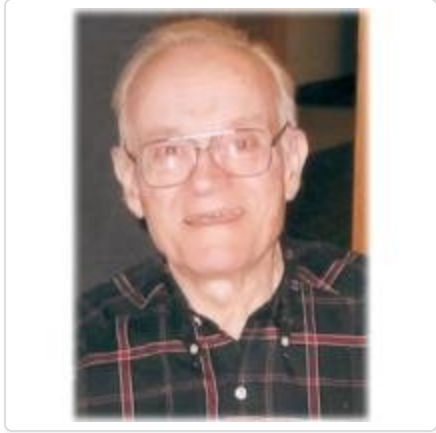




William Leingang

February 16, 1927 - September 1, 2010

William "Bill" Leingang, 83, Bismarck, died September 1, 2010, at St. Alexius Medical Center, Bismarck. Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 am Monday, September 6, 2010, at Church of Corpus Christi, Bismarck, with Rev. Paul Becker officiating. Burial will be held at 9:00 am Tuesday, September 7, 2010, at the North Dakota Veteran's Cemetery, Mandan. Visitation will be from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm Sunday at Parkway Funeral Service, 2330 Tyler Parkway, Bismarck, where a vigil/rosary will begin at 7:00 pm. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church. William Michael Bill Leingang was born Feb. 16, 1927, on a farm in Sioux County near Solen, ND to Ralph and Christine Beckler Leingang. When the drought and dry years came they moved to Linton ND. In 1940 his father passed away and the family moved to Mandan where Bill attended St. Joseph's grade and Mandan High Schools. In his sophomore year, he enlisted in the US Army Air Force on June 18, 1945, to serve in WWII until Dec. 17, 1946, when he returned to complete high school, graduating in 1949. His lifelong love of photography and cinematography began in high school as school photographer and he also worked for Mohr Photo Studio and the Mandan and Palace Theatres. In the following years, Bill worked with the Army Corps of Engineers, the ND Highway Dept., Northwest Mapping and the Northern Pacific Railroad until Sept. of 1952. Bill married Donna Boehm at St. Joseph's Church in Mandan on Sept. 20th, 1952. On their honeymoon they moved to the West Coast and both worked for the International Harvester Co. After about 7 months they

decided to return to the North Dakota they loved and missed and Bill returned to Northwest Mapping. When KFYZ TV came on the air in 1953 he again was able to use his film and photo experience producing movies, commercials, and news pictures and film for the station for over 20 years. He filmed and photographed Presidents from Kennedy to Reagan. During the late 60's and into the late 70's Bill and Donna co-owned and operated Bill's Magnavox Home Entertainment Center with Bob Wiest and they later added Guitarland music store with Sam Wangler and Bob Wiest his business partners. In the 1980's he and Donna co-managed the Wheel-a-While Roller Skating Rink for 13 years. When the rink closed he again called upon his photo experience and became the microfilm curator for the North Dakota State Heritage Society, where, among other recordings and restorations he converted and recorded the same films he had produced with KFYZ years earlier. Due to illness, Bill retired in 2002, and was memory impaired for all of his retirement years. Bill was a great, blessed, honest and sweet spirited husband and father to 7 children, grandfather to 22 and Great-Grandfather to 7 with another new one due any day now. He had a deep and vibrant faith and friendship with God and his Catholic Faith. Family and Faith were most important. Bill loved photography, his blue "Beemer" BMW motorcycle, and roller skating. He often skated as far as 6 miles a day until his memory loss sidelined him. He had a lifetime love of books and reading and amassed a huge collection of music and a love for which he imparted to his children. He was a maestro on the harmonica. Bill was a skilled artist and drew fabulously funny pictures of and for his grandchildren. A favorite art tradition was his annual Christmas mural on the living room picture window. While he never attended college, he was self-taught in subjects as diverse as theology, physics, geometry, electronics and optics. He loved to read about politics and political economy. Now that Bill is back to skating on Glory's side, he waits in Heaven for the love of his life, Donna. He also leaves behind his children: Bill Jr. Jackie, Colorado Springs, CO, Joe Deb, Bismarck, Gordy Jackie, Mandan, Maureen Duane Knoll, Bismarck, Kelly Quercia and her fiancé Brad, Boise, ID, John Jennifer, Castle

