

This page is a tribute to Bill Anderson, beloved math teacher and track/cross-country coach. Bill's son, Sam, wrote the following tribute.

**William Albert Anderson**  
**AKA "Bill, Coach, Bucket, Dad, Papa"**  
**February 25, 1926 - October 1, 2012**

Bill Anderson was a quiet, hardworking man who was a role model to many. He was a responsible family man, dedicated and patient educator and coach, and a loving husband.

Bill was born in Odessa, Texas, and raised by his extended family. He entered the Navy near the end of WWII and was a member of the submarine corps in the Pacific. With the assistance of the GI Bill and a track scholarship, Bill attended Oklahoma State University. He met Ruthie on a blind date in Stillwater, which was the beginning of a wonderful 63-year marriage and partnership. Together they started a family, and Bill began his teaching and coaching career at Corvallis High School. They lived in Washington and Oregon for several years before moving to San Mateo, California in 1963. Bill was a math teacher, and the track and cross-country coach at Hillsdale High School. He made meticulous spreadsheets before computers were even invented! Coach Anderson made personal connections with many of his students and athletes, encouraging and guiding them well beyond their high school years. Coach retired in 1985.

Fishing was Bill's main passion, but he also had many other interests. He loved card games, puzzles, stamp collecting, gardening, woodworking, ham radios, and genealogy. He was a true problem solver, able to fix cars, build decks, pour concrete, craft his own fly rod and flies, and enjoyed tedious hobbies like working clocks. Still, he made time to create projects that Ruthie dreamed up.

What really made Bill proud was his family. He had three children - Susie, Sally, and Sam (s1s2s3). Then came five granddaughters - Natalie, Laura, Stephanie, Kelly, and Samantha. Just three weeks before he died, his great-grandson was born, Maxwell William.

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**In Loving Memory**

**As a tribute to Bill for the lives he forever influenced, an anonymous donor has initiated this tribute fund with a matching donation of \$400. You may donate to the Bill Anderson Memorial Fund by returning to the website.**

Bill is remembered by Michael Fliesler, one of his former students:

“I transferred to Hillsdale High in 1966 as a sophomore and was placed in Bill’s Trigonometry class. He invited me to try out for the Cross-Country and Track teams. Bill was uniquely gifted at inspiring students in class and on the athletic field. He cared about the guys in the middle of the pack, like me. When I did badly in track, I got extra math homework, and when I did badly on math tests, I got extra laps. With this encouragement, I became an engineer and remain a runner to this day.”

Please send us your memories of Bill to add to this page.