



# William David Crawford

OCT 14, 2014



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## **William David Crawford**

OCT 14, 2014

**W**illiam “Bill” David Crawford, 68, of Huntersville, NC died October 13, 2014 at his residence.

He was born on January 19, 1947 in Memphis, TN and was the son of the late Clarence W. and Louise Hatcher Crawford. He was a Navy Veteran of the Vietnam War where he served on the USS Forrestal. He and his wife attended Christ Community Church.

He is survived by his wife, Elaine Randall Crawford of Huntersville; two sons, Sam Crawford and wife Angela of Huntersville and Michael Upton and wife Amy of Jacksonville, AL; four grandchildren, Alexa and Colin MacLamroc, Caroline Crawford and Courtney Bowles; two brothers, Bruce Crawford of Orange County, CA and Brian Crawford of Birmingham, AL; one sister, Ginny Parker of Lexington, VA.

A funeral service will be held on Monday, October 20, 2014, at 1:00 PM, at Christ Community Church with Rev. Jack Homesley officiating. The family will receive friends following the service at church.

Burial with full military honors will be held on Monday, October 27, 2014, at 2:00 PM at Barrancas National Cemetery in Pensacola, FL.

Memorial can be made to The Walter Reed Society, 8901 Wisconsin Avenue, #303, Bethesda, MD 20889-5600 and the Semper Fi Foundation, 145 East Prospect Avenue, Suite 200, Danville, CA 94526.

James Funeral Home of Huntersville, NC is serving the family of Mr. Crawford and online condolences can be made to [jamesfuneralhome1kn.com](http://jamesfuneralhome1kn.com).



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

JB

**Joe Bowling** posted:

I just learned of Bill's passing and am deeply saddened, because I'll miss him as a friend. Bill volunteered his time without any expectation of final return to help my own congregation, Englewood Christian Church here in Indianapolis pursue and ultimately install solar panels on our facility. Through Bill's mentorship, we are now helping others to do the same. Bill, Thank you brother for your friendship and your generosity. My sincerest condolences to your family and to your wife, who I know that you loved. Grace & Peace, Joe

February 11 at 12:37 PM

GA

**Gary M. Anderson** posted:

I learned of Bill's passing today, December 31, 2014 and am stunned and saddened. During my 39 year professional career Bill Crawford was the absolutely best boss I had the pleasure of working for. Bill always sought out the best in people, and provided support and confidence like no one I have ever met. To this day I still apply lessons that Bill taught me on how to respectfully treat people, and no one has a stronger work ethic than Bill. Ever hear of the the eveready bunny? Bill Crawford could run rings around it blindfolded with his boundless energy and enthusiasm. The Mead-Hatcher and ErgoTeam years I spent working with Bill were a positive learning experience. Elaine and Sam please accept my heartfelt sorrow for your loss. The world is a worse place without Bill Crawford around. He truly was one of a kind and will always live in my heart and mind. The world desperately needs more people like Bill Crawford. Gary Anderson Prescott, AZ

December 31 at 8:07 PM

HP

**Harry Peters** posted:

I am sad to hear of Bill's passing, much too young. I am one of the people Bill touched in Office Products, having worked at United Stationers when we first met. Bill was always the gentleman with a high standard in professionalism always present. His family should be very proud of Bill and how he became one of those people we miss when we hear of his passing. Please accept my sympathy and sincere condolences, the world has lost a good one.

November 6 at 10:14 AM

BP

**Bruce Parkhouse** posted:

I was shocked to hear of Bill's passing and offer my condolences to the Crawford family. I served with Bill on the USS Forrestal and COMCARDIV TWO. He was a good man. Bruce J Parkhouse RM1 USNRET

October 21 at 10:58 AM



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

MS

**Mary Ann Burney Sims** posted:

Elaine, I am sorry to hear of the death of your husband. Although I never met Bill, Brenda always had good things to say about him. Lamentations 3:22 states: Through the Lord's mercies, we are not consumed because His compassions fail not. Isaiah 41:13 says "For I, the Lord your God will hold your right hand, saying unto to you, Fear not, I will help you". I hope you take comfort in these scriptures because they have certainly gotten me through some tough times. I will be praying for you and your family. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy for you all during these days. Mary Ann Sims

October 20 at 12:29 PM

GR

**G. E. "Russ" Russell** posted:

Bill was a true friend the first time we met 24 years ago - we shared many likes - SEC football, the military and building of solid relationships in business and personal dealings. My last message (email) was Monday morning October 13 when I sent him and two other Navy friends a Happy Birthday to the U.S. Navy along with a picture of the Navy Seal - I am privileged to have known him for those years and will miss him. Our prayers to Elaine, Sam and the extended family.

