



Bill McGuire Jr

December 11, 1952 - February 25, 2025

John William "Bill" McGuire, Jr...otherwise known as Goose...passed away on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 after fighting a courageous battle with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis for over 9 years. His Christian testimony and love of people guided him through the valleys and to the mountain tops of his life's journey. His family along with countless students and ball players and coaches witnessed a real person with a huge heart who wanted nothing less than to make others better.

Bill graduated from Council McCluer and then attended both Copiah Lincoln Community College and William Carey University on basketball scholarships. He graduated from William Carey with an undergraduate degree and a master's degree. He also attended Millsaps College where he obtained his second master's degree.

Goose's coaching career began at Mississippi Job Corps Center in Crystal Springs where he was responsible for both individual and team sports. When he left Job Corps, he went to Union Academy in Georgetown where he coached both junior high girls and boys basketball for 9 years. He had good years and not-so-good years but he always worked hard teaching both skills of the game and life skills for success. From Union he had a quick coaching job at Belhaven University. When the university changed it's team coaching budget Goose chose another coaching opportunity. A position at Parklane

Academy in McComb became available and as they say...the rest is history. He taught and coached at Parklane and had many rewarding seasons coaching girls basketball both junior high and high school teams. The one season that will always be his "hallmark" season with the high school girls team was the team winning the Overall State Championship in 1993. After Parklane Coach continued his career at Wesson Attendance Center. Along with teaching he was involved with many student organizations and activities. He was always a "doer" volunteering and working at any capacity for the schools and teams. He loved working the chain gang for Cobra football. He loved the students and he loved his opportunities to witness for the Lord.

And then there was the University of Iowa where he landed one summer coaching boy's basketball summer camps. He traveled to Iowa after that each summer for 22 years coaching players from all over the United States and forming lifetime friendships with coaches at every level of the game. He would also become a forever Hawkeye.

Many summers Goose also coached summer basketball camps throughout central Mississippi both at high schools and community colleges. Co Lin was a very special camp for him coaching with Gwyn and Dennis.

He maintained a will to teach and coach and witness for Christ. He was a true vessel.

Bill was a faithful member of the First Presbyterian Church in Crystal Springs where he served as a Deacon. He was also happy to supply speakers for the Deacons Saturday prayer meetings.

Bill was preceded in death by his father Bill, Sr and his mother, Ruth. He is survived by his wife Hilda and stepsons Buck (Amanda) Bourn and John Paul (Stephanie) Bourn; sisters, Shelley Curtis (Daniel) and Sharon Berch (Bill); 4 grandchildren Jordan, Brandon, Logan, Natalie; 3 nephews Austin, Tyler and

Anthony; one niece, Shannon; and 4 great nieces Sarah Claire, Lily, Ella and Emily and great nephews Harrison and Jack Henry and many other aunts and cousins. He left them a legacy of love and inspiration.

The funeral will be 11am Saturday, March 1, 2025 at First Presbyterian Church, Crystal Springs with burial at Gallman Cemetery. The visitation will be 9am-11am Saturday at the church. Stringer Family Funeral Home in Hazlehurst is handling arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Gallman Cemetery

West Gallman Road
Gallman, MS 39077

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 1. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church, Crystal Springs
316 E Marion Ave
Crystal Springs, MS 39059
(601) 892-2715

Funeral Service

MAR 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

First Presbyterian Church, Crystal Springs
316 E Marion Ave
Crystal Springs, MS 39059
(601) 892-2715

Tribute Wall



“ *Stringer Family Funeral Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Bill McGuire Jr*



Stringer Family Funeral Service - February 28, 2025 at 12:45 PM

DD

What a wonderful person for y'all to miss! If one knew Goide, he would've had no question as to his destination. Great guy and great coach. I didn't see pictures with Hilda, but I'll look on Facebook—we all change. Shelley, I didn't realize how much your children favor their uncle.

Dorothy Day - March 21, 2025 at 04:51 PM

DD

I typed Goose, but my small screen changed what I touched.

Dorothy Day - March 21, 2025 at 04:53 PM

CI

“ *Curt & Kim Simic, Bloomington, Indiana purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Bill McGuire Jr.*



Curt & Kim Simic, Bloomington, Indiana - February 28, 2025 at 07:40 PM

JS

“ Tremendous man and a very loyal Hawkeye we are so fortunate he was part of our family a huge loss sympathies to all of you

John streif - February 28, 2025 at 06:19 PM



“ 59 files added to the album LifeTributes



Stringer Family Funeral Service - February 28, 2025 at 12:11 PM

BS

“ We do not have adequate words to express our condolences to the family, but we do want them to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Bill (Goose) was a special man who will be missed by all of us who had the good fortune to know him.

Billy L. Swindle - February 28, 2025 at 11:24 AM

AB

“ Ashley Bankston lit a candle in memory of Bill McGuire Jr



Ashley Bankston - February 27, 2025 at 10:45 PM

CK

“ Cathy, Hartmut, Toddy, and Kimber planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bill McGuire Jr.

Cathy, Hartmut, Toddy, and Kimber - February 27, 2025 at 09:02 PM

CK

“ Cathy, Hartmut, Toddy, and Kimber purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Bill McGuire Jr.



Cathy, Hartmut, Toddy, and Kimber - February 27, 2025 at 09:02 PM

DC

“ For those of you who don't know me, I met Bill when I started dating his sister Shelley in high school and we would play bball in the backyard and I would give him my best Earl the Pearl trying to fake him off (unsuccessfully). We would wrestle sometime and if you know Bill, you know why he would never give even with my best scissor hold so I had to get up and run. Bill loved all kinds of music, but was partial to Stephen Stills . And he played guitar. As I'm writing this I'm thinking I could go on and on. He was so much to so many people. But to me he was Shelley's brother and "Bub" to Shannon, Austin, and Sarah Claire . He loved Jesus. He would share with me how that he hoped that he had had a positive influence on someone's life because I can tell you, he really cared. I'll miss his wit, his sense of humor, I'll just miss him. I loved my brother-in-law and now he's in heaven. Our Father be Praised. Hallelujah 🙏



Daniel Curtis - February 27, 2025 at 08:45 PM

DS

“ I will always appreciate Bill’s smiles when we were around him. I will also always appreciate the love for Christ he always showed my kids while talking a lot of basketball!. He will definitely be missed.Prayers for you all.

Dana Stratton - February 27, 2025 at 07:52 PM

JA

“ Juan A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bill McGuire Jr.

Juan A. - February 27, 2025 at 08:58 AM

SF

“ Susan F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bill McGuire Jr.

Susan F. - February 27, 2025 at 08:52 AM

SC

“ Bill was a good friend to many including myself. He was a great student that loved the game of basketball . Prayers for the family now and in the coming days. Bill will be missed by many who knew him

Sam Clement - February 26, 2025 at 04:23 PM

SF

“ We have know Bill for years. He was a great man, teacher and neighbor! We are blessed to live by Hilda and Bill since 2005. Our grandkids loved him! He would get home and see them playing and come play with them. One day one of the grandkids said, Santa Claus lives next door to us!! Lovely Christian man, friend and neighbor. He will be missed!

Susan Faulkner - February 26, 2025 at 10:53 AM