

A Celebration of Life



Dr. William Ruckman

1953–2011

*April 17, 2011
Federated Church
West Lafayette, Indiana*

Federated Church of West Lafayette

April 17, 2011 3:00 pm

**A Funeral Service
Celebrating the Life of
Dr. William Ruckman**

Prelude

Ruth Ann Ostergren

Statement of Purpose

*GOD uses grief to help us in time of great loss.
This service is the occasion for us to give thanks
for and celebrate the life of Dr. William Ruckman
even as we share the sorrow we feel at his death.*

Scripture Readings

Matthew 11: 28–29

John 14: 1–3

Psalms 23

Prayer of Confession

Prayer of Gratitude

A Time of Memory

Matt Ruckman

Julie Ruckman

Video

Comfort from Scriptures

II Corinthians 5: 1–5

John 11: 25–26

Romans 8: 35, 37–39

Prayer of Intercession

Sermon

Faith for a Crisis

Rev. Dr. Brian Nelson

Prayer

Postlude

Dr. William Ruckman

William P. Ruckman, beloved father, brother, and Lafayette physician passed on early Sunday morning, April 10, of a severe heart attack while vacationing in Lake Tahoe, Nevada. Bill was born in Gary, IN, on September 14, 1953, to the late Charles and Willa (Truax) Ruckman. He graduated from Speedway High School and went on to complete both his undergraduate and medical degrees at Indiana University. He finished his medical training at Ohio State University in their Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program.

He was best known professionally for his outstanding surgical ability and the compassion with which he served all of his patients. He delivered care to the Greater Lafayette community for 27 years as a partner of the Woman's Clinic and was instrumental in bringing labor epidurals and other obstetric anesthesia services to Lafayette. He particularly enjoyed his associations with Leadership Lafayette, the Lafayette Ski Club and the Elks Country Club.

Recently retired, Bill had been traveling extensively and writing a book that detailed the spiritual experiences of the latter years of his life. Among those experiences were visits with the Dalai Lama, healing ceremonies with a Lakota Sioux medicine man, and mission trips to Belize, Brazil, and Mexico. Plans were in place to publish the book so that all could take part in his journey.

He cherished nothing more than his three children, Chris, Matt, and Julie. His fondest memories were of the vacationing, coaching, and celebrating that he did with the three of them. He was preceded in death by his son, Chris, and his sister, Victoria. He is survived by his children Matt and Julie (fiancé Cory Long), his brothers Chuck (wife Peggy) and Jim (wife Sherry); and his significant other, Rachel Wilmington. He will be forever loved and deeply missed by them among others as he was a special, special man.

Bill's service of celebration will be held at 3:00 pm Sunday, April 17 at the Federated Church of West Lafayette, 2400 Sycamore Lane, with Rev. Dr. Brian Nelson officiating. Interment will follow at Spring Vale Cemetery, next to his son, Chris. Donations, in lieu of flowers, may be made to *The Ruckman Foundation*, established in his honor to promote the health and well-being of others. Hippensteel Funeral Home entrusted with care. Share memories and condolences online at hippensteelfuneralservice.com

Obituary as published in the Lafayette Journal & Courier, April 15, 2011.

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Federated Church

Where individual belief and a vibrant faith community meet.

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