



William "Bill" Keith Dearth

August 24, 1951 - July 8, 2025

William "Bill" Keith Dearth, 73, of Carrollton, Ohio, passed away on July 8, 2025, at Aultman Hospital after a valiant and stubborn fight with lung cancer -- because of course, he did it his way. Born August 24, 1951, in Canton, Bill was the son of the late Albert and Dorothy (Murphy) Dearth. He was preceded in death by his sister Shari Howells, and survived by Terri Getz, and Melissa Bauer. He is also survived by his half-brother, Ralph Dearth, with whom he shared family roots.

Bill was a 1969 graduate of Carrollton High School and later went on to earn a Bachelor's degree from Walsh College in 1989 (graduating Summa Cum Laude) and a Master's degree from Kent State University in 1995. He studied both Business Engineering and Marketing.

His lifelong career at the Timken Company culminated in the role of Global Quality Advancement Specialist-- a title that sounds mysterious enough, but suited a man who quietly made things better wherever he went.

To those who knew him best, Bill was many things: a reader, a thinker, a blues man with calloused fingers and a Stratocaster slung just right. He had a passion for photography, golf, cultural study, sports (a loyal and patient fan of the Pittsburgh Pirates and Steelers), world travel, and music that ran so deep it was practically part of his DNA.

As a guitar player, Bill was something of a local legend. Whether playing with The Strange Rangers or Raskol, he was known to make six strings sound like an orchestra -- drawing influence from blues, country, rock, and the soulful work of Peter Green, Merle Haggard, and Townes Van Zandt. He also dabbled in various other instruments, but the guitar was always home.

Bill was a man of quiet depth -- thoughtful, complex, and sometimes mysterious. Not always easy to fully understand, but deeply connected to the people and passions he held dear. He believed in always being an avid student -- of music, of life, of the world.

He is survived by his devoted wife, Mary Fe Barcoma Dearth; his daughter Brandi (Dearth) Vander Eyk, her husband Evan, and their children Cassandra and Morgan; and his son William Dearth, his wife Heather (Osborne) Dearth; as well as many extended family and friends who loved and admired him.

Calling hours will be held at Dodds Funeral Home, 129 N. Lisbon St., Carrollton, OH, on Friday, July 18, 2025, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., with a service to follow at 5:00 p.m. Family and friends are invited to continue the celebration of Bill's life over food and drinks at the Masonic Temple starting at 6:30 p.m. Guitars are optional, but stories are encouraged.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 18. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Dodds Funeral Home-Carrollton
129 N Lisbon St
Carrollton, OH 44615
(330) 627-5505
<https://www.doddsfuneralhomes.com/>

Service

JUL 18. 5:00 PM (ET)

Dodds Funeral Home-Carrollton
129 N Lisbon St
Carrollton, OH 44615
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Tribute Wall

KG

“*Kate G. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Keith Dearth.*

Kate G. - July 17, 2025 at 08:33 PM



“*A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William "Bill" Keith Dearth.*

July 17, 2025 at 12:40 PM

JO

“*Bill and I played together in the N A Bison Band and The Stranger Rangers. Those are the fondest memories I have playing music. Bill was a great guitarist and definitely a blues man. Rest in peace Bill! Brillopad*

Joe - July 17, 2025 at 08:18 AM

BE

*Brillo!!! I haven't seen you since I was a kid, but I absolutely remember you!! ❤️
Thank you,
Brandi (Tumbleweed)*

Brandi (Dearth) Vander Eyk - July 17, 2025 at 12:56 PM

JV

“ Jennifer, Melanie, & Vanessa purchased the Plants-A-Plenty for the family of William "Bill" Keith Dearth.



Jennifer, Melanie, & Vanessa - July 16, 2025 at 03:36 PM

BL

“ We will miss you dear friend and thanking God for the times we shared that leave us with wonderful memories. With God all things are possible so looking forward to a musical reunion. Until then you will be missed. Heartfelt Sympathy from, Ernie, Bonnie and Matthew Little.

Bonnie Little - July 15, 2025 at 03:21 PM

PF

“ Safe journey. You have always been the best guitarist I have ever heard.

Penn Fisher - July 15, 2025 at 07:54 AM

BE

Penny! My brother and I remember you and your amazing voice. Thank you ❤️❤️❤️

Brandi (Dearth) Vander Eyk - July 17, 2025 at 12:54 PM

PF

I haven't forgotten the two of you either nor Dot the dog. Take care

Penn Fisher - July 17, 2025 at 04:06 PM

DY

“ In 1969 I went to the Battle of the Bands. Seeing Bill play inspired me. What a good man. Thanks for the memories. RIP Mr. Dearth 🙌🏻👍🏻

Donny Young - July 14, 2025 at 05:31 PM

BE



Brandi (Dearth) Vander Eyk - July 20, 2025 at 12:52 AM



“ European Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Keith Dearth.



July 14, 2025 at 03:19 PM

JH

“ Jon and Shari Harmon purchased the Plants-A-Plenty for the family of William "Bill" Keith Dearth.



Jon and Shari Harmon - July 14, 2025 at 12:52 PM