

Bill Ward

William (Bill) C. Ward of Boerne died early in the morning on January 8, 2011 after a stroke. He was born in Waco, Texas in 1933. After attending Jefferson High School in San Antonio, he received his BS and MS in geology from the University of Texas at Austin and, after a nine year stint in the oil industry, returned to school to get his PhD at Rice University. He taught geology at the University of New Orleans for 25 years and did academic research in limestone and other sedimentary rocks of Mexico, Spain, Puerto Rico, Egypt, and the US Gulf Coast. He was an Emeritus Member of SEPM, still taking the journals and staying active.

In 1995 he retired from UNO as an Emeritus Professor of Geology and with his wife, Kathy, returned to their native Central Texas, where he was an enthusiastic and well-loved volunteer teaching Texas Hill Country geology for several Master Naturalist chapters, as well as for the Cibolo Nature Center, the Gorge Preservation Society (Canyon Lake Gorge), and other groups. Bill also was very active in the Native Plant Society of Texas, wrote a column on native plants for the Boerne Star, and was an avid birder.

He and his wife, Kathy Agnew, enjoyed 53 years of marriage. Bill will be missed by his mother Louise (Momo) Ward, daughters Laura Good and Diane Sparkman, son Bruce Ward, sister Jeanne West and two brothers, Lee Allen Ward and Phil Ward, and five grandchildren, two son-in-laws, and a daughter-in-law.

A memorial service will be held at Saint Helena Episcopal Church in Boerne on Tuesday, January 11 at 2 p.m., with reception to follow at Cibolo Nature Center in Boerne. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Cibolo Nature Center Research Endowment Fund or to a charity of your choice.