



William L. Waack

September 25, 1928 - January 13, 2018

CEDAR FALLS – William “Bill” Waack, 89, of Cedar Falls died Friday, January 12, 2018 at Western Home Communities Nation Cottage.

He was born September 25, 1928, in Clinton County, Iowa, son of Lester and Naomi Waack and was united in marriage to Beryl Grace Malmanger.

Bill graduated from DeWitt High School in 1945. He received his B.A. at Iowa State Teachers College (UNI) in Cedar Falls in 1949; his M.A. at the University of Iowa in 1957; and his Ph.D. at the University of Iowa in 1982. He taught in Clinton and Keokuk, Iowa; Maywood and Evanston, Illinois; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, before coming to the University of Northern Iowa, where he taught for 20 years. He was a member of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls and served in various positions, with particular emphasis on Christian education. He was also a member of the Cedar Falls Kiwanis Club.

Survived by: his wife and several nephews.

Preceded in death by: his son, Craig S. Waack; and his brother, Richard Waack.

Family directed funeral services will be 2:00 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 21 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls. Committal services will be held at a

later date in Evergreen Cemetery, Grand Mound, Iowa. Richardson Funeral Service is assisting the family.

Memorials may be directed to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cedar Falls or Cedar Bend Humane Society.

An online guestbook at www.richardsonfuneralservice.com.

Cemetery Details

Evergreen Cemetery

Grand Mound, IA

Previous Events

Family Directed Funeral Service

JAN 21. 2:00 PM (CT)

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
904 Bluff Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 266-2509
<http://theforgivenessplace.org>

Tribute Wall

DF

“ *Mr. Waack changed the course of my life as I was a `thespian' at Proviso East High School in Maywood, Illinois. He made me feel like I was somebody. I came from a very violent family and ONLY because of him I went on to become a licensed psychologist. Graduating from Loyola University with two graduate degrees. He and Miss Little ... they are the turning points in my life. So sorry to note Craig's passing.*

- Dan Fallon, class of '65 (Proviso East).

Daniel Fallon - July 06, 2023 at 11:46 PM

JS

“ *I did not learn of Bill's passing until the most recent ITAG newsletter came out. I have been retired for 7 years and not in touch with my GT colleagues very much.*

Bill was such a dynamic leader in gifted ed during the 1980's and 1990's. I attended ConTag at UNI that he facilitated. He was the final okay when I submitted my credentials for the TAG endorsement that was part of my Master's license.

He was warm and had a great sense of humor. I appreciated all his work for TAG and other students.

*My sympathies,
Jean Saveraid
Gilbert, Iowa TAG - from 1983-2011.*

Jean Saveraid - March 04, 2018 at 08:52 AM

DG

“ *Mr Waack meant so much to me in High School, and really helped me blossom through Drama and helped me win a scholarship in Drama that led to my Carter in Tgeatre and Televison. He was a true mentor to his students.*

Dennis Grimaldi - February 10, 2018 at 03:10 PM

AH

“ *The Price Lab School was blessed with Dr. Waack's kind and generous spirit ~ what a gift he was to us. NUHS drama was the recipient of his artful and creative energy. My deepest sympathy to the entire Waack family. Dr. Anne Healy*

Anne Healy - January 21, 2018 at 11:53 PM

MW

“ *I treasure my years of friendship with Bill. We were theater buddies back in our ISTC days. The wonderful characteristics that all of these people who have written about him here have remembered were a part of him then. We all loved and enjoyed Bill, and Bill let us know that he loved and enjoyed us. What a blessing. My condolences to his family and to his many friends. Margaret Logan Willoughby*

Margaret Willoughby - January 19, 2018 at 02:06 PM


KEEP
CALM
AND
CARRY
ON

“ *What a delightful educator Dr. Waack was! His enthusiasm was contagious, and his encouragement definitely affected me personally. He was certainly one of my favorite teachers. His spirit lives on - words, words, words!*
-Steph Althof, NUHS 1987

Stephanie Althof - January 19, 2018 at 10:56 AM

Lenny
Scovel

“ *My greatest memory of Dr. Waack was when he allowed me and several classmates to do a rewrite of Shakespeare's Julius Ceasar, which we called Ceasar's Seizure. He was so supportive, allowing us space to grow. He was a former influence and a favorite teacher of mine. Good night, sweet prince, and flights of angels song thee to thy rest.*

