



William "Bill" Hawkins

June 23, 1929 - June 16, 2024

William "Bill" Hawkins, age 94 of Gardendale AL passed away on June 16, 2024.

He is preceded in death by parents, G.C. and Emma Hawkins; brother, Clarence Hawkins and his beloved wife, Louise Hawkins.

Bill is survived by his daughters, Delyn Redmond (Charley) and Vickie Taylor (James); six grandchildren, Will Redmond (Jess), Quinn Redmond, Carley Redmond, Torrie Taylor, Jay Taylor and John Taylor; and two great grandchildren. He is also survived by nieces and nephews who he dearly loved.

He graduated from Etowah High School in 1946 and from Jacksonville State University in 1951. Bill served his country in in the United States Navy during the Korean War as a physical training instructor and assistant football coach/scout for the Navy football team. Bill is most well-known for coaching high school football for 19 seasons. He was the head coach at Collinsville High School 1955-56, Oneonta High School 1957-1965, Scottsboro High School 1966-1969 and Mortimer Jordan High School 1970-1973. His record was 106-65-13. He finished his career as Assistant Athletic Director and Drivers Education Supervisor for the Jefferson County School system.

Bill served as a Gardendale City Councilman from 1984-1996. He was a member and deacon at Gardendale First Baptist Church and a member of the Gardendale Civitans. He received the Alabama High School Athletic Association All Star Football Coach award in 1974. Bill was inducted into the Blount County Sports Hall of Fame in 2009. He was also inducted into the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Hall of Champions in 2016 by the FCA office in Kansas City MO. Only two Alabamians have received this national honor. He also received the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Coach of the Year Award in 2024 by the North Central FCA chapter, this award will be named the Bill Hawkins Coach of the Year Award for future recipients.

Most of all Bill was known for his kind heart, amazing sense of humor and love for his family, as well as his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He was deeply loved by all who were blessed to know him.

The funeral service to honor his life will be held at Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home on Monday, June 24, 2024 at 11am. The family will receive guests for 2 hours prior to service time. Burial will follow in Oakwood Memorial Gardens. Rev. Mark Harrison will officiate. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Fellowship of Christian Athletes at <https://my.fca.org/?form=northcentral> and dedicate to Bill Hawkins.

Previous Events

Family will receive guests

JUN **24.** 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home
2214 Decatur Highway
Gardendale, AL 35071
(205) 631-8810
gardendalefuneralhome2@gmail.com

Chapel Service

JUN **24.** 11:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

BN

“ I just learned about Bill's passing. I was out of state at the time. Bill was on my city council for many years and was a great public servant. More, however he was a great friend and fellow traveler. I remember many of our trips to Washington and other places over the years. His sense of humor was delightful and certainly unique. He will be greatly missed by me and everyone in Gardendale.

Bill Noble - July 01, 2024 at 09:03 PM

AH

“ Condolences to Coach Bill Hawkins' family. He was my Little League coach in Oneonta AL and a social studies teacher at Oneonta Junior High School. I'm glad I had a chance to speak with him a month or so ago. RIP, Coach. Alan Hull, OHS Class of 1965

Alan Hull - June 25, 2024 at 05:03 PM



“ Mr. Hawkins taught me and my best friend, Jennifer, Drivers Education during the summer of 1989. We would both be turning 16 at the beginning of the school year and wanted to start the year off driving rather than delay getting our licenses a semester. After thirty-five years had passed and possibly hundreds of students walked through his door, he still remembered me. Whether it was at church, a community event, or in a Gardendale restaurant or store, he always made a point to call out my name and give me a big hug. He was one of my favorite people and just one of the nicest men I have ever known. It hurts to know that I will never see him again here on earth but I take comfort in knowing that one day I will hear his voice again. His life and influence made a difference. I will miss him and am blessed to have known him.

Delaine Mullins - June 24, 2024 at 02:03 PM

HW

“ I will miss Coach's Christian influence and I will miss him on the golf course. He was always a blessing and fun to be around. When his birdie putt went in the cup, he would say "cha-ching!!!--money!!!" He was a hoot!
He was my brother in Christ.

Hoyt Washington - June 23, 2024 at 02:36 PM

CM

“ Christy Bearrentine Mellinger planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Hawkins.

Christy Bearrentine Mellinger - June 21, 2024 at 06:30 PM

CM

“ Christy Bearrentine Mellinger purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of William "Bill" Hawkins.



Christy Bearrentine Mellinger - June 21, 2024 at 06:30 PM



“ 121 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Gardendale Heritage Funeral Home - June 21, 2024 at 12:10 PM

BM

“ *Delyn and Vickie, Bill certainly held a special place in mine and Betty's lives. We both graduated from rival high schools of Oneonta in Blount County in 1964 (Betty - Cleveland & Bob - Susan Moore), so thru the years here at GFBC with Coach, we have done a little back and forth jawing at one another, but it was all in fun! We are so sorry for your loss and also sorry that neither of us will be there on Monday (Betty has a planned trip out of town and I will be on a Builders for Christ Mission trip in Wisconsin. Please know that you both are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Bob & Betty Moore

Bob Moore - June 20, 2024 at 01:17 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Hawkins.*



June 20, 2024 at 12:33 PM

RA

“ Bill is one of the finest men I have ever known. Patricia and I loved Bill and Louise. We got to see how lovingly Bill took care of Louise when she got sick. Bill was a great example of how Husbands should care for their Wives.

Bill took his relationship with God very seriously. He served God through Gardendale FBC. He was also active in FCA and impacted hundreds of Student Athletes and Coaches. Taught Driver's Ed to Patricia and many others.

Bill left this World a better place. Praying for all his Family Bill, Shelley Hudson, and I loved having breakfast at Our Place and sometimes Jack's.

Bill was kind and loved having fun. Life got tough when his health began to fail and he could no longer plan golf with Gerald Arrington. Bill lived a blessed life, and blessed all of us around him. Love you Bill. See you again in Heaven! You are missed!

Randy and Patricia Akers - June 19, 2024 at 10:37 PM

YA

William supported our ministry for 26 years providing funding for Team Equipment for our Film Teams to show the Jesus Film around the world. He was delightful to talk to and sure loved the Lord. I will miss our phone conversations. It was wonderful to read all of the comments about this sweet man. Blessings and comfort to his family from the Jesus Film Project.

Yvonne Anderson - July 01, 2024 at 01:42 PM