

Excerpt from Sandra & Ed Barton - Mounds, OK



Our relationship with Bill Chilcoat goes back almost 40 years and includes many adventures and misadventures; some inspiring, some hysterical, and all worthy of remembering. Bill is like a brother and we consider him family in every sense of the word. Our dinner table is more complete when he joins us.

During the years, Bill has brought us many new friends and we cherish almost every one of them. Of course that sentence has double meaning and a long story connected to it. But that is one of our hysterical moments that we laugh over and share time and time again.

One of the highlights of our year is the Ambassador's reunion and Christmas dinner in our home. This is the greatest Christmas present Bill has ever given us, to allow us to be part of this magical evening.

We are proud of our Billy and very proud that he considers us his family also. To call someone a gentle person is very high praise and Bill is just that. He is a gentle person with a large network of friends that he cares for and that care for him. He is always giving of himself to his friends, community, and anyone in need of a caring heart, helping hand, or just a moment of his time.

As we watched and waited through Bill's illness, it gave us time to reflect upon how important he is and how his life has impacted so positively on so many people. The thought of losing him was inconceivable and unbearable. There was a long list of people on my desk that included people in Mounds and surrounding communities that waited for daily updates on Bill's condition. As soon as cousin Joe reported to me, I contacted them by email or phone call. People at IBM were kept updated through my cousin Judy, Bill's dear friend from his working days. Facebook pages were utilized by many people to keep others updated and people from all around the world expressed best wishes and concern for his speedy recovery. There were so many of us that fulfilled this important job that it was amazing to try to imagine just how many people were involved in caring about my best buddy in his time of crisis.

We are so thankful that we have our true friend and good buddy for a long time to come. We love him dearly.

Sandra and Ed Barton