



WILLIAM HOWARD BURNS
SEPTEMBER 23, 1937—AUGUST 30, 2016

William “Bill” Howard Burns, 78, of Lusby, Maryland, passed away at his home on August 30, 2016, after a determined and courageous battle with cancer.

Bill was an outstanding three letter athlete for track, football and basketball. He played college football on a scholarship for St. Ambrose College before he enlisted in the Air Force. His final duty station was Andrews AFB, where he supported critical airborne communications for the President of the United States and senior leaders. While in the Air Force, he met and married Virginia Cole in 1965. He continued his career at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration until he retired.

Bill loved life and sports...playing, watching, coaching, he was involved with other great athletes in and out of the family. It wouldn't be a stretch to say he probably was involved with thousands of young people in both Prince George and Calvert Counties, where he became a legend and icon during his 40 year coaching career.

Bill translated his love for sports and people into a coaching career that began in the late 1970s with football in Suitland, Maryland. Shortly after moving to Lusby, he helped organize the SYB Babe Ruth League and eventually served as Cal Ripken State Commissioner for Maryland. Bill also helped build a Boys & Girls program that went from several hundred children of all ages into a program that is well up into the thousands in Calvert County.

