

William Louis Wubbena, Jr.

March 7, 1930-February II, 2003



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William Louis Wubbena, Jr. was born on 7 March 1930 to William and Maude Wubbena in Marquette, Michigan. His two older sisters, Eileen and Dawn, were also born in Marquette.

William Senior was a railroad man and worked for several railroads from the Midwest to the Rocky Mountains as a telegrapher, station agent and traveling auditor. He also held a reserve commission in the Army. At the onset of World War II the family came to Washington, DC where he worked as a civilian, first for the Department of Army Finance Corps and later for the Transportation Corps, where he remained until retirement. William Sr. dabbled in magic tricks, ventriloquism, humorous songs and poems. Their home was filled with music and fun.

William Jr. attended Emery Grade School, Langley Jr. High and McKinley Technical High School, all in Washington. He was President of his class both at Langley and McKinley; He participated in athletics but his primary interests were orchestra, band, glee club and dramatics. His nickname, "Weemo" (meaning a little bit more), was appended to him in high school.

It was at McKinley; in sophomore Chemistry, that he met the love of his life, Marie Schroer. Their romance blossomed and will remain in bloom forever. They were married on 2 June 1953 at West Point, in the Cadet Chapel, on Weemo's graduation day;

The young lieutenant and his bride went on to a life in the Army. During his almost 30-year career, Weemo served in artillery units in Germany; Korea, Fort Bliss, Fort Sill, and Vietnam

where he commanded the 6th Battalion of the 14th Artillery After a tour in Brazil, he taught Portuguese at West Point, and later was the Chief of the Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) in Portugal. He served on the Army Staff: in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (ODCSPER), as assistant executive officer and in the field artillery assignments branch. He was a graduate of the Army War College in Carlisle P A and at the same time earned a Master of Science Degree from Shippensburg State College that included an internship as assistant to Texas Congressman Richard C. White.

The second great love of Weemo's life was music -particularly harmony. From the day he heard a performance by a great Washington DC barbershop quartet, he was hooked! From that time, no matter where or when, he always tried to form a quartet. He was convinced that the best musical instrument is the human voice and the most enjoyable music sound is that of a male chorus, preferably barbershop. He sang in an International Championship Chorus in El Paso. His quartet there was the "Debonaires" and in Lawton, Oklahoma his quartet was the "Gallivants". Weemo made a special plea to barbershop legend Bob Wachter to have barbershop harmony at his funeral.

Weemo wants to thank those friends and classmates he treasured over the years; the super, precious family who make life so easy and fun; his two wonderful sons Philip and Jon, his grandchildren Jon Jr. and Caitlin for filling his heart; but most of all Marie, whose love and support got them all smoothly down life's path.