



Wilbert L. 'Bill' Argus, Jr.

August 3, 1940 - November 27, 2018

Wilbert L. 'Bill' Argus, Jr., 78, of New Orleans, died November 27, 2018 in the home he designed and built for his family in Lakeview. Mr. Argus was a renowned architect, mentor, and designer of numerous churches and other structures for the Roman Catholic Archdioceses of New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Biloxi, and Mobile, as well as schools for the St. Tammany Parish School Board.

Born August 3, 1940 in New Orleans, Bill spent his formative years in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi where he was Valedictorian of the Class of 1957 at St. Stanislaus High School. He attended Tulane University, where he was student body president and received his Master of Architecture Degree in 1962. He served on active duty as Lieutenant and architect with the Civil Engineer Corps in the U.S. Navy 1962-1966, based in Indian Head and Bethesda, Maryland, as well as Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

After leaving the Navy, Bill became a partner and designer with J. Buchanan Blich & Associates, where he helped to rebuild churches and other structures along the Gulf Coast destroyed in Hurricane Camille in 1969. Later he formed his own firm, Argus Architecture and Engineering, where together with his father and brother – structural engineers Bill Argus Sr. and Ballard Argus – he helped to rebuild churches and other structures destroyed in Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Bill's significant design projects included:

- Outdoor Altar on campus of UNO for Pope John Paul II's mass during visit to

New Orleans in 1987

- Christ Episcopal Church, Bay St. Louis, MS
- St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Robertsdale, AL
- St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Gulfport, MS
- St. Dominic's Catholic Church, Mobile AL
- St. Joseph Catholic Church, Ponchatoula, LA
- Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, Belle Chasse, LA
- Resurrection of Our Lord Parish Center, New Orleans East
- Our Lady of the Gulf Parish Center, Bay St. Louis, MS
- St. Genevieve Catholic Church, Slidell, LA
- Holy Family Catholic Church, Luling, LA
- Woodlake Elementary School, Mandeville, LA
- Multiple Renovations at Slidell High School

Mr. Argus was a man of great character and deep faith in God. In the mid-1970s, he was instrumental in encouraging his church community in New Orleans East to sponsor some of the first Vietnamese refugees to come to the United States after the fall of Saigon in 1975. He and his wife Tucky have been long time members of the People of Praise, an ecumenical, charismatic, covenant Christian community in 22 locations in the US, Canada and the Caribbean, including New Orleans. They have also been active members of Our Lady of the Gulf Parish in Bay St. Louis, as well as Resurrection of Our Lord and St. Dominic Parishes in New Orleans.

Bill was active in the American Institute of Architects, the Lakeview Civic Association, and the President's Council of Cabrini High School. He was a lifelong sailor and member of both the Southern Yacht Club in New Orleans and Bay-Waveland Yacht Club in Bay St. Louis. He was also an avid model railroad, chocolate malt, and opera enthusiast, sang barbershop quartet, and played guitar and banjo with the music ministry at Resurrection of Our Lord Church and the People of Praise.

Mr. Argus was preceded in death by his parents Wilbert L. 'Bill' Argus, Sr. and Caroline (Ballard) Argus.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years Elizabeth (Moss) of Lake Charles, children Elizabeth (John), Bill III (Kim), Mary, Caroline (Jerry), and Anne (Bill), brother Ballard (Patricia), and 12 grandchildren.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the visitation on Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 12:00 Noon at St. Dominic Catholic Church, 775 Harrison Avenue, New Orleans, LA 70124, with the funeral mass following at 1:00 PM. Burial will take place Monday, December 3, 2018 at 12:30 PM at Biloxi National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Praise Academy School in Shreveport, Louisiana <https://www.praiselakeside.org/giving/> or Mail to: Praise Academy General Fund, 110 N. Esther Street, South Bend, IN 46617.

Fair winds and following seas, Pop.

Cemetery Details

Biloxi National Cemetery

400 Veterans Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39531

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 1. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Dominic Catholic Church
775 Harrison Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70124

Funeral Mass

DEC 1. 1:00 PM (CT)

St. Dominic Catholic Church
775 Harrison Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70124

Burial

DEC 3. 12:30 PM (CT)

Biloxi National Cemetery
400 Veterans Avenue
Biloxi, MS 39531

Tribute Wall



“ *Wilbert L. 'Bill' Argus, Jr.*

October 15, 2023 at 09:39 PM



“ *Bill was a great friend. He made everybody around him happy to be with him. Everything about Bill was positive. And I am glad to have known him very much. He was very open about his life. I am so fortunate to have a long one on one with him last year where he encouraged about an area in my life that I was down about. I with never forget that. Love and prayers to all of Bill's family and friends,
In Christ, Bill Denton*



Bill Denton - December 02, 2018 at 09:17 PM

CR

“ I am sorry for your family loss of Bill. What he left behind is a wonderful example of living for Christ. You family is blessed to have him as a leader of the family. I called him Pops quite a few times as I was a member of the People of Praise for the past 13 1/2 years. Pops was the same nickname I used for my dad until he passed 36 years ago.

Faith and joy are 2 characteristics that I will use to describe him.

God Bless You All.

*Chris Rousselle
People of Praise*

Chris Rousselle - December 01, 2018 at 11:51 PM

RS

“ To: The family of Bill Argus;
I have very fond memories of Bill, especially during the time we sang with Tom, Lawrence and Moe at Resurrection of Our Lord Church.. Our prayers and condolences go to Elizabeth and the family. Roger & Vergie Davis

Roger W Davis Sr - December 01, 2018 at 11:47 AM

AM

“ We remember Bill as a very talented and generous brother in the Lord. Our prayers and condolences go out to Tucky and his family. May the Lord be his eternal reward.

Al and Patti Mansfield

Al Mansfield - November 30, 2018 at 09:53 PM

KS

“ On behalf of the Brothers of the Sacred Heart Alumni Association and Brother Martin High School, I offer our prayers and condolences. We will say a Mass in his memory.

*Kenny Spellman '84
Brother Martin High School*

Kenny Spellman - November 30, 2018 at 01:51 PM

JL

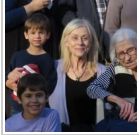
“ Dottie and I sat and reminisced about “Uncle Billy” and Ballard and Uncle Billy and Aunt Caroline yesterday afternoon. What a wonderful family! We so clearly remember the fabulous wedding weekend of Billy Argus and Tucky Moss! Our hearts are so sad for each of you. He was an incredible man and we love Tucky. He, Gus Dad and my Daddy are playing electric football in heaven! Prayers and love to you all. *Janie Viguerie Lamb*

Janie Viguerie Lamb - November 29, 2018 at 09:05 PM

MC

“ I remember all the times we sang together at the prayer meetings You had a 4 string guitar I will miss your singing voice Say hi to my dad Love you dearly Prayers for your family

Martha Butts Casselberry - November 29, 2018 at 04:11 PM



“ *Tucky, My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. You will be remembered in our prayers.*

Rita Boh Fraering

Cindy Scott - November 29, 2018 at 03:58 PM

ES

“ *Liz, I am sorry for your loss. I am praying for you and your family.*
Earl Scioneaux

Earl J Scioneaux - November 29, 2018 at 01:15 PM