

William Edward McMurry passed away on June 29th, 2020 at the age of 80. He was surrounded by his loving family at his Atlanta home.

Bill was born on August 18th, 1939, in Jackson Mississippi. He lived in Missouri, California, Oregon, Tennessee, and even spent time abroad in Germany during his military service. After his discharge from the army, and a brief time pursuing a ministerial degree at a baptist seminary, he came to Atlanta to attend Georgia State University where he received a B.A. in Political Science and a Masters in Public Administration. After completing his education he went to work for the Georgia Municipal Association and then the Public Service Department within the School of Urban Life at GSU where he met and married his wife, Margaret Crandall. While at the School of Urban Life, he served as president of the Urban Life Associates where he helped provide neighborhood and community organizations with access to university resources. Some of the notable activities that the Urban Life Association was involved with included a marketing plan for the Bond Community Federal Credit Union and drafting legislation for fair housing laws for the State of Georgia. In 1973 he became the Assistant Director of the Georgia State Office of Housing where he assisted small communities across the state who wanted to develop low cost housing for their local citizens.

In 1976 he left his service in state government to focus on investing in the rebirth of Atlanta's Historic Intown Neighborhoods by purchasing and renovating historic homes for resale. He was drafted in 1978 to become the first director of Neighborhood Housing Services in Grant Park where he assisted homeowners to obtain financing from local banks to renovate their previously redlined homes. Since he had obtained his real estate license in 1977, in 1981 he became managing broker of the new Grant Walker real estate office in Candler Park, beginning his long illustrious career in Real Estate. In 1985 he left Grant Walker to partner with his wife as a salesperson 14 West, Remax Intown, Dwellings and Harry Norman becoming the premier husband and wife sales team of intown properties.

Because of his faith in the resurrection of the intown neighborhoods of Atlanta, he purchased his first home and became one of the early residents of the Historic Inman Park Neighborhood. As a resident of Inman Park, he helped to expand the neighborhood boundaries to their current footprint, served as president of the neighborhood association, served as the chairman of the Inman Park Spring Festival and Tour of Homes, while also providing additional leadership on multiple committees for the neighborhood and BOND Credit Union. Bill and Marnie were involved in the fight to prevent the destruction of the intown community by GDOT plans to build expressways directly through the historic neighborhood that they cared so much about.

In addition to his passion for community service, Bill loved to cook and started an informal gourmet club in Inman Park which has met regularly for over 40 years. The Gourmet Club provides its members the opportunity not only to explore new flavors and ideas about cooking from around the world, but also the fellowship of long time friends and partners within the community. Travel in

Central America led to the ownership of a vacation home above the beaches of Nicaragua and a partnership in El Peten, a 250 acre organic coffee farm in northern Nicaragua.

In his later years Bill enjoyed time spent with family. Looking forward especially to holidays and special occasions that gave him the opportunity to share with extended family and friends. His traditional Christmas brunches became a staple of holiday celebration bringing together friends and family alike. Bill was a compassionate listener and always willing to lend an ear or a hand to someone in need. Bill enjoyed quiet moments sitting on his back porch, long conversations with friends, and sitting by the fire sipping a Bourbon and ginger.

Preceded in death by his parents Edward Wilder McMurry and Janie Sue (Maynard) McMurry, and his brother John Charles "Mac" McMurry and his wife Leona. Survived by his wife Margaret "Marnie" (Crandall) McMurry, sister Patricia (McMurry) Ward, sons Austin W McMurry and Chad H McMurry, daughters-in-law Claudia (Artola) McMurry and Susanne (Carlson) McMurry, granddaughter Amaya M McMurry, and many cherished nieces, nephews, cousins and dear friends.

The family will gather to celebrate his life at a later time.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to <https://www.lifelineanimal.org/> or Friends of Inman Park (207 Hurt St NE, Atlanta GA 30307).