Rock, CO, and Rosanne Kevin Epperson, Apple Valley, MN. His grandchildren are Will Rose, & Angela Leingang, Elizabeth Jason Vick, Christine, Hannah, and John-Del Leingang; Michael Tricia and Joey Paul Nikki Leingang, Katie Lyn Leingang Landel Sutton; Brandon, Jesse and Tara Silbernagel; Emily Knoll Jim Jefferson, Travis Foster fiancé Kellie , Mark Knoll, Christopher Beaudoin fiancé Cailin, Phillip Turner Jr., Sam and Ben Leingang, and John, Carter and Elijah Epperson. Bill also leaves his precious great grandchildren Ani and Yosef Vick, Isaac and soon-to-be born Leingang, Jalyn Jefferson; and Madison, Paiton, and Bentley Foster. Bill also leaves his sister Lillian Gilbert, sister-in-law Ruth Leingang, sister-in-law Margaret Volk, Aunt Bonita Beckler Art Hammeral; and nieces and nephews. Bill is preceded in death by his parents Ralph Leingang and Christine Beckler – Leingang Williamson and stepfather Gordon Williamson; big brother Luke and sister Viola. Bill is now safe and sound in the company of the angels he loved and his beloved Lord and Savior, Jesus.

Tribute Wall

RA

“ *Ramona lit a candle in memory of William Leingang*



Ramona - January 12 at 11:30 PM

SF

“ *I remember long after Wheel a While closed I would see Bill out shopping or where ever and he always remembered me by name. He helped me so many times when I was first learning to skate. He was wonderful man he will be greatly missed but never forgotten.*

Shelly Fischer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to the Leingang family - you are in my thoughts and prayers. Having been a "regular" for the better part of my childhood, I wanted to share with you some of the many milestones I can credit to the times I spent at Wheel-a-While ... my first best friend; my first hero; my first crush; my first kiss; my first all-nighter; my most appreciated compliment; my favorite giant pickles; and my 11th, 12th & 13th birthday parties. In tribute, I have taken my rollerskates in the patchwork case down every path my life has lead me. Although I haven't worn them since 1987, I have NOT nor will I EVER consider parting with them for to do so would tear an enormous part of my childhood from my soul. Bill and Mary possess/ed a very rare talent for relating to young people, making us feel as though what we had to say was important and at a point in human development when it was most crucial. They graced our community with a safe, nurturing haven where children could grow outside the umbrella of parental control. There simply aren't words to adequately express the thanks owed them for the hand they extended us - I shudder to think what "could have been" had it not been for the fascinating and magnetic environment they created at Wheel-a-While. In Bill's honor, I will make a point to thank my parents for not only allowing me to skate there, but for the countless times they provided transportation and gave-in when I begged to stay for "second session"! I hope you will find some comfort by the amazing impact he's had on so many lives. The Leingang-era Wheel-a-While will live in my heart eternally, for the memories made there are among the fondest I have.

Jennifer Edwards Wilson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KK

“ Donna and Family, You are all in our prayers. It was a privilege to know such a kind, honest, salt-of-the-earth, wonderful person as Bill. May your many, many years of memories bring you comfort. Kip and Al Krasofski

Kip and Al Krasofski - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LY

“ *There are so many events in my life that I do not remember - but memories of Wheel a While will never be forgotten - thank you Leingangs and very sorry for your loss.*

Lori Ganzer Yantzer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *I am so sorry to hear this. My prayers and thoughts are with your family..*

Tim Skoropat - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ *I just wanted to express my deepest sympathy to the Leingang family for their loss. I also would like to thank the Leingang family for all the many happy years I had at Wheel-a-While. God Bless.*
Marlya Schiele

Marlya - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ *To the family of Bill...my thoughts and prayers are with you all. It was a great pleasure to have worked for Bill back in the 80's.*

Pam Willits Sechler - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ *Bill Thanks for all the great memories that Wheel-A-While gave me.*

Nels Haug - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ My Dear friends and family...how blessed are you for having such a wonderful man in your family...as a great husband, friend, father and much loved.I only wish that I could share not only in your sadness but also in the glory of Gods kindness to have shared him with you and now taken him to him to have him greet you when you enter the glories of heaven. But I do share them in thought and prayer. Love to you all...Joyce

Joyce Boehm - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ So sorry to hear about Bill's passing. I have so many good memories of Wheel-A-While and all you both did for all the kids. My prayers of comfort are with you, Donna.

