



William "Bill" Hibler

December 15, 1938 - April 6, 2026

William Robert Hibler was born December 15, 1938, at his parents' home in Hartley, Texas. He was the son of Bobbie Reid and Harvey Hibler. Bill was the fourth of nine children, eight of whom survived to adulthood, and was raised in the panhandle, north of the Canadian River. Attending Dumas High School, he played football and made friends that he maintained throughout life, graduating as part of the Class of '57. While working as a driller in Hidalgo County, Texas, he met and soon married Leonora Luce, an educator. Not long afterward, he travelled overseas to work in Kuwait and Nigeria. Upon his return, he greeted his wife and their daughter, Lauralee, in Shenandoah, Virginia. Bill's son Will was also greeted by the family within several years, and Norie stayed at home to raise them through toddlerhood before returning to teaching in the area. During this time, Bill worked as a hand on a registered Angus farm, specializing in fitting and showing. He started college in 1969, working a variety of jobs, and taking the kids fishing as much as he could. His family saw Bill graduate with a Bachelor of Arts from Madison College in 1973. The family relocated to Northumberland County, Virginia, and both he and Norie taught in nearby districts. Bill bought a dead-rise 39 ft. workboat and began fishing professionally for blue crab in the Chesapeake Bay, based out of Dividing Creek, trying it out over the summer months. He left teaching to become a full-time waterman, crabbing in the summer and buying oysters during the winter. In 1976, he loaded the family and several friends into his boat and took it out into the Bay to see the tall ships making their way up the

coast toward New York City in celebration of the Bicentennial.

1978 saw Bill and Norie loading up the kids and horses and relocating to Willcox, Arizona, where they both taught in the Willcox School system. Here they finished raising their children and enjoyed many friendships within the community. Bill taught at the Middle School, in addition earning his Master of Education degree in 1983. By the time he retired, he had taught several subjects, including math, English, and English as a Second Language. During the summer he would occasionally moonlight at the sale barn, especially when he had a young horse he wanted to introduce to cattle work. Before and after his retirement, Bill enjoyed working with horses, hunting, and fishing (not necessarily in that order). One of his favorite activities was bass fishing with friends and family in Angostura, Mexico. He also enjoyed pursuing desert quail in southeast Arizona with his German Shorthair Pointer, Dixie, who accompanied him to hunt upland birds in west central Idaho, where his daughter and son-in-law resided for a number of years.

Bill was a master storyteller, and some of his stories were based on truth. His father worked one of the last drives up the Chisholm trail and had a prized racing mule. His grandfather was the foreman of the southern quarter of the XIT ranch. His family was large and lively. Bill lived a full, rich life and loved fun and adventure.

He is survived by his daughter, Lauralee (Ross) Kane, his son, Will, his sister Donna (John) Bosholm, and brother Michael Hibler. He was "Pop-pop" to his grand-children, Will's boys, Jack and Sam Hibler. He also leaves many nieces and nephews who held places in his heart. At Bill's request, there will be no service.

Tribute Wall

KL

“ *Bill was an amazing man and wonderful teacher. He will be missed by all.* ”

Kathy Leonard - April 23 at 10:58 PM

JL

Loved Pop Pop. He always regaled me with amazing stories. I have wonderful memories of him as a father in law and grandfather to our sons Jack and Sam. Bill was a quiet gentlemen, who held forgiveness in his heart and always made me smile with that twinkle in his eye. I am sure he and Norie are hugging as they are reunited in Heaven.

Julie Lokun - April 25 at 03:30 PM

LW

“ *lina weaver lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler* ”



lina weaver - April 22 at 05:37 PM

RC

“ *Robert Childress lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler* ”



Robert Childress - April 22 at 12:27 PM

JJ

“ Jeannie Johnson lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler



Jeannie Johnson - April 22 at 11:54 AM

BR

“ Rest in peace Mr. Hibler. I had him as a math teacher in 7th grade. Loved his class. And yes he was a teacher you would not forget.



Bonnita Rubalcava - April 22 at 01:15 AM

PI

“ I spent many hours in Norie and Bill's kitchen discussing the teaching woes and joys of the days. They were both unique and amazing people and I shared the experience of teaching at the elementary school with Norie. I will always remember them both. I wish for the family the Peace that only comes from our Lord.

Patricia Riggs Inman - April 21 at 11:07 PM

SR

“ Sending my condolences to the family. A wonderful man who touched many lives. Prayers of comfort are with you all.



Sharma Reed - April 21 at 09:45 PM

JW

“ *My deepest condolences to the family, you will be greatly missed and remembered by each student that had the privilege of knowing you* ❤️

Jennifer & Chris Wortman - April 21 at 08:36 PM

MV

“ *My condolences on the loss of Mr. Hibler. May he Rest in Peace. God bless him, his family, friends, and all others that loved him.* 🌹



Michael Valenzuela - April 21 at 07:38 PM



“ *My condolences to LauraLee and the Hibler Family.*



Jerry Giudice - April 21 at 07:29 PM

WC

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Westlawn Chapel - April 21 at 02:38 PM

SS

“ *Mr Hibler was one of those teachers you never forget.. Condolences to the family.* □



Sherrie Sohl - April 20 at 08:19 AM

LB

“ *There was definitely a Heaven for Teachers waiting for you Mr Hibler! Rest in Peace!*

LaDonna Burgess - April 13 at 06:19 PM

MV

“ *Michael Valenzuela lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler*



Michael Valenzuela - April 13 at 11:08 AM

PS

“ *Mrs Hibler, Will & Family, my condolences for your loss. Mr Hibler was a teacher that you always remember...he was strict and you paid attention and if you messed up you paid, and how that man could swing the paddle!!*

Pedro Salazar - April 11 at 11:36 AM

LW

“ Lina Weaver sent a virtual gift in memory of William "Bill" Hibler



Lina Weaver - April 09 at 10:48 PM

LW

“ I just love Mr. Hibler. He was a phenomenal teacher and man! He was my close neighbor for 30 years and I enjoyed visiting with him when he was outside. He was certainly a character and had great jokes. Enjoy your fishing trips with Mr. O' Connel, Mr. Hibler. My condolences and prayers go out to Will and LauraLee. He will definitely be missed!



Lina Weaver - April 09 at 10:47 PM

SM

“ I worked with Bill for many years and have many fond memories of our time at the middle school.

Steve Marlatt - April 09 at 08:44 PM

GM

“ Gus & Rita Morales lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler



Gus & Rita Morales - April 09 at 03:55 PM



“ *Rest well fine Sir. Condolences to LauraLee and family.* ”



Jennifer Regensberg - April 09 at 03:03 PM

BT

“ *Bill was a good friend and I will miss him.* ”

Ben J Travis - April 09 at 11:08 AM

TM

“ *Trey Moses lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler* ”



Trey Moses - April 09 at 10:53 AM

KT

“ *Kathy Thatcher lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler* ”



Kathy Thatcher - April 09 at 10:45 AM

SA

“ *Susan Arbuthnot lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler*



Susan Arbuthnot - April 09 at 09:47 AM

CA

“ *Cary & Betsy Ajeman lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Hibler*



Cary & Betsy Ajeman - April 08 at 08:00 PM

SA

“ *Sharon Arzberger sent a virtual gift in memory of William "Bill" Hibler*



Sharon Arzberger - April 08 at 07:56 PM