



Brian G Bagley

November 20, 1934 - December 22, 2022

Professor Brian G. Bagley, 88, died peacefully on December 22, 2022. He was born November 20, 1934 in Racine, Wisconsin. He was raised by his mother Ethel and his Danish grandmother. His father Wesley was killed during WWII when Brian was 10 years old.

The memory of inventing a smoke bomb in his grandmother's basement in the sixth grade always made him laugh. For Brian's eighth grade year, he attended a one room school with his cousins at Raymond Center. He was proud of the "orange and blue" of Washington Park High School, where he ran cross country and excelled scholastically. While in college at the University of Wisconsin, Brian played guitar in a trio polka band to earn tuition money. He served in the US Army Reserves in the Corp of Engineers reaching the rank of captain. Brian rowed on the crew team for Wisconsin while he achieved his Bachelors of Science and Masters in Metallurgical Engineering. In 1959, Brian married Dorothy Olson, a native of Racine, before they moved to Harvard University for his Ph. D education in applied Physics.

Brian's mentor and advisor was Professor David Turnbull who directed his dissertation. By graduation in 1968, Brian and Dorothy had 3 children. Brian was hired by the well-known Bell Laboratories at Murray Hill, NJ and became a Research Scientist. In 1975 Brian and his family lived in the Netherlands for one year while he was an exchange scientist working on fiber optics at Philips. After retirement from Bell, Brian moved to the University of Toledo to teach Physics. In 1991, he held the first Nippon Electric Glass Chair in Silciate and

Materials Science. He built an active research group and mentored students to obtain their Ph. D. and increased the popularity of Material Science studies. Professor Bagley enjoyed teaching his "Physics for Poets" class better known as "Physics for Everyday Life"- which is still being taught today. His wide range of knowledge lead him to be invited to give numerous technical talks in many parts of the world. He has over 100 published papers and 15 issued patents.

Brian loved all music especially jazz and classical. He was a huge Wisconsin and Green Bay Packers fan. He loved Harvard and UT as well. Brian was proud of his Lutheran heritage but attended St. Rose Catholic church in Perrysburg for over 20 years, where he enjoyed the guitar group and the lovely architecture. His favorite cities were, Venice, Italy and New York City, which he called "my town". After retirement from UT, unfortunately Alzheimer's took hold and progressed steadily. Brian established the David Turnbull Scholarship at UT in memory of his mentor and friend.

Brian was preceded in death by his parents, Ethel and Wesley, and Dorothy. He is survived by his son Brian J. (Julia) Bagley of Lafayette, NJ, daughter Kristin M. (Frank) Romano of Gunnison, CO, son James D. Bagley of Bowling Green, OH; grandsons Anthony Romano of Polson, MT and Nicholas Romano of Des Moines, IA; several Wisconsin cousins and Sally (David) Bennett and family, who was his friend and caregiver for 30 years.

Visitation will be at Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. with a Memorial Service at noon. Burial will be at West Lawn Memorial Park in Racine, Wisconsin on Friday, January 6 at 2:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Those wishing to leave a tribute in honor of Professor Bagley may consider the David Turnbull Scholarship Fund at the University of Toledo, or the Alzheimer's Association.

The family would like to thank the doctors of Waterville Family Physicians, St. Luke's Hospital and his numerous caregivers. Please leave a condolence

message at CoyleFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

West Lawn

Previous Events

Funeral Ceremony

JAN 3. 12:00 AM (ET)

Coyle Funeral Home
1770 S. Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43614

Visitation

JAN 3. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral Home
1770 S. Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43614

Tribute Wall

KR

“ *Kristin Romano lit a candle in memory of Brian G Bagley*



Kristin Romano - January 07, 2023 at 10:01 AM

KR

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Kristin Romano - January 07, 2023 at 09:51 AM

KR

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Kristin Romano - January 07, 2023 at 09:48 AM



Nice video. I would have liked to attend the service but now live to far away .