October 20 at 9:06 AM

SG

**Simon De Groot** posted:

I had the great good fortune to work with Bill during his office products career. His was a remarkable blend of business intelligence, leadership and integrity that made a real difference in the lives of those who knew him. My deepest sympathy to Elaine and the rest of his family.

October 20 at 5:54 AM

HF

**Hank And Andi Barkley And Family** posted:

Elaine, Our deepest sorrow and great prayers are with you since hearing of Bill's passing. You have always been an encouragement and woman of great faith. Your contributions to Clara's K class are reminders each day of what great fun it is to learn. As soon as you introduced me to Bill, he treated me as though he'd known me for years. Though I didn't have the privilege to know him well, I know from you and his reputation, this was my loss too. We remember you in our prayers and lift you up as you celebrate his life here on earth and his eternal life in heaven yet mourn the loss of your great friend and life love. Praying God's perfect peace and fullness of His love over you. Love Clara, Andi and the Barkley family

October 20 at 5:02 AM



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

CJ

**Carlotta Jones** posted:

I am so sorry for your loss. May the Lord bless and comfort you.

October 20 at 4:45 AM

BW

**Brian And Judy Watkins** posted:

Our prayers are with Elaine and the rest of the family. Bill was a kind and special man. He will be missed here but has already received a wonderful welcome in heaven.

October 19 at 6:32 PM

GA

**Gary Andrasko** posted:

My thoughts and prayers to Bill's family in your time of loss. Bill was a special person - I think I realized that immediately when I met him for the first time during fraternity rush at the University of Alabama in 1971. His friendship, hospitality, and warmth were especially appreciated by this 18 year old from New Jersey who was far away from home for the first time. After reading his Facebook posts about his experiences advocating for wounded warriors, it's clear that my first impression of Bill was, if anything, understated. He leaves a phenomenal legacy - one to which we should all aspire..."... a righteous man will be remembered forever."Rest in Peace, my Brother.

October 19 at 4:26 PM

DG

**Don Graffam** posted:

Hearing of Bill's passing took my breath away. Bill is one of the few that I know has been faithful to his Christian beliefs. He was a great friend, he arranged for my first customer when I started my business. He offered some good suggestions to my son Donny as he finished college and started looking for work. I wish I had stayed in closer contact with him. I have a terrible sense of loss. Don

October 19 at 12:08 PM

BW

**Brenda Wells** posted:

Elaine, My heart was saddened to learn of the passing of your husband. I myself lost my husband Bob this past February. I remember you fondly from when we worked together at St. Mary's in Buffalo and know that you are a person of great faith. Keep all of the memories of your life together close in your heart, for it will help ease the pain. That and the love and prayers of family and friends. You are in my thoughts and prayers. May the peace of God help you through this time. Regards Brenda

October 19 at 7:22 AM



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

PF

**Paul H. Friedman** posted:

My WestPac 67 Shipmate Bill and I have exchanged e-mails and xmas cards since 2007 when he played a pivotal role in the success of the 40th USS FORRESTAL FIRE Remembrance and COMCARDIV2 Reunion at Vietnam Veterans Wall in WASH DC I am so glad I got a chance to meet Bill in 2009 at USS FORRESTAL Reunion in VA Beach. We exchanged many sea stories - I was shocked to hear of Bill's passing - My deepest sympathies go out to his beautiful & loving wife and family. I sure QM2 Crawford is now serving the Great Commander in Heaven.

October 17 at 5:47 PM

SC

**Sam Crawford** posted:

My Dad left us on a very special day. God is now revealing to me that Monday Oct 13 was the 239th anniversary of the Navy which he loved so dearly. It was also the day our college fraternity at the University of Alabama was founded. My Dad is at peace and with the lord. We are here to celebrate his life, friendships and love for our lord Jesus Christ. His legacy will live on through us and our relationship with him. He is not gone, will never be forgotten and we will rejoice in the lords arms together someday.

October 16 at 6:24 PM

RC

**Richard And Diane Carr** posted:

Our heartfelt prayers go out to his family. Bill stopped in to see Richard while in the nursing home. It was an honor to meet him. He had that definite aura of good, and decent Christian person. He made my husband light up and smile, at the sight of him. He was a lovely man, that unselfishly gave of himself, and cared for, and thought well of others. May He hold you all safe in His hands, give you strength, comfort, and His infinite love.

October 16 at 3:35 PM

SK

**Skip And Karen Keller** posted:

We were so shocked when we heard of Bill's passing. It was because of all of Bill's hard work that we had the 40th USS FORRESTAL/ COM CAR DIV 2 reunion in Washington DC. And we were so thankful for that. You have our sincere sympathy. Know that our thoughts and prayers are with at this most difficult time. May God Bless all of you.