Maureen Wegenke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

HO

“ Donna and Family,My heart goes out to you and your family in the loss of Bill. He was a good man and I will miss his smiling face as he walked in the doors at the Truckstop. My thoughts and Prayers are with you during this tough time. Heather

Heather Ost - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AL

“ My grandfather was one of the most kind-hearted, intelligent, and authentic men that I have ever known. I wish I could have been there to celebrate his life, with my family this weekend. I will continue in his great shadow to serve my country as a Peace Corps Volunteer, until the day when I can come home and pay him my final respects. All of my love and prayers and support I send to my Grandmother. Shalom to you Grandma, I love you very much!Ang

Angie Leingang - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Donna it was so good to see you and Bill not long ago at a concert. I am so sorry for your loss. Both you and Bill were a big part of my daughter's life, and I was lucky enough to be a part of the Wheel AWhile parents. Thanks for all you did for the kids at Wheel AWhile. Donna, my heart goes out to you. Bill will be missed, but now he is at peace.

Linda Harsche - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ You will be missed by so many people whos lives you've touched. The memories I have of Bill will be cherished throughout my lifetime. I too had a wonderful father whom I miss everyday. I will keep you all in my thoughts and prayers for peace and understanding that he is now home and we will all see him again someday. Julie Renner

Julie Anderson Renner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TN

“ Bill ran a tight ship at the Wheel-A-While and I know my folks appreciated that as we spent countless hours and years there. Many fond memories of Bill and Donna. My deepest condolences to the family.

Toni Nicolson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KC

“My heart and prayers go out to Donna and her family on Bill's passing. I was so sorry to hear he was gone. It has been years since I have seen either Bill or Donna but they gave me years of fun and security at Wheel-A-While. I always knew I could stay for a late session with them watching out for all of us. Bill was a dad to many of us, trying hard to keep us out of trouble. Bill was wonderful to play all of our favorite music no matter how many times we asked him to play it I think he wore ear plugs. Thank you to Bill and Donna for giving many of us kids a great childhood at Wheel-A-While. God has a special angel now and I know Bill is still watching over all of us Wheel-A-While kids who are still kids at heart.

Karen Carvell-Goodfellow - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BE

“Words can't begin to express the sorrow I have for your family. I worked with Bill for several years at Wheel-a-While and remember him as a very kind, loving man. He would always go out of his way to help anyone. We are praying for you in this time of sadness and share in your sorrow. Always remember Jesus will ALWAYS be with you and guide you through this time of difficulty.

Bob Evanenko - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BE

“Words can't begin to express the sorrow I have for your family. I worked with Bill for several years at Wheel-a-While and remember him as a very kind, loving man. He would always go out of his way to help anyone. We are praying for you in this time of sadness and share in your sorrow. Always remember Jesus will ALWAYS be with you and guide you through this time of difficulty.

Bob Evanenko - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ God Bless to Bill and all of the Leingang family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers through this time. Love you all, Donna

Donna Rahrich Sands - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ Jim and I wish to express our sympathy to the family on the death of Bill. He will be missed by many. Keep the memories alive and he will always be with you. In My Pocket I have memories in my pocket. They rattle among the change. My memories of you are treasures I carry wherever I go. They are stored in bits and pieces, parts of a beautiful whole. They give me comfort when I think I am alone. Yes, I have memories in my pocket, like so much other stuff I keep there. But of all the treasures I have, it's the memories of you that are the most precious. Our thought and prayers will be with you during this time of loss and in the days to come.

Jim and Shari Schlosser - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ Arley and I remember many happy times at the roller rink. We always enjoyed knowing Bill. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Ann Gallup - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ I've been fortunate to have known a few great men in my life and Mr. Leingang was one of them. I still can't bring myself to give my skates away, even though I don't use them anymore. Now, when I look at them, they will remind me more of Mr. Leingang. He and Donna were people worth knowing for the better. You will be missed, Mr. Leingang.

Colleen Howe - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ Mom and I would like to send our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Leingang and family. You were our first neighbors when we moved to Bismarck in 1963. Us kids were able to see you at Wheel A While when it opened. Boy, could Mr. Leingang skate. He will be greatly missed by all of his family and friends.

Denise Murray Baker - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ My prayers and Sympathy to the Leingang family. This is a hard and yet a special time to remember all the great things that Bill did for the Bismarck Community. On of them - -Wheel-a-While, I spent many nights at Wheel a while. Thank you Bill and Donna for your forward thinking and providing a fun place for people to hang out at. There was hardly a weekend that I didn't spend a Fri or Sat there. Donna Silbernagel Fricke

Donna Fricke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CL

“ Rest in peace in the hands of our Father. You will be missed by us all. God Bless

Captain Jason Lacis - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AR

“ Donna and family, So sorry this is a late note. I had a 4 day holiday and went to spend time with grandchildren in The Cities. It was a pleasure taking care of Bill, even though it was his last hours. His family surely was special and caring, so I know he was also special and caring. I really admire that in a family and the transition from this fair Earth to His Greatness in Heaven. As you all stated, he is there now and looking upon you all with your memories of him. Take care and you are in my thoughts and prayers, as well you were over the weekend.

