



### **Bill Henghold Memorial Fund**

The class of '59 would like to pay tribute to our president and all other deceased members of the class by awarding a scholarship to a scholar/athlete in the 2009 class at Miami Edison Senior High. We would also like to give a gift to Edison Middle School, which is located in the building which was our old school, and which we will visit on Saturday morning of reunion weekend. We need your donations to make this happen. We know that you would like to participate, in order to pay your respects to Bill and the others and to contribute to the success of this generation of Edison students. Please send your checks to:

Judith Armayor Smith  
7628 17th St.  
NW Washington, DC 20012.

**Bill's wife, Judy Combs Henghold, has written the following, giving details of Bill's life and his legacy.**

### **A Memorial to Bill**

Bill Henghold headed up the Class of '59 as Senior Class President. He was also the recipient of the prestigious Julian Daniel Award, the American Legion Award, Key Club Award for the football player with the highest average and the National Honor Society Award for leadership. His friends were numerous, but his best friend back then was Doug DeWolfe, a friend he kept for life. Later in life, when Bill was talking to his children, he used to hold up his hand and say to them, "If you can count your friends on one hand, you will be extremely fortunate." His true friends exceeded that by far, so he was indeed a lucky man. His winning personality and self-effacing humor also helped attract people to him. Many people have told me – his wife – how much they miss hearing Bill's laugh since he's gone. I know we will all miss Bill's ready smile and laughter during this Reunion.

When Bill left Edison, he was offered various scholarships, but chose the appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, MD, as he was interested in pursuing a career in the military. Because he graduated at the top of his class in '63 he was allowed to take his commission in the US Air Force and go on to graduate school. (A select few also knew that he did not go into the Navy because he suffered terribly from seasickness.) He earned a Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University in '65, and later earned a PhD. in Civil Engineering from Colorado State University in '71. Bill was a Vietnam Veteran, and also served his country on active duty in the USAF for 21 years, retiring at the rank of COL, making MAJ and Lt. COL "below the zone" (before his peers). One of his longest tours (9 years) and one he enjoyed the most was that of Prof. of Civil Engineering & Engineering Mechanics at the USAF Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. After retiring from the service, he then served as President of HMR Associates, Inc. a Defense Industry Consulting Firm.

Bill died on March 8, 2006 at the age of 65 due to esophageal cancer. A funeral Mass with full military honors was conducted at St. Bernadette's Catholic Church in Port St. Lucie, Florida where he

had been an active member. Bill's surviving family include his wife, Judy (MESHS '61), 2 daughters, 2 sons, and 12 grandchildren. It is indeed sad that Bill cannot be with us to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion. I feel that he is with us in spirit, however. We will also miss all of the other classmates who, like Bill, cannot be with us. As Bill's wife, I know that he would feel extremely honored about the scholarship in his name - to know that it is going to an outstanding student who has worked hard trying to achieve his or her goals, and will be rewarded for those efforts.

Knowing Bill, I believe he would also want the award to honor the lives of all of the '59 MESHS graduates who are not with us in the physical sense. They are people who lived good and decent lives, some of them even giving the ultimate sacrifice for their country – like Roger Emrich. Bill would definitely want to pay tribute to Roger and those who fought for our country, such as Ed Zsorey, another VietNam vet. But he would also want this award to commemorate the lives of all of our unique, unforgettable friends from the Class of '59 who have gone before us. We will keep them in our hearts forever, and “drink a cup of kindness yet for times gone by.”

On a personal note, one of the characteristics about Bill I loved most was his unpretentiousness – his ability to get along with most anyone he met. I feel very blessed that I was by his side for 42 years of marriage, and that he was the father of our children. He is deeply missed by all of us. If you would like to see a few family photos and Bill's US Naval Academy info, click on <http://www.usna63.org>, click on Site Map, then Classmates and just type his name in the space provided. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Reunion!