



Bill Stocker

April 24, 2025

Bill Stocker lived for adventure—now he's on his greatest one yet.

A loving husband, devoted father, proud Pop Pop, and loyal friend, Bill was cherished by all who knew him. A pillar of the McAllen community, he helped shape the city into what it is today. He moved through life with boundless energy, a generous spirit, and a gift for storytelling. Bill didn't just live—he celebrated every moment. Or, as he liked to say, he "lived the dream!"

William "Bill" Paul Stocker grew up in McAllen, the son of Spencer and Katie Stocker. After graduating from McAllen High, he served in the U.S. Army before attending the University of Maryland. While living in Washington, D.C., he met and married the love of his life, Sally. In 1975, they returned to join the family drycleaning business in McAllen, where they raised their two children, Kelly and Paul. For almost 50 years, Palace Cleaners' customers stopped in for a signature Bill Stocker story and a piece of his trademark bubblegum.

A lifelong community servant, Bill held leadership roles in countless organizations—including Rotary Club, United Way, Leadership McAllen, Southwest Drycleaners Association, Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts of America, McAllen Heritage Center, and the McAllen Greeters. He received numerous honors, including the Chamber's Man of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Award, a Paul Harris Fellow distinction, and a key to the city on

“Bill Stocker Day.”

Through his service, Bill touched countless lives. He was deeply committed to Catholic education and helped found Juan Diego Academy. A proud Eagle Scout, he was active with Troop 68 and was awarded both the Silver Beaver and Vigil Honor—the highest distinction bestowed on members of the Order of the Arrow. Through Tim’s Coats, he cleaned and distributed thousands of coats to families across the Rio Grande Valley.

He joins his wife Sally and many loved ones in heaven. He is survived by his children, Kelly and Paul; daughter-in-law, Rebecca; and grandchildren, Addyson and Liam.

All are welcome at the services at Our Lady of Sorrows. Visitation and Rosary will be held on May 9th from 5–8 p.m.; the Funeral Mass will take place on May 10th at 9 a.m., followed by interment at Roselawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please donate to the Bill Stocker Scholarship at Juan Diego Academy.

Cemetery Details

Roselawn Cemetery

1201 S Main
McAllen, TX 78501

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 9. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Our Lady of Sorrows
1108 W. Hackberry Ave.
McAllen, TX 78501

Rosary

MAY 9. 7:00 PM (CT)

Our Lady of Sorrows
1108 W. Hackberry Ave.
McAllen, TX 78501

Funeral Mass

MAY 10. 9:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Sorrows
1108 W. Hackberry Ave.
McAllen, TX 78501

Tribute Wall

SS

“ Bill and Sally were wonderful neighbors and supportive friends during our Westway life...
Bill's example of Boy Scout leadership for Warren with Troop 68 has carried through Warren's life today...
And the friendship Whitney shared with Paul, along with many of the families and friends on Westway was always met with Bill's friendly and kind smile towards us all...
Bill and Sally will be forever remembered,
Love Sandy Hamlin-Suter

Sandra Hamlin Suter - May 09, 2025 at 04:19 PM

CP

“ Bill was beloved friend of the Akers Family. Bill was the son that my Father and Mother dreamed of. He loved them well and Bill and Dad even shared doing advertisements for Palace Cleaners on the radio. In recent years, Bill was my go to when I needed the real story about what was going on with my Parents. I treasure my friendship with Bill and am so blessed that he honored me with his time and love....Cindy Akers Peters

Cindy Akers Peters - May 02, 2025 at 10:16 AM

LT

When I think of Bill, he was always with your Dad and visa-versa! They were the incredible duo!

Leslie Tanner - May 07, 2025 at 07:19 PM

PA

Bill Always had a story to tell me about anything that popped up in the moment. He knew more about me than I do about my own life between ages 0-5 years of age. Family friend that was always good to see. I will miss those blessed moments.

Pat Alden May 9th

Pat Alden - May 09, 2025 at 05:19 PM