October 16 at 12:47 PM



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

AI

**American Solar Integrators** posted:

All of the members of our company are deeply grieved by the passing of our brother, Bill Crawford. He was an example to us in the way he conducted his life. The integrity he showed in every aspect of business will be part of his legacy to us. We mourn the loss of our dear friend Bill, a kindred spirit. Bill Burk, President American Solar Integrators

October 16 at 9:58 AM

JS

**Josephine & Dr Slaa** posted:

We have lost a friend, Bill we loved you but God loved you more. Our prayers to the family and other friend. You will be missed so by my family

October 16 at 9:34 AM

MP

**Malcolm And Kitty Philips** posted:

Jesus parable that we should not hide our light under a basket (Mark 4:24) brings Bill's life to mind. Bill is a beacon of light, humor, truth and energy for all around him. We know that today Bill is in the presence of our Lord and Savior -- a much better place. That gives us some comfort as we mourn our loss. Our prayers and thoughts go out to Elaine and the family.

October 16 at 5:53 AM

RM

**Rick & Gail Myers** posted:

Mr. Bill had a keen sense of humor & we will miss him & his ways. He had a gift of meeting needs & reaching to the younger generation. I remember him sitting in a married's Sunday school class just to get to know his folks as their deacon. That way he would find what their needs were & come up with some way to make things happen. Bill was instrumental in the success of our son by writing a great recommendation/ reference that had a way of building him up. Bill could visualize the future potentials in our youth. We will keep the Bill stories alive & take care of Miss Elaine; until we meet at the Saviour's feet.

October 16 at 12:25 AM

JF

**Josephine Slaa & Family** posted:

We have lost a friend. Running short of words. Our prayers to his family. RIP

October 16 at 12:14 AM



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

JF

**Josephine Slaa& Family** posted:

RIP Dear friend,My prayers to his Wife and the family it is hard to believe the reality.You have been a brother and a friend to us as a family,I have gone through your emails my hearth broke into tears.Your memory will live for ever in our hearts.

October 16 at 12:12 AM

SM

**Susan Mzee** posted:

The World has lost a great Man. Bill came to Tanzania for Investment opportunities and i was amazed by how down to earth he was. As an Assistant to the Prime Minister, i thought i was just doing my job when helping Bill fulfill his investment opportunities. But Bill wqs always quick to praise and appreciate for the little things that i did. I am lost for words how wonderful Bill was and and how much love he had for his family as he always said they kept him young. I will always remember you Bill and the inspirations i got from you. RIP Dear friend.

October 16 at 12:10 AM

BJ

**Bonnie Johnson** posted:

Jimmie and I extend our prayers and condolences to Elaine and family in the homegoing of Bill.Bill was an encourager and extended a helping hand in so many ways. It was a joy to know him. A man of strong faith, he has a new home with the Savior he loved so much. Psalm 17:15

October 15 at 7:36 PM



## Tribute Wall

William David Crawford

NM

**Nazy Membe** posted:

Elaine, I cannot think of anything to say to ease your suffering at this time. Loss is something only God can adequately help with. We have lost a good man albeit to the Creator. I pray that even while you grieve you will be comforted in knowing that we are here for you, that God has privileged us to be your pillars and strongholds while you go through this. Your burden is heavy but Jesus is right there. Please be encouraged by the verses in His Word. Isaiah 41:10 "So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand." Isaiah 43:2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze." Psalm 18:28 "You, Lord, keep my lamp burning; my God turns my darkness into light." Psalm 46:1-2 "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea." 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 "Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. In Christ.

October 14 at 7:48 AM

JD

**John Dayton** posted:

I was shocked when told of Bill's passing. Our deepest sympathy to Elaine, family, and friends of Bill. He had a heart for people as large as his own stature. We met a church where he was very involved. He had a calling to serve the Lord in many venues. One example was his years of service on the board of Athletes In Action. His leadership skills and dedication will be missed. We will meet again in the Lord's timing. We will continue to pray for Elaine and family.

October 15 at 3:39 PM



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

BM

**Buchizya (Buchi) Mseteka** posted:

Bill, A brother, mentor, friend, business partner and a God fearing man. We exchanged emails shortly before you passed on. We planned to meet in 10 days time in Africa to continue with our vision (mostly your vision) of reaching out to the needy through economic and business investments. But the Good Lord had other plans. Your efforts were not in vain and never shall be; because your vision will be accelerated and carried on to implementation. A part of me is lost and gone. I will always treasure our friendship and your wise counsel. To Elaine and the kids; Bill may be gone but he remains here through us and with us. We will stand side by side with you. Farewell thee Brother Bill. It is well with my Soul.

