



## William "Bill" Sommers

October 19, 1940 - July 5, 2019

William (Bill) A. Sommers, Jr. passed away July 5, 2019, Grass Valley, CA.

He was born on October, 19, 1940, in Chicago, IL.

Our beloved dad, uncle and grandpa has taken his final flight to heaven.

Bill retired to Grass Valley in 2000 after 40 years of service as Fire Captain with Los Angeles City Fire Department. After retirement, Bill's passion was flying his plane. He was a big supporter of the Young Eagles program which dedicated to giving youth ages 8-17 their first fee ride in an airplane. Bill flew over 1700 kids, more than anyone else on the West Coast, in hopes of sparking their love of aviation.

Bill also successfully landed his private plane in all 50 States and landed a private plane in Alaska and Hawaii. Bill served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 6 years, was honorably discharged as Staff Sergeant and was a true hero in life. He loved to help people and always encouraged people to do their best. Bill had a great sense of humor and a big love for adventure.

Bill is survived by his three sons, Mitch, Curt and Brad Sommers; four grandchildren all in California, as well as four nieces and nephews in Chicago, IL area.

Bill is preceded in death by his father William A. Sommers, Sr; his mother, Kathryn Hegl Sommers and his sister, Joanne Hempe.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to "The Bill Sommers Memorial Scholarship". Checks can be made payable to GEFA, P.O. Box 375, Grass Valley, CA. 95945. Please note on the memo line "Bill Sommers Memorial Scholarship".

# Comments

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“ Hello sister back East, I was sorry and surprised to hear a few days ago that Bill is gone. I visited him a few months ago at his house and was about to stop by again. My daughter told me that she heard through Kerry on FB that he had passed. He was the most organized and the most dedicated person I have ever met. Whether flying related or cleaning the garbage cans he was right on it and in complete Control.  
So sorry that you have lost him..  
Gaylene in Rough and Ready (next to GV)  
gknezovichcollins@yahoo.com  
(if you see me on his email contacts)

**Gaylene** - July 17, 2019 at 03:21 PM