



## William (Bill) Philip Drechsel

June 23, 1951 - May 2, 2017

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) William Philip Drechsel, age 65, The Villages, FL died on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 in the evening at Lady Lake Specialty Care due to complications of early onset Alzheimer's.

Bill was born June 23, 1951, in Hackensack, New Jersey. He attended schools in New Jersey and graduated in 1969 from Columbia High School in Maplewood.

In the summer of 1969 he attended the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. Bill graduated in June, 1973. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps and received orders to Frankfurt, Germany.

Bill served 21 years in the Signal Corps and was assigned to many different units throughout the United States and Germany. He earned a Masters degree from the University of Southern California, in Operations Research and System Analysis.

He was married to Susan (Gisel) Drechsel, an Army Nurse Corps officer. They met in 1975 while they were stationed in Frankfurt, married on May 18, 1976, and were married over 40 years.

After retirement from the Army, Bill and Susan spent 19 years in Monument, CO, where they had a large circle of friends. He was a dedicated supporter of the charity Compassion International. They traveled a great deal, both in the US and abroad. He was an advanced skier and an avid golfer who maintained a low handicap. He loved music, especially Stevie Nicks and Fleetwood Mac.

In 2011 they moved to the Village of Sanibel where he enjoyed playing the championship courses of The Villages until he was affected by Alzheimer's. Bill is survived by his wife Susan of The Villages; his mother Joan Drechsel of Edison, NJ; siblings: Ken Drechsel of Avenel, NJ; Gary and Stacy Drechsel of Brodheadville, PA; nephews Aiden and Owen Drechsel; Joan Drechsel of Stamford, CT; and his in-laws Russell and Diane Schrage of Des Moines, IA; nieces Sara Schrage of San Francisco, CA, and Caroline (Nick) Farkouh of Telluride, CO.

A Graveside Service will be held Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 10:30 am at the Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Florida.

The Drechsel family gives heartfelt thanks to the loving and caring staff of Atria Lifestyle Unit, Lady Lake Specialty Care and Cornerstone Hospice.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Cornerstone Hospice Foundation - 2445 Lane Park Road, Tavares, FL 32778

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ This condolence comes 4 years late because I was unaware that Bill had passed away. I don't know if anyone still checks this web site, or if family members receive a notice when a condolence is posted, so I am sending this out there, hoping that someone will see it. Bill was my classmate at West Point, both of us members of Company F-2. Most of us remain in touch, but we had lost track of Bill through the years. We just learned of his passing today, and several e-mails have been exchanged with fond remembrances. I wish that he could have died knowing that his classmates loved him.

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**Dick Dickinson** - January 29, 2021 at 05:18 PM

DD

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**Dick Dickinson** - January 29, 2021 at 05:17 PM

CB

“ Dear Susan: I will forever feel it was a blessing to have known and cared for Bill. He was such a gentleman and always lite up when he saw you. I'll never forget the funny smile he gave when you said you were going to "Man-scape him." I still get a laugh out of that. God Bless you Susan, I will never forget you too!

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**Carol Bosh** - May 11, 2017 at 10:40 AM

TD

“ *Rest In Peace, Billy!*  
*We are all thinking about you and send our prayers.*  
*We have nothing but good thoughts of you.*

*Love, Aunt Tess*

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**Theresa Drechsel** - May 06, 2017 at 06:53 PM

HK

“ *Dear Susan,*

*he may not be here with you in person anymore,But his love will  
always stay beside you, around you, to protect you through.*

*So Very sorry,May God ease the painful period for . Stay Strong  
,your friends Bob& Helga*

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**Helga & Bob Krcelic** - May 06, 2017 at 03:00 PM