



William C. Bertelson

May 1, 1934 - October 18, 2011

William C. Bertelson, 77, joined his family in Heaven on Tuesday, October 18, 2011, after a lengthy battle with cancer. He died at the Midland Hospice House in Topeka, Kansas. William Clark Bertelson was born May 1, 1934, to Gladys and Raymond Bertelson in Missouri Valley, Iowa. Bill graduated from Fremont Nebraska High School in May, 1952, and attended Drake University on a football scholarship from 1952 - 1954. Bill was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1954, and he served from 1954 to 1956 in southern France. Upon his return to Drake University in the fall of 1956, Bill fell in love with Catherine M. Photiades, and they were married January 1957 in Mason City, Iowa. Bill graduated from Drake in May, 1958, with a BS in Physical Science Education. In September, 1958, Bill began his teaching career in Hampton High School, Iowa. In November, 1958, a son Charles A. Bertelson was born. In July, 1961, a daughter, Maria L. Bertelson was born. Bill completed a MS in Science Education at Drake in May, 1968. Bill became a Greek Orthodox Christian in 1982, and during the following years served the church by teaching Sunday school and as a parish council member. In August, 1987, daughter, Maria, married Marty Shepler. Their marriage was blessed with granddaughters Grace in July, 1990, and Gwendolyn in October, 1993. In June, 1992, after teaching the Physical Sciences in Hampton, Iowa, for 34 years, Bill retired. Bill's retirement years were divided between Hampton, Mason City, and Topeka. Bill is survived by his wife, Catherine; son, Charles; daughter, Maria; son-in-law, Martin; granddaughters, Grace and Gwendolyn, step brothers,

Dale and Don Peters and their families. Bill is also survived by several Aunts and numerous Cousins. Bill was preceded in death by his parents, parents-in-law, brother Fred, step family members, Joan, Myrtle, and Keith, brothers-in-law Nick and Mike. May we all be rejoined through the love of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen. Burial will be in the Elmwood Cemetery in Mason City, Iowa.

Tribute Wall

SM

“ *Mr. Bertelson was the most impactful teacher I had in high school. His chemistry and physics classes helped make college freshmen chemistry and physics a breeze contributing to my early acceptance to medical school at the University of Iowa. His focus on facts and scientific methods carried over into the rest of my science education and my career as a physician scientist at Kansas University Medical Center.*

Stephen Munns - March 16, 2025 at 10:51 AM

RB

“ *William C. Bertelson*

Robert Becker - October 26, 2011 at 03:47 PM