

William I. West

FAYETTEVILLE — William Irvin “Bill” West, 69, of Fayetteville, gracefully waltzed into heaven with his guardian angel on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2013.



West

His dance partner and best friend of 32 years, Ms. Jacque McCall, held his hand as he peacefully took his last bow at the VA Hospital in Fayetteville.

Born in Fort Bragg to the military family of William Curtis West and Lois Mercer West, Bill continued the

family tradition by proudly serving his country in the U.S. Army in Vietnam, 1965-1967. As one of 10 children, Bill is today survived by four brothers, Curtis West (Lois) of Bonaire, Ga., Charles West (Constance) of Cameron, Tommy West (Deborah) of Rescue, Va., and Donnie West (Jacqueline) of Horse Shoe.

Bill was an artist of epic proportion. As an equestrian who started riding at age 14, he rode, jumped, competed, instructed and judged in colleges and equestrian events throughout the Southeast.

As a sacred and classically

trained pianist and organist, he performed and studied with renowned maestros from New York City to Miami. He brought his love for music to St. Paul's in the Pines Episcopal Church, where he was supremely proud to be a member and serve as organist for approximately nine years in the early to mid 2000s.

Many in the Fayetteville area knew Bill from his illustrious career as instructor and competitor at Roland's Dance Studio. His love for the students, instructors and owners of the studio was evident in his everyday life. Working at Roland's was never work; it was his joy. Whether teaching someone to fox-trot or shag, waltz or tango, Bill was sunshine in motion.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, February 24, 2013, in St Paul's in the Pines Episcopal Church. The family will receive friends at 3 p.m., followed by the service at 4 p.m.

The family wishes to thank all who visited and filled Bill's last days with love and prayers. He knew he was loved. Thank you to all personnel at the Community Living Center at the Fayetteville VA for making his last days comfortable and Spirit anointing.

Cape Fear Crematory of Fayetteville.

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