Lenny Scovel - January 19, 2018 at 09:55 AM

TF

“ *The Waack Family purchased the Rainbow Reflections Basket for the family of William L. Waack.*



The Waack Family - January 17, 2018 at 05:39 PM

DH

“ *Dear Beryl and family, You and Bill always loved your pet members of the family! They all were a comfort and joy! i view Bill in Heaven right now holding and loving them all! We pray GOD'S peace and comfort! Your Friends Always, Dr. Jerry Den Herder and Staff.*

Dr. Jerry Den Herder - January 17, 2018 at 02:46 PM

NW

“ I would like to share a memory back to 1946 when I met my young brother-in-law, Bill.

There I found a true friend. The three of us, my husband Richard, Bill and myself, started college life in Cedar Falls .we were there until the fall of 1949.

We shared a love for raising flowers. We Discussed his love of the theater and I encouraged him to become involved. He was indeed a remarkable person. Late years

I did not get to see him but I am sure he remained the same. he was truly loved by all of us; his brother, Richard, our sons Richard, Matt and Timothy; his sister-in-law, Nina.

Nina Waack - January 17, 2018 at 12:48 AM

JS

“ Dear Beryl and family,

Heaven has gained such a special gentle soul, and he will be missed by all who ever met him. His contagious smile, twinkling eyes and enthusiasm for life - everyone loved him. Bill was such a support for Tom and Tom had Bill read and correct every speech and article he ever wrote.

Every Christmas as I trim my tree, I hang the many beautiful ornaments that the two of you gave Tom and me - always with special memories.

Keeping all of you in my thoughts and prayers - God Bless You
Jane Switzer

Jane Switzer - January 15, 2018 at 01:01 PM

NG

“ Bill was my mentor and friend who was incredibly creative, witty, and positive. Bill invited me to adjunct at UNI in gifted education courses, which I taught along side his guidance. Bill was a leader in Iowa's gifted education early movement serving on the state board and well as co-chairing CONTAG, which was a week-long conference on talented and gifted hosted by UNI. Bill always infused the fine arts and fun into this wonderful event. His impact was great among educators and students. His friendly smile will be missed; his legacy lives.

Nancy Grimes - January 15, 2018 at 10:11 AM

JN

“ Dr. Waack was my advisor and mentor during my masters program in gifted education at UNI....but also one of my favorite people I've ever had the pleasure of knowing. He was a great man and an intellectual giant....dedicated to helping others, funny, and just had an incredible way of making you stretch your thinking with warmth and enthusiasm. He had a way of bringing out the best in everyone he met. He loved his students and followed their progress...when I graduated with my PhD, Dr. Waack attended my graduation celebration and gave me a beautiful desk placard that read “Dr. Jill Nooren” and it sits on my desk to this very day. I was quite literally talking about him the other day....he will be missed.

Jill Nooren - January 14, 2018 at 11:54 PM

DT

“ My sincere condolences to Bill’s family. I had worked with Bill at UNI when I first began my career at the university. He was so generous, kind, and thoughtful in his words. When he retired he left such a positive imprint from his work, his caring approach to students and colleagues, and his gentle and kind demeanor. I feel very privileged to have known him and had the opportunity to work with him.
Deborah Tidwell

Deborah Tidwell - January 14, 2018 at 10:16 PM

JU

“ Bill paid such an important part in my education and career, as both my MA level advisor and my mentor as a faculty member. He will be sorely missed for his smile and encouraging ways, for his love of teaching and learning, and his gentle friendship.
Jill Uhlenberg

Jill Uhlenberg - January 14, 2018 at 04:24 PM

MB

“ Bill was a pillar in the UNI teacher education program. He was kind, funny and an amazing educator. I was lucky to be his colleague and friend.

Mary Bozik - January 14, 2018 at 02:27 PM

GP

“ *My prayers are for your comfort, Beryl. Bill was a great scholar and teacher. He was a fine, sensitive man, who made a difference to his students both in the high schools where he taught and at the University of Northern Iowa. His work in teacher education was impressive. Many, many people benefited from his careful, thoughtful teaching and scholarship. I always enjoyed our conversations. He was a good Christian. He was a good friend.*

--Gerry Peterson

Gerald L. Peterson - January 14, 2018 at 11:59 AM