



William "Bill" Carrol Chapman

January 19, 1945 - April 9, 2022

William (Bill) Carrol Chapman (born 1/19/1945) died in the early hours of April 9th, 2022, after a long coexistence with cancer. He is preceded in death by his loving wife Tan Tsai, his mother Lillian Reese, his step-father Larry Reese, and his father, Elmo Chapman. He is survived by his brother Ken Chapman (Carol); children Jereme (Rachel), Elizabeth (Todd), Tim (Christa), Andy (Marianna), Julianna, Emily (Roy) and Christy (Cameron); 15 grandchildren; and a host of people he considered family, all over the globe.

Bill's life was marked by a relentless drive for knowledge and self-fulfillment. Born in Atlanta, Georgia, he graduated from Druid Hills High School. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Emory University in Atlanta, a Masters of Divinity from Reformed Theological Seminary in Jackson, MS, and a Masters of Computer Science from Mississippi State University.

He studied chemistry, geology, and theology but found his true niche in computer science. He began working with computers during his time at Emory, and likely became the first person in Mississippi to own a personal computer. He started a small business performing computer services, Crown Specialties Incorporated, and even wrote software customized for pharmacists and an accounts receivable program. He performed contract computer services for Mississippi State University for many years before finishing his

career as a university employee in the Campus Landscape, Architecture and Electrical and Computer Engineering departments. He was also very proud of his brief stint as the men's basketball coach at Millsaps College.

Bill married Janet (née Bivins) during his time at Emory and together they had seven children, of whose resilience and success he was very proud. He married Tan Tsai in the fall of 2000. His life with Tan became one of service to the Black and international communities at Mississippi State and in Starkville. Previous to his retirement, he was the sponsor of the NAACP chapter at Mississippi State. He was a beloved Bible teacher for the Korean and Chinese Christian communities in Starkville, and participated in the ministry of many other churches around the area. At the time of his death he was under the pastoral care of Dr. Albert Bisson, of Faith Baptist at Pugh's Mill.

He never stopped adding individuals to his constellation of people he called "family," whether he found them via online communities, by marriage, or through church. We are deeply grateful to know that now in the presence of Jesus, he has found his fulfillment and waits for his family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorials be sent to The Tan Tsai & William C. Chapman Scholarship for International Students, c/o The MSU Development Foundation, P.O. Box 6149, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Gardens Park

9036 Oktoc Road
Starkville, MS

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 13. 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Hairston & Hairston Funeral Homes - Starkville
112 Earnest H Jones Jr Dr
Starkville, MS 39759
(662) 323-5854

Funeral Services - Graveside

APR 14. 10:30 AM (CT)

First Baptist Church Starkville Chapel
106 E. Lampkin Street
Starkville, MS 39759
<https://fbcstarkville.com>

Tribute Wall



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



April 14, 2022 at 10:08 AM



“ *Willie Earl & Carrie Thomas, Sr. lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Carrol Chapman*



Willie Earl & Carrie Thomas, Sr. - April 13, 2022 at 11:15 PM



“ *Sending my heartfelt condolences to the entire family 🙏🙏🙏*



Ann Bishop-Harris - April 13, 2022 at 04:33 PM



“ *My Deepest Condolences!! Family my God Comfort and embrace each of your in his loving care is my pray.Amen 🙏❤️🙏🏠*

Rosie Smith - April 12, 2022 at 11:30 PM

PD

“ Our deepest condolences goes out to the family of William (Bill) C. Chapman he and wife Tan was a dear friend;I will truly miss them both.



Pamela Dancer - April 12, 2022 at 10:06 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Carrol Chapman.



April 12, 2022 at 12:44 PM