October 15 at 3:30 PM

RF

**Roger And Judy Fortner** posted:

Roger and I are so sorry for the loss of Bill. Elaine and sons, we are praying for you daily. Bill was a wonderful man. When our son, Mike, was stationed in Iraq, Bill headed a movement to send the items the soldiers needed--not only for Mike, but for the other men in his unit. There were so many items that the soldiers could not readily obtain in Iraq. Anyone who attended the Memorial Day services he spearheaded, will hold memories of those services for the rest of our lives. God has called him home, but we will miss him here. We pray for God's special comfort to those he left behind.

October 15 at 2:33 PM

BH

**Bob Howard** posted:

Dear Elaine, I was sorry to hear of Bill's passing. It was a pleasure and honor to serve with him. Nan and I send our prayers to you and the family. QM1 Bob Howard USN/ret.

October 15 at 2:30 PM

SS

**Steven Sherman** posted:

I have lost a dear friend and the world has lost a good person. My prayers go out to Elaine and Bill's family.

October 15 at 11:39 AM



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

PS

**Patricia Stewart** posted:

Our prayers and deepest sympathy go out to all who loved Bill. We are saddened by this unexpected news. Bill has been a wonderful friend to our family for MANY years and he left his mark, especially on our oldest daughter (Laura) who always loved to give Uncle Bill some "sugar." We are glad that we share a faith in our Savior Jesus with Bill and look forward to seeing him again in the LORD's timing. May God comfort the hearts of Elaine and Sam as well as all those who grieve his absence.

October 15 at 11:22 AM

BS

**Beverly Schermerhorn** posted:

My Prayers, Love and Service goes out to Elaine, (Bills wife) and their family. Bill joined "Operation Care\_Military, Wounded Warriors, Wives, and Veterans and Spouses" joining with this Ministry in being of Service to many Servicemen and women wherever they served. Bill became a mentor for several "Wounded Warriors" at Walter Reed Hospital in Bethesda, and continue befriending many long after they discharged from the Hospital. Bill was a Friend, Patriot, Family man, a friend, but most of all, Bill was a Christian. He led a Christ-Centered life, and knew Jesus as His Savior. We will miss his earthly presence, but we rejoice in knowing he is walking without pain, on the streets of Gold with Jesus. Thank You Bill for all you gave....

October 15 at 9:15 AM

AM

**Allen McClendon** posted:

Thank you Bill. Your legacy lives on in all of those who knew you. Prayers and peace. ITB, Allen

October 15 at 9:12 AM

CP

**Cherie & Keith Pickett** posted:

Heaven received a good man! We know when Bill arrived at his "homecoming" he was greeted by our Lord with great joy. Bill was a man who would and did do for others without question. He gave so much to so many. His love and care for our veterans was exemplary. His love for serving others was always his best. He was so humble in all he did, because he did it for our Lord. When we first came to Church after moving here, we did not know who our Deacon was, Bill just stepped in and became that person we needed. He loved his wife, family, and all those he came into contact with. But most of all his love for Christ was his first desire and it showed in all he said and did. He truly was a man that went that extra mile for so many of us. We will miss him very much and we know we will see him again when we have our homecoming. Elaine and family we of course will keep you in our hearts and prayers.

October 15 at 8:22 AM



## Tribute Wall

**William David Crawford**

EK

**Ernie Kenamer** posted:

RIP friend and fraternity brother. VERY FEW PEOPLE HAVE DONE AS MUCH FOR THE Delta chi fraternity at Alabama. Like many I'm overwhelmed with sadness at the loss of this great man.

October 15 at 8:06 AM

EK

**Ernie Kennamers** posted:

Bill was a friend to many. His support of the Delta chi fraternity at the university of Alabama was almost unequalled. He will be greatly missed and we in Alabama are overwhelmed with sadness over the loss of our friend and fraternity brother.

October 15 at 7:57 AM

KK

**Ken Killmeyer** posted:

My thoughts and prayers go out for Bill, Elaine their children, grandchildren and extendedfamily. Bill was a great man. We served together aboard the USS FORRESTAL 47 years ago. Billwent the extra mile in everything he did.God bless Bill, Elaine and their entire family.

October 15 at 3:02 AM

MS

**Marilyn Spaulding** posted:

My heart weeps for our loss especially for his dear family. He will be missed by all.

October 14 at 3:44 PM

KM

**Ken And Gail Mccarter** posted:

The Huntersvllle Area has lost a great patriot.I have nothing but highest regards for Bill and his many many years of work with anything that was related to veterans and familes.Bill was a great man and I will miss the many conversations that he and I have had over the past number of years. having worked with Bill for many Memorial Days services over the years, I was impressed with the number different people Bill had made friends with and the help each of them brought to Bill.He was professional in every way and in everything that he undertook. He handled every situation with a level that of confidencenceMy thoughts and prayers go out to Bill and his family.I will miss my friend, but will see him again one day when we can all rejoice and celebrate.

October 14 at 7:48 AM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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