Angie Ross - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CE

“ We are so very sorry about your loss. William was a great guy and always had a smile and a friendly word for everyone. Our hearts and prayers are with all of you. Carol Maas Mitchell, Kory Mitchell, Helen Maas Hoff, Carrie, Jim and Angie Erhardt

Carol, Kory Mitchell, Helen Maas Hoff, Carrie, Jim, Angie Erhardt - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Bill was one of my favorite people growing up. Love to all the Leingangs. Mary

Mary Lindsay - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Bill will be greatly missed. Lots of memories skating and visiting.

John & Fran Miller - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Donna and family: Our heartfelt sympathies to all of you on the loss of such an incredible man! In reading his obituary we found out so much more about him and it truly affirms our feelings on what a wonderful person he was. We are so thankful that Kevin is part of your family and that he had such an amazing person as part of his life. We continue to keep you all in our thoughts and prayers. May the peace of God be with you through this difficult time. Jayne & Dennis Westlind

Dennis & Jayne Westlind - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Bill was always an inspiration to us. He treated us like we were his kids. I will never forget all the guidance and love he showed us over the years. Every time I walked through the skating rink doors, Bill always was there to greet you with a smile and kind words. We will miss him. God bless.

Scott & Barbie Pederson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ I am so sorry Donna for your loss. I will always have such wonderful memories at wheel a while. You both meant so much to all of us. I will always have the up most respect for Bill and he will be missed deeply. With all my love. Jennifer Backes

Jennifer Backes - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ Well Leingang family the Lord's Hand has finally reached down and grasped ahold of Bill and took him home. Gordy and Joe you know all through high school your dad was like a second father to me. He showed me by example the love a father can have for his family. He always had words of wisdom to help me along through those years. I will keep your whole family in my prayers throughout this weekend. God Bless you all.

Bob Bubba Seidler - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ I am so sorry to hear the very sad news of Bill's passing away. May you all be comforted by the Lord's presence and His strength during this very difficult time of loss. He was a very good man. He and Donna always went out of their way to say "hello" and acknowledge me when I saw them and I always felt special and honored when I was in their company. You are all in our prayers. Amy, Olivia, and Jenna

Amy Santoro - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ My thoughts and prayers go unto the family of such a wonderful man... some of my fondest memories are of Wheel ~a~ While, growing up. The teen years are very important and I look back unto those weekends with joy in remembrance, it helped to shape me as I am today. Thank you for the memories, Bill & Donna... the Angels have welcomed a great man.

Melissa Wittmayer - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ Praying for God's comfort & strength for the family at this oh, so difficult time. Remembering Mr. Leingang with a big smile on my face. So many childhood memories revolve around the skating rink. Ballroom Blitz plays on the radio & I think 'speed skate'! God bless the Leingang family, cherish your memories & celebrate Bill's life! That's how he would want it!

Dawne Gull Darnell - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ I also have such fond memories of Wheel A While. It was my childhood in a nutshell. And the caring faces of Bill and Donna graced us kids many nights each week over the years. Bill kept a watchful eye over all of us. And, he had so many grandchildren I never lacked for babysitting jobs. I'm sure those grandchildren are grown now since I am nearly 39 years old. I just lost my dad in February Dr. Leingang took care of Dad on many emergency room visits so I know the pain you are feeling all too well. God bless you, Leingangs, in this time of great sorrow. I hope it brings comfort to you in knowing the impact Bill had on my generation.

Rena Ternes Larson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LH

“ Peace and Love to your Family during this difficult time. I was a long time Wheel-A-While patron! I loved it! Those were some of the best times of my life. In reading the Obituary, Mr. Leingang sure did have an outstanding and productive life! What wonderful accomplishments indeed! He is now an Angel that will shower your Family with much protection and love! Sincerely, Lorrie Grant
Nossem Hawk

Lorrie Grant Nossem Hawk - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LT

“ I remember skating at the Wheel A While as a kid growing up. I also remember being so friendly and caring.

