported-end##*

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April 06, 2011 at 09:58 AM



“ Greetings ...

*My name is Pamela Byars Sanders (husband Randy Sanders) of Saint Paul, Minnesota. Also known as Pammy to my Granddad. I am Bill's first grandchild (daughter of Bill's eldest child, William Robert Byars), and mother to Bill's first great-grandchild, Johnathon Sanders (wife Lisa) of Minnesota.*

*My Granddad was such a special man. He was warm, loving, and full of laughter. After his hugs, I think I will remember his laughter the most. I also have many wonderful memories of cook-outs (Granddad grilled-up some great food!), fireworks, playing at the Boat Lot, and times on the lake in his houseboat. I especially have fond memories of a business trip he took me with on to Shreveport, LA. I will also cherish the nice talks we had when I visited him at the Trailer Lot, before he retired. Living far away in another state, I did not have as much time with him as I would have wished for, but I will always cherish the memories of the times we did have together. I will miss my grandpa ... I loved him very much. ❤️*

*When I shared the sad news of Granddad's passing with my mom, Jean Koch, she took the moment to share many more wonderful stories of her times with Granddad. She has always spoken very highly of him, and loved him greatly. Mom asked that her condolences be passed on to Granddad/Bill's family, and that she will be praying for all in their time of sorrow.*

*Lastly, although circumstances prevent me from being able to attend Granddad's funeral, I will be there with you all in thought, prayer and love. Hugs to all. ❤️*

*Godspeed Grandpa ...*

*~ Pammy##imported-begin##Pamela Byars Sanders##imported-end##*

April 01, 2011 at 12:04 PM



“ *Dear Karen*

*I am sorry to hear about your loss and know you have had a year of it and wanted to let you know that I was thinking about you and will pray that God gives you peace and comfort.*

*Your friend Gary.##imported-begin##Gary Plank##imported-end##*

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March 31, 2011 at 08:22 AM



“ *Bob and Karen (and the rest of the family),*

*Barry and I send our sympathy and love.*

*Uncle Bill has always been a part of my life, and although I haven't seen him since my own dad's funeral in 1999, I have thought often of him. He was always a bit bigger than life to me. He was funny, charming, and surprising; and he loved his family very, very much.*

*I know from experience that the months ahead will be hard for you all. We send our hugs and prayers from Iowa.*

*Love,*

*Sharelle##imported-begin##Sharelle Byars Moranville##imported-end##*

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March 30, 2011 at 01:53 PM



“ Karen, Bob and the rest of the family, I am so sorry for your loss. I would so like to come and be there with you, but we have a lot of stressful stuff going on here and I just don't think I can make it right now. I hope you will forgive me for not making the trip. My thoughts will be with you both through the next few weeks and months. Every since my dad died I have thought and talked about coming to see Uncle Bill, but I just didn't get it done and now it is too late. He meant a lot to me, he was a lot of fun to visit and have visit. I will always remember the first time he showed up at our house with Aunt Eloise. They looked so happy and glamorous. For many years our family would take a vacation someplace out west and Uncle Bill's place would be our first destination. Spend the night, visit and head out the next day. Daddy and Uncle Bill were as close as brothers could be I think. Through the years I heard many stories of when Sharelle, Mom and Dad lived out there, in an apartment over the store.

Even though it is a long distance love, I do love my Oklahoma family and am sorry I won't be there at this time. I do hope we can get together sometime later this year.

Your cousin,

Beverly##imported-begin##Beverly Schmutz##imported-end##

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March 30, 2011 at 08:15 AM