



William Kenneth "Bill" Bowen

May 5, 1951 - May 28, 2026

On Thursday, May 28, 2026, William Kenneth "Bill" Bowen passed away in Flint. He was born May 5, 1951, in McAlester, Oklahoma, to William Howard Bowen and Iona Mae Raiburn Bowen. The family moved to Lewisville, Texas, where Bill graduated from Lewisville High School in 1969. Majoring in history and government, Bill earned his Bachelor of Science degree from North Texas State University in 1974 and began his teaching career at Kaufman H.S.

After two years in education, Bill owned and operated Polar Bear Ashburn's Ice Cream in Plano, while playing bass guitar in the country rock band, Southfork. In 1987, Bill moved to Tyler and started Bowen Lawn Service while driving a bus for Tyler ISD and substitute teaching.

Bill met and married Terri Procell in 1990, the woman who would be his lifelong partner and teammate.

Being passionate about teaching and politics, Bill returned to the classroom in 2000 at Jacksonville High School, while running for Texas State Representative and remained a staunch supporter of Democratic causes throughout his life. Fulfilling a lifelong dream, Bill was elected as a national delegate for John Kerry in 2004. Bill retired from full-time teaching in 2013 but continued to substitute teach in Tyler ISD until his death. Bill loved exchanging ideas and challenging the students to be their best.

Bill will be remembered for his love of creatures, wild and domestic. He was well-known for his enthusiasm for sports (basically anything with a ball.) Bill was always up for an adventure to Las Vegas for football games and gambling.

His enduring love of music, from the Beatles to Outlaw Country touched every aspect of his life.

Bill was a true and gentle soul. To know Bill was to know his heart and character.

Bill is survived by his loving wife, Terri Procell Bowen; son, Wendel Bowen and wife, Meredith Bowen; granddaughters, Cheyenne and Gracie Bowen.

Bill was a strong supporter of the American Civil Liberties Union, The Southern Poverty Law Center, and the American Heart Association. In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to these organizations or a charity dear to your heart.

A private "Celebration of Life" will be held for Bill Bowen, 75, of Flint.

Tribute Wall



“ Stewart Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William Kenneth "Bill" Bowen



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 08 at 04:58 PM

LB

“ I learned today of Mr. Bowen's passing, and I can't tell you how shocked and dismayed I was. Mr. Bowen was a wonderful human being and a joy to work with when he substituted at Legacy. He cared for all of the students and always had a positive attitude and a sunny disposition. I so enjoyed working with Bill and Terry. I knew that if one of them was in my classroom, everything would be taken care of. He will sorely be missed here at Tyler ISD. My heart goes out to Terry and the rest of his family.

*God Bless him and his family!!!
Lauri Barnes*

Lauri Barnes - June 11 at 04:34 PM

TB

Thank you Lauri. He did love the teachers and the students at Legacy. Appreciate your kind words. Terri

Terri Bowen - June 18 at 08:44 AM

AA

I've recently heard about Mr. Bowen's passing from a friend and it is truly heartbreaking to see. He was my favorite substitute teacher throughout high school and we had many great conversations about the mountain west conference, specifically about his love for Ashton Jeanty and Trey McBride. Mr. Bowen truly left an impact on every student he came across, and never failed to keep the class entertained. Thank you for being our substitute teacher.

Andrew Ames - June 19 at 04:27 PM



“ 80 files added to the album Life Tributes



Stewart Family Funeral Home - June 08 at 04:40 PM

SU

“ Bill will be greatly missed.

Sue - June 06 at 08:51 AM

CH

“ Mr. Bowen was an incredible substitute teacher for TylerISD. He worked with the Social Studies Department, as well as others, at Tyler Legacy for many years. I am thankful for his constant professionalism and positive attitude. He often spoke of his travels, as well as his lovely wife. My condolences to the family.

Chandra Haytet - June 04 at 01:50 PM

TB

Appreciate your kind words more that you will ever know.

Terri Procell Bowen - June 06 at 09:29 PM

JH

“ *Mr. Bowen was an incredible teacher, and a man who knew how to enjoy his life. His trips to Vegas with his beloved wife, Terry, were legendary, and one could tell that the Bowens were enjoying the fruits of a life well-lived. I once asked him to teach a series of lessons for me on "Songs and Protest of the 1960's". My students were stunned to learn that this Vegas-visiting pillar of the Tyler community had been a student leader on several campuses during the protests of the 1960's. He was warm, engaging, and always willing to share. Godspeed Bill, and all blessings to his family.*

Jason Hesskew - June 04 at 10:44 AM

TB

Your words warm my heart. How he loved being in your classroom with your students.

Terri Procell Bowen - June 06 at 09:14 PM

BK

“ *As a substitute teacher, Mr. Bowen cared for the students more than some of my usual teachers. For that, I'll forever cherish my moments with him.*

BKniff - June 01 at 08:27 PM

TB

Thank you your thoughts.

Terri Procell Bowen - June 06 at 09:23 PM

DH

“ I consider Mr. Bowen one of my good friends. He was a character and a joy to be around. For years he was my go to substitute teacher. My students loved when I was absent as long as Mr. Bowen was their sub. When I returned, I always looked forward to hearing the Mr. Bowen stories from my students. I've never met anyone who didn't admire Mr. Bowen. I loved swapping stories about travel, music , and life. He was an honest and genuine soul. He will be missed but never forgotten.

Daniel Hancock.

Daniel Hancock - June 01 at 03:46 PM

TB

Yes, he was character and the joy felt in a classroom with the students was geniune. When the name Hancock hit the website, he smiled and accepted! No second thoughts at all because the educator behind that name is awesome!

Terri Procell Bowen - June 06 at 09:22 PM

AW

I am heartbroken like others to hear of the passing of Mr. Bowen. He was always such a positive person, and I know that all who knew him enjoyed the quick hellos or quick conversations as we hurried to lunch or our next class. Please accept my sincerest condolences to his family and friends during this difficult time. He will truly be missed!

Annie Winstead

Annie Winstead - June 09 at 05:56 PM