



William Bruce Friis Sr.

March 11, 2003

William “Bill” Bruce Friis, Sr., 76, a resident of Queenstown MD, and a member of the Centreville, MD, Rotary Club, passed away on Tuesday, March 11, 2003, in Easton Memorial Hospital. He was the son of William E.H. Friis and Christine Nielsen Friis – both of whom were born in Denmark.

At the time of his death, Bill was serving as 2002-2003 Governor of Rotary International District 7630 – covering the State of Delaware and Maryland’s Eastern Shore.

Bill spent the last thirty-two years of his life in the service of Rotary in both District 7630 and District 7620 – covering Maryland west of the Bay and the District of Columbia. He began his Rotary “career” when he joined the Silver Spring, MD Club in 1971. In 1973, he changed his affiliation to the Wheaton Club where he served as President in 1979 and became an Area Representative in 1981. In 1985, he moved to the Eastern Shore of MD, where he helped to charter the Kent Island Rotary Club and became its inaugural President. In 1998, he was an Assistant Governor, and, in 1999, became Lt. Governor of District 7630.

Bill loved Rotary and said he was a Rotarian because “I have always been interested in civic work, community service and fellowship. I find being part of Rotary to be the best way to serve.” Throughout his Rotary life, Bill worked for

the strength of the club and always was part of projects and services at the club level. He was both a Paul Harris Fellow and a Benefactor of The Rotary Foundation. Bill was an active member of the Rotary Yacht Squadron of the Chesapeake Bay and was Commodore in 1979. Bill also was a past Commodore of the Kent Island Yacht Club, life member of both the American Legion and VFW; 32nd Degree Mason of the Silver Spring Lodge, and a member of the Almas Temple.

Bill was a member of the Silver Spring Jaycees where he served as President as well as Maryland State Vice President and National Director for Maryland. He was also a member of the Lions Club of Silver Spring for the decade before he joined Rotary.

Bill was born and raised in Miami, FL, and moved north with his family as a teenager. He graduated from Central High School in Washington DC. He served in the Army Air Force in World War II, and then attended George Washington University where he graduated with a degree in architecture.

Bill was President of his family's building and remodeling business for many years. The company – Friis Builders – was located in Kensington MD.

Bill's hobbies and interests included boating, fishing, playing bridge, gardening, 4H and woodworking.

Bill is survived by his loving wife, Julia "Judy" Glassie Friis, of Queenstown. He leaves four sons – William B. Jr. of Annapolis, Mark of Silver Spring, Richard of Frederick and Donald of Ashton; one stepson – Randolph Bowes of the Washington DC area; seven grandchildren – Melanie, Michael, Kyle, Heather, Elsa, Christine and Matthew; a sister - Pearl Rector of Glen Allen, VA; and two four-legged companions – Saint and Sinner.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, March 14, at 11 a.m. at the Kent

Island Yacht Club in Chester MD. Friends may call beginning at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made to The Polio Eradication Fundraising Campaign of The Rotary Foundation, Centreville National Bank, P.O. Box 400, Centreville MD 21617.

Tribute Wall



“ *William Bruce Friis Sr.*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *William Bruce Friis Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *William Bruce Friis Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM