



## Mr. William Clift

August 25, 1952 - April 3, 2018

William E. Clift, age 65, of Alpharetta, went to be with his Lord on April 3 after a 10-month struggle with cancer. He was born in Mobile, Ala., and after graduating from Tennessee Tech with a degree in Electrical Engineering, worked for South Central Bell, which later became BellSouth Mobility. He earned an MBA from Memphis State University and served as CTO of Cingular Wireless. After his retirement at age 53, he worked as a consultant and served as a member of various technology boards.

He was a lifelong student and pursued many interests during his retirement. He loved American and European history, as well as woodworking, and traveled often to furniture conferences and shows. He enjoyed amateur photography, toting his camera along on the many international trips he took with his wife, Donna. He was also a devoted participant in Bible Study Fellowship, spending several years leading men's groups and teaching children's classes.

All who knew him were touched by his kindness, intelligence, and generosity. His philanthropic interests included Historic Williamsburg, the Rafiki Foundation, Bible Study Fellowship, and his local church, Alpharetta First United Methodist Church.

Most importantly, he was a devoted husband to his wife of 45 years, Donna Clift, and loving father to his two children, Valerie Clift and April Taylor-Clift (spouse Damian Taylor), as well as his two King Charles Cavaliers: Winston and Oliver. He doted on his grandchild, Evey, who will miss her "Baba", and he

loved stretching out on the floor to play ponies and fairies with her.

The Clift family wishes to thank the many friends and family who supported them with prayers, meals, and visits during Bill's illness and 2-month hospital stay prior to his death. We especially want to thank the wonderful nurses and physicians at North Fulton Rehab and ICU who worked so hard to support Bill's healing.

The visitation will be held at Northside Chapel on Friday, April 6 from 6-8 p.m. The funeral service will be held at Alpharetta First United Methodist Church on Saturday, April 7, at 1 p.m. followed by food and fellowship. A private family interment will be held in Spring City, Tenn. In lieu of flowers (due to an allergy), those wishing to make donations are asked to consider the Rafiki Foundation ([rafikifoundation.org](http://rafikifoundation.org)) or Bible Study Fellowship ([bsfinternational.org](http://bsfinternational.org)).

# Cemetery Details

Mexico

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 6. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Northside Chapel Funeral Directors & Crematory  
12050 Crabapple Road  
Roswell, GA

## Funeral Service

APR 7. 1:00 PM (ET)

Vinebranch Chapel at Alpharetta First United Methodist Church  
59 N Main Sreet  
Alpharetta, GA 30009

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. William Clift*

October 08, 2022 at 11:37 AM



“ *For all his intelligence and success, he will always remain my cute, mischievous little cousin Ricky. He will be so missed.*

**Liz Clift Ramirez** - April 08, 2018 at 10:23 PM



*Dear cousin Ricky, gone too soon! I'm so shocked. My condolences to his lovely family.*

**Johnnie Sue Huddleston** - April 09, 2018 at 08:19 PM



“ *Bill was the Executive Director of the Georgia Network Department (and one of my managers) during my tenure there. He was an extremely kind and caring manager. But , that didn't mean he accepted less than your best performance. He was also a wonderful mentor to me. Bill had a way of making every employee he touched feel better about themselves and stand just a little bit taller after interacting with him. My heartfelt sympathy to Donna and the girls and their families. We will miss you, Bill!*

*Becky Britt Warlick*

**Becky Britt Warlick** - April 07, 2018 at 02:41 PM

CM

“ I had the honor of meeting Bill after his retirement from Cingular. Bill was an extremely kind and generous man and an amazing mentor to me. He always had time to give me sound advise, make introductions and help in any way he could. I always looked forward to seeing Bill and will cherish my memories of our friendship. My deepest sympathies to Donna and the Clift Family. Bill will be missed by all he touched.

Chris Moccia

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Chris Moccia - April 07, 2018 at 10:59 AM



“ Amazing Arboricola was purchased for the family of Mr. William Clift.



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April 06, 2018 at 02:30 PM

KH

“ Khalid H. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. William Clift.



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Khalid H. - April 06, 2018 at 12:18 PM

KH

“ Bill was my CEO and mentor at Optimi Corporation from 2005 to 2007. We stayed in touch after that and I continued to seek his advice and to have him as a reference.

*Bill was an extremely talented leader and a very very kind man. I will miss you, Bill!*

Khalid Hamied - April 06, 2018 at 11:13 AM

JE

“ Bill was the CEO of Optimi Corporation where we met and became friends. His kindness and graciousness I will never forget. We stayed in touch over the years meeting for lunch and he always made time for me. God speed to his family and Rest In Peace my good friend.

Justin Eidson - April 06, 2018 at 07:57 AM



“ Bountiful Rose Basket was purchased for the family of Mr. William Clift.



April 05, 2018 at 03:48 PM

BC

“ Bob Puglielli -- BellSouth Colleague purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mr. William Clift.



Bob Puglielli -- BellSouth Colleague - April 05, 2018 at 02:09 PM

DB

“ Bill became my customer in the early 2000's as CTO for Cingular and later my boss at Optimi Inc. He was a tough but fair customer at Cingular and an exemplary leader for me at Optimi. Bill respected people even when he didn't agree with their behavior or thoughts and always worked first to establish a foundation of understanding and then determine a course of action. It was my privilege and honor to have been serve him and to have been led by him in this life. As Bill enter's the Father's kingdom my prayer his family is that the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

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**Dave Burkholder** - April 05, 2018 at 10:30 AM

BV

“ Bill was an awesome mentor to me and to many when he worked in Baton Rouge and he was a great human being. We were all blessed to have known him.  
*Betsy Padgett Villanueva*

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**Betsy Villanueva** - April 04, 2018 at 07:47 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Mr. William Clift.



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April 04, 2018 at 05:37 PM



“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes



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**Northside Chapel** - April 04, 2018 at 12:49 PM

RJ

“ To Donna and all of Bill's family members,

*We were fortunate to have Bill as a Independent Board Member at iconectiv. His passion and caring for us as individuals and for the company as a whole was evident each time we spoke. Bill's wisdom and counsel will be sorely missed. The members of the board of directors and the iconectiv executive team send their heartfelt sympathy to Donna and all family members. He has left a legacy here and he will be missed.*

*Sincerely,  
Richard Jacowleff  
CEO iconectiv*

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**richard jacowleff** - April 04, 2018 at 11:03 AM