Lisa Titus - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ It's been over 30 years since I last stepped foot in Wheel-A-While, and still the memories of the place are as bright and vivid as if they happened yesterday. I wonder if Bill and Donna realized how important they were in the lives of so many of us. Thanks, Bill. You were a true original.

Ryan Peck - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EQ

“ He was a wonderful father figure to us all.

Elizabeth Land Quant - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ My thoughts and prayers go out to the family during this difficult time but one that reminds me of the good time had at Wheel-a-While on all those weekends many years ago; I can see Bill now up in Heaven wearing that purple shirt and blowing his whistle at all those "speed" breakers in the sky ... RIP Bill and know that you left many a memory and put smiles on thousands of faces!

Cory Nicolson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RE

“ Dear Leingang family, I am very sad to hear of Bill's passing. Bill was always very kind to me. Like many people, I got to know Bill at Wheel-A-While where we discussed electronics, his store on Main and Bismarck's past. He was always a wealth of information and he was very happy to share it. I will always remember him as a very kind and knowledgeable fellow. I extend my most heartfelt condolences.

Rolf Eggers - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

NL

“ We are very sorry for your loss. We were a part of the Skatium Spotlight Skaters in Minot, and have fond memories of skating at Wheel-A-While. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Nan and Stacie Lund - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

KH

“ Donna and Family; My thoughts and prayers go out to you at this difficult time. I still remember the good times, of working for the two of you at Wheel a While. Bill was always a person that the staff and kids looked up to. He had a personality that everyone loved. I can picture him skating around Heaven with a big smile on his face.

Kelly C. Hyke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DH

“ Bill was a sweetheart. I remember when things were still easy for him talking about his life and all he didwas always so interesting ..he will be missed ..the little jokes. Always a kidder..God Bless the Family.

Donna Bloom Hipfner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ I'm sorry to hear of the loss of your family member. As a child some of the best memories I recall are those I spent at Wheel-A-While. Those were the days when kids could come, skate, play and really have some fun. Thank you for those memories!!! May God be with your family during this difficult time.

Angela Plante - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RW

“ Dear Donna, Gordie, and family, I just read Bill's obituary in the Tribune. Unfortunately I am out of state, moving my son to New Haven, CT; otherwise I would plan to attend the funeral for Bill at Corpus Christi. Donna, you were such a support to Bill, and a wonderful resource and example of caregiving to our support group for a long time. Gordie, I know you were so supportive to you mom and dad as well. My condolences and prayers to all of you. You will have many great memories of Bill from his many good lifetime experiences. Our first was taking our young children roller skating in Bismarck many years ago. Take care!Rodger Wetzel

Rodger Wetzel - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ I am thankful to have known Bill, when we worked at KFYZ-TV producing film for commercials, some 50 years ago...

Ernie Michelsen - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DN

“ Bill was a great guy and a friend to all of us at W.A.W. he will be deeply missed. My prayers are with his family and all the knew him.God Bless.

Darcy Niebeling - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ From the Burkhart family please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. I always enjoyed talking to Bill and remember seeing him at the skating rink. Bill was an outstanding young man. Jim, Dawn, Audrey & Manon Burkhart

Jim Burkhart - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ Leingang family, Sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I spent a lot of time skating up there and it was always a pleasure to see Bill. I just lost my Dad on Friday.

Phil Huseby - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Bill was a Great Man! He and Donna treated all of us like family. He was very talented, and will be missed by many.

Mike Bondgien - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ So sad to hear the news of Bill's passing. He was a wonderful man who became a Father to all of us! I'll never forget his kind words and interest in all our lives. He had time for everyone he new, for that and many other reasons he will be missed greatly! My heart goes out to his family. My Deepest Sympathy Cyndi Lipp Schreiner

Cyndi Lipp Schreiner - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TR

“ Thanks for such a fun and great place to go. While a child this was a favorite place. Wish my kids could experience this also.

Tifanie Reineke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ *thank you bill for all the wonderful times you have brought me over the years...take care bud....*

dave spargo - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GK

“ *Dear Leingang Family,I am so sorry to hear of your loss. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Thank you for the wonderful memories and times at Wheel-a-While.*

Greta Fladmark Krupke - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ *Donna and family,I will miss seeing both of you at 4:00 Saturday mass. Take comfort knowing he rests in God's hands. My prayers as you grieve the loss of Bill.*

Gisele Thorson - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *I am so sorry to hear about Bill's passing. What a gift they gave to the community with Wheel-A-While...it will never be surpassed. There are so many awesome memories.*

Lynn Shannon-Gall - March 17, 2015 at 12:00 AM