Shari Rudolph - January 08, 2023 at 12:20 AM

JE

Even though the weather was cold & windy I would not have missed my cousin funeral. Thank you Kristin for having your family video this so others that could not attend can be a part of this day. JeanMarie

JeanMarie - January 22, 2023 at 03:51 PM



“ *Brian was my first cousin and we were close families as we lived under the same roof at one time when I was a baby. He was actually my babysitter at one point. There was 16 years difference in our ages but I remember many childhood memories as a young child.. I adored him greatly and will miss him but the love I have for him will live in my heart always.*



Shari Rudolph - January 03, 2023 at 09:40 AM

AS

“ *I was proud and honored to have the privilege to know and take care of Brian the past 1 1/2 years. Brian taught me a lot in our conversations. Loved our walks and cooking together. Brian God needed another professor in heaven to help him He called upon a brilliant and wonderful man. God Bless you Dr. Brian Bagley. Alice Smiddy*

Alice smiddy - January 02, 2023 at 09:42 PM

JA

“ As so many have mentioned, I remember Brian as a sincerely warm and gracious person. I knew him primarily as a child. He was seven years older than I and our paths diverged after grade school. He lived with us for one year, during which time he attended our one-room, one-teacher, eight-grades, grade school at Raymond Center. I have attached a class photo which includes Brian. Special thanks to Sally Bennett for all that she did for Brian and his family for so many years. Cousin Jim Albright



James D Albright - January 02, 2023 at 07:13 PM

AC

“ I was greatly saddened to read that Brian had passed from among us. For many years we were colleagues with adjoining offices in McMaster Hall in the Physics and Astronomy Department at the University of Toledo. I had the honor of being on the search committee that identified and selected Brian as the first holder of the NEG Endowed Chair in Materials Science at UT. He brought great distinction to UT from his extensive research at Bell Labs and Harvard, and from his wide-ranging knowledge of materials properties and performance. He contributed mightily to building a strong materials science program at UT. Most memorably, Brian was a warm-hearted person with a keen interest in students from all backgrounds and ethnicities. His materials science course was hugely popular with graduate and undergraduates alike. He will be dearly missed but never forgotten!

--Al Compaan, Distinguished University Professor Emeritus

Alvin Compaan - January 02, 2023 at 01:06 PM

SH

“ I was very sorry to see that Brian had passed away. I knew Brian from The Univ. of Toledo, Dept. of Phys & Astr., where I was a Department Secretary. Brian always had a very pleasant personality and was liked by everyone in the Dept: staff, students and graduate students. He was a fascinating person who would had a very distinguished career. He will be missed.

*Sue Hickey
Dept. Secretary, Retired
The Univ. of Toledo
Dept. of Physics & Astronomy*

Sue Hickey - January 02, 2023 at 11:04 AM

ST

“ *Sarisue Tenney lit a candle in memory of
Brian G Bagley*



Sarisue Tenney - January 02, 2023 at 03:29 AM

DC

“ My husband and I (from Lanesville, IN - just west of Louisville, KY) met Brian several years ago when visiting my cousin, Sally Bennett. He was a such a great person to talk to - so friendly. I knew he was a physics professor but did not know of his achievements and hobbies until I read his obituary. We would go to the Amish Country and meet Sally, Dave, and Brian, and have a wonderful time eating the Amish food, driving around, and shopping. He was a joy to be with and a cherished member of the Bennett family. He attended celebrations at Sally's and loved her family. He especially enjoyed talking with her Mother and she with him. I will miss Sally's stories about him. Doris Lind

Doris Lind (Sally's cousin) - January 01, 2023 at 06:57 PM

KR

“ Kristin Romano lit a candle in memory of Brian G Bagley



Kristin Romano - January 01, 2023 at 02:23 PM

KR

There will be a brief service at West Lawn Memorial Park in Racine WI. on January 6th at 2:30pm. If anyone would like to attend we will meet at the gate between the chapel and pond and drive in a procession to my fathers final resting place

Kristin Romano - January 01, 2023 at 02:28 PM

JC

“ *My cousin Brian and I shared the same birthday only years apart. I remember when he first got married on our birthday I thought it was a party for us since I had never been to a wedding reception before. It became a tradition to call on 11/20 and wish each other Happy Birthday! Memories to always cherish.*



JeanMarie Chalik - January 01, 2023 at 12:29 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Brian G Bagley.*



December 31, 2022 at 12:12 PM