



## Rodney A. Bell

July 29, 1938 - December 2, 2020

Dateline Jasper, Indiana

Rodney A. Bell, age 82, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 7:10 p.m. on Wednesday, December 2, 2020, at Northwood Good Samaritan Retirement Community (where many heroes work) in Jasper, Indiana. He overcame his battle with COVID, but unfortunately lost the battle with pneumonia.

Rodney was born in Washington, Indiana, on July 29, 1938 to Ephraim "Pat" and Wilma (Akers) Bell. He married Mary Lynn Williams on November 23, 1961.

After graduating from Washington High School he served in the Navy until 1959. He then obtained his bachelor's degree at Indiana State University.

Rodney and his family moved to Jasper in 1970 to help start and grow the computer department for Kimball International. Rodney was very proficient in the COBOL programming which was the backbone of the computer system at that time. He was not a person who liked change and had a hard time adjusting from the black screen with green program coding to the point and click windows based computers. He had a stubborn side (or maybe that was all sides). He liked his routines and humble lifestyle. He enjoyed his crockpot pot roast for lunch every day. He lived in the same house for 50 years (with no

or very few updates). He loved to hang out and drink with the boys at Yaggis back in the day and never moved off schedule from his fishing routine at Beaver Lake (and NO where else). He watched TV in the basement in the same location and same comfortable recliner (ok, we got him to upgrade once) and took to his grave that Richard Nixon was the best President of the United States----ever.

Rodney was not a man of great patience. However, that changed when he was driving his ski boat on Beaver Lake providing ski lessons to his neighbors, friends, family and us. There are countless people who still remember the experience and the time and patience he had to see them succeed to get on top of the water for their very first time.

At times, Rodney could be the life of the party. But the majority of the time he cherished his alone time. There were moments it was hard to understand his ability to be content at doing nothing, or it seemed like nothing. Maybe there is a lesson in there that we should all slow down and cherish the peaceful moments and soak up our blessings.

Surviving are his wife of 59 years, Mary Lynn Bell, Jasper, IN, two daughters; Becky Butcher and companion Steve Chambers, Loogootee, IN, Laura (Mike) Albrecht, Jasper, IN, one son; John (Bobbi Jo) Bell, Fountain Hills, AZ, six grandchildren; Jared Butcher, Nalon, Madysan, Corban Bell, Kaitlin and Logan Albrecht, many nieces and nephews- several of which learned to ski at Beaver lake by Uncle Rodney and two brothers; Charlie Bell and Dan (Margie) Bell, also his loving and supporting neighbors, Dean and Jo Jacobs.

Preceding him in death is one sister, Gayle Alexander.

There will be no visitation or service. We will honor Rodney's wishes and have him cremated.

Memorial contributions may be made to Beaver Lake Maintenance Fund (1301 St Charles St. Jasper, IN 47546) or to Northwood Retirement Community (2515 Newton St. Jasper, IN 47546), or Dubois County Humane Society (426 Wernsing Rd Jasper, IN 47546).

Online condolences may be made at [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ Rodney A. Bell

January 01, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ I have a lot of great memories in that neighborhood of Susanna, specially with some of those street parties. My thoughts and prayers are with your family for peace. Rest in peace Rod. Mike Fischer and Family.

Mike Fischer - December 09, 2020 at 03:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Anne McCauley - December 08, 2020 at 01:02 PM



Dad's favorite picture. I forgot about that. Thank you for sharing! John

John Bell - December 09, 2020 at 12:20 PM

AM

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



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**Anne McCauley** - December 08, 2020 at 01:01 PM

HW

“ *“Grief is like the ocean; it comes on waves ebbing and flowing. Sometimes the water is calm, and sometimes it is overwhelming. All we can do is learn to swim.”*

*Thoughts and Prayers for the Bell Family.*

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**Hannah L Wiscaver** - December 07, 2020 at 06:34 PM

JB

*That is a beautiful quote Hannah. Thank you for sharing.*

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**John Bell** - December 09, 2020 at 12:21 PM

DF

“ *I will miss an old friend. May he rest in peace.*

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**Denny Fritz** - December 06, 2020 at 04:20 PM

GM

“ *Many memories of my childhood neighbor, Rodney. I'll always remember the day he took Laura and I to Beaver Lake for one of my first ever speed boat rides. My condolences to the entire Bell family. Rest in Peace, Rodney.*

