



Willard Samuel Belknap Co G-2

Bill took his four years in stride, never getting ruffled while others lost their heads. A mainstay on any company team, "Will" was also a regular in any bull session. He seemed to be a favorite with the "femmes," but he could take 'em or leave 'em. Bill's winning smile, capable and energetic ways are sure to bring him success.

Born – 18 March 1939 in New Castle, PA.

To USMA – from New Castle, PA. Appointed as a Qualified Alternate. Nickname – "Will".

Died – 17 July 2020 (age 81) at Moscow, ID. Burial to be determined.

Military Awards – National Defense Service Medal.

Schooling – Master of Science (MS) Degree, University of Arizona.

Family - Wife – Donna Gayle Sluder Belknap (54 years) – 2 children (Kimberly and Bill) – 4 grandchildren, 1 great grandchild.

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Bill served on active duty in the Army (Artillery) for 4 years, resigning in 1965, with the rank of Captain. His first Assignment was with the 13th Artillery Regiment assigned to the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii and then to Vietnam in 1965. At the request of the Division Artillery Commander, Bill coached football team for two seasons.

After leaving active duty in the Army, Bill had a 30-year successful career in coaching football and athletic administration. He served as an Assistant Athletic Director (and football coach) at the University of Arizona (UAZ) in Tucson, AZ. The Arizona athletic teams are called the "Wildcats." During this time, he obtained a Master of Science (MS) Degree from UAZ. He then served as the Athletic Director (and football coach) at the University of Idaho (UID) at Moscow, ID and then Director of University Development and Executive Director of the University Foundation. The Idaho athletic teams are called the "Vandals." Bill served with the NCAA Southland Conference Commission at Plano, TX and then as the Director of Athletics (and football coach) at the Wichita State University at Wichita, KS. The Wichita State athletic teams are called the "Shockers." Bill passed away on 17 July 2020, from congestive heart failure.

Footnote from Bill on deciding to attend a civilian college or West Point – "...I decided to flip a coin 25 times - heads meant "Yes" and tails meant "No." The result was 22 heads and three tails."

