



## William "Bill" Lees

May 12, 1938 - July 6, 2023

William Rhodes (Bill) Lees was born May 12, 1938, to W. R. and Mary Lees in Plainview, Texas, where he was raised and completed his public school education. He attended the University of Tulsa, but transferred to Texas Tech where he earned BS and MS degrees. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy submarine service in New London, Connecticut.

Bill met his future wife, Mary, after his transfer to Texas Tech. They were married in November, 1969. She preceded him in death in October, 2022. He spent his working career with Lubbock Independent School District, where he retired after 36 years of service.

He was a member of several organizations, including Phi Delta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, Geological Society of America, Sons of the American Revolution, Texas Retired Teachers Association, and the Equestrian Order of The Holy Sepulchre of Jerusalem.

He enjoyed playing golf, working around the house, and helping Mary to raise a daughter, Kathryn Carla Clapsaddle, who with her husband, Carl, blessed them with two beautiful granddaughters, Haley Grace, and Hannah Elizabeth (Liz). He is also survived by a sister, Linda Adkins and her son, Alan and wife Debbie, all of Plainview, Texas.

A funeral mass of Christian Burial will be held at 1:00 pm, Friday, July 14, 2023 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church with Monsignor Ben Kasteel officiating. Please celebrate the life of Bill by visiting [www.sandersfuneralhome.com](http://www.sandersfuneralhome.com).



# Cemetery Details

## Miller Crematory

202 Avenue Q  
Lubbock, TX 79415

# Previous Events

## Mass

JUL 14. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Holy Spirit Catholic Church  
9821 Frankford Avenue  
Lubbock, TX 79424

# Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Lees.*



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July 13, 2023 at 02:29 PM



“ *John and Once Fessenden purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William "Bill" Lees.*



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**John and Once Fessenden** - July 13, 2023 at 06:39 AM



“ *John and Once Fessenden planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Lees.*

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**John and Once Fessenden** - July 13, 2023 at 06:39 AM



“ *Mr. Lees was my chemistry teacher in high school back in the early 80's. He was one of my favorite teachers. Sincerest condolences to the family.*

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**Jana Bailey** - July 12, 2023 at 07:11 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Lees.



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July 11, 2023 at 08:23 PM

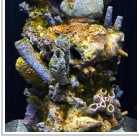


“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Lees.



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July 11, 2023 at 11:48 AM



“ Mr. Lees was my high school chemistry teacher, and he opened my eyes to a world of wonder and “fun” math that I never stopped loving. I continued in chemistry to this day, and now I hope MY students are inspired as much as I was in his class. More than that, though, he was such a good role model and man in my life. I lost my mom my first year of high school, and Mr Lees would let me eat lunch in his room when I wasn’t quite ready to eat elsewhere, he helped me catch up on my classes when I missed a lot of school, and he told me how I was going to be ok and my mom would be proud of me. Down the road, after college, Mr. and Mrs Lees opened their hearts to me to learn more about my faith and sponsored me through RCIA. I hadn’t talked to him in many years until a few months ago, and was actually supposed to have lunch with him tomorrow. I will miss that opportunity always, but I am glad that we talked and he knew how important he was to me. Rest in Peace with your wonderful wife, Mr. Lees. You touched many lives.  
—Jen Crawford

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**J Denise Crawford** - July 11, 2023 at 10:46 AM



He also had the best sayings. I still remember him telling guys to “stand closer to your razor in the morning” and “chances are slim to none and slim just left town”.

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**J Denise Crawford** - July 12, 2023 at 11:57 AM