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**Gina Mehringer** - December 04, 2020 at 06:05 PM

JB

*Thank you Gina*

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**John Bell** - December 09, 2020 at 12:57 PM

SK

“ *I did not know Rodney but heard many stories from my late Father Van Pitman. I believe they shared a love of many things, computers, Beer at Yaggis, pot roast and arguing politics. Sending deepest condolences to your family from ours. Suzie Q Pitman Klem.*

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**Suzie Klem** - December 04, 2020 at 03:17 PM

MA

“ *My sincere sympathies to Mary Lynn and the Bell family. I will forever cherish the times we shared at Beaver Lake. Too many stories to tell (some true!) Rest In Peace old friend.*

*Mike Ahlbrand*

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**mike ahlbrand** - December 04, 2020 at 12:47 PM

JB

*HaHa! Thanks Mike and hope you are doing well.*

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**John Bell** - December 09, 2020 at 12:59 PM

LZ

“ Rod had a very big heart under his sometimes gruff exterior. I remember him dutifully rounding up volunteers at Kimball every time there was a blood drive at the Moose Lodge to make sure as many people showed up as possible. You had to have a good reason to say no! We had many an enjoyable evening at the Moose, eating roast beef and chili and drinking beer once we'd completed our good deed. He instilled that call to duty in me as a very young woman, and I still think of him to this day every time I donate blood.

Rod was also ahead of his time. He beat the drum about identify theft and protecting our social security numbers way back when, when reports full of personal data were carelessly strewn about the office and we thought nothing of writing our SS numbers on personal checks, etc. whenever anyone asked. People might have rolled their eyes at the time, but he was right on the money.

Rod had a very big heart, and he made it clearly known he loved his wife and his children dearly, faithfully and endlessly. It was a very admirable quality in a man with a gruff exterior.

*Rest in peace!*

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**Lisa Zebrun** - December 04, 2020 at 11:28 AM

JB

*Thank you for sharing Lisa. Yes, Dad knew Big Brother was watching WAY before Snowden.*

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**John Bell** - December 09, 2020 at 01:00 PM

AM

“ Whenever we visited family in Indiana, we always had to make a stop at Uncle Rodney's lake house. I remember watching Rodney taking water enthusiasts on numerous laps around the lake in his motorboat. Rodney never stopped with the rides until everyone was satisfied. My personal memory of Uncle Rodney was his love and interest in competing against a challenger in a game of Chinese Checkers. Rodney's untarnished winning streak was legend as he was indeed the Master of the board. Whenever I sit down to a game of Chinese Checkers, I always remember the enjoyment Rodney shared with me and others. Rodney was a tremendous man and it was my pleasure to of known him. Every time I sit down with my grandchildren to a game of Chinese Checkers, I always think of you Uncle Rodney. Thanks for the memories, you will be missed by many. Rest in Peace.....

*Michael McCauley (Anne Marie)  
Wisconsin*

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**Anne McCauley** - December 04, 2020 at 11:25 AM

JB

*Thank you for sharing the memories and keeping the legacy of Chinese Checkers going.*

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**John Bell** - December 09, 2020 at 01:02 PM

WC

“ Uncle Rodney was always there when I or my family needed help. We rarely agreed about politics but he could put that aside and be one of the best uncles a person could ask for. I never did learn to water ski but always enjoyed the boat rides. What I will remember most were the talks we had on family etc. A good man  
*Bill Clark*

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**william clark** - December 04, 2020 at 10:30 AM

JB

*Bringing a picture in my mind with you on water skis brings a smile to my face! Sorry it didn't happen, but it is fun imaging. Thanks for sharing Bill.*

John Bell - December 09, 2020 at 01:03 PM

JW

“ *This caring man was one of the people that taught me how to waterski at Beaver Lake. Nothing like it. Saturday afternoons and his famous BBQ Hamburgers. I don't know who had more fun, us boys or him. He also was also neighbor that kept a close eye on the neighborhood. He will be missed. You all have our sympathy and Prayers*

*The John and Lynn Welp Family*

John Welp - December 04, 2020 at 08:46 AM

JB

*Thanks for sharing John. Your Mom stopped over on Monday and shared our family mirrored lineage. That was very nice.*

John Bell - December 09, 2020 at 01:05 PM

TW

“ *Tina/Brent Wehr sent a virtual gift in memory of Rodney A. Bell*



Tina/Brent Wehr - December 04, 2020 at 01:13 AM