

IN MEMORY

James William Hill died on January 2nd 2021 in Edinburgh, Scotland.

From Baltimore, Maryland where he attended first Calvert then Gilman school he went on to take his B.A. at Amherst. He appreciated friends made there and the years of study which instilled a lifelong intellectual curiosity.

In his final year at Amherst, he met a visiting lecturer, Dr George Macleod, Lord Macleod of Fuinary and former Moderator of the Church of Scotland who invited Bill to further study at New College, Edinburgh University. Following graduating B.A. at Amherst in 1961, he chose to come to Scotland graduating B.D. in Theology at New College, Edinburgh.

Bill was assistant minister at St Andrew's St George's Church in the centre of Edinburgh's 18th 'New Town' followed by three years as assistant minister to the Rev. Dr Henry C. Whitley at St Giles Cathedral in the heart of Edinburgh's 'Old Town'.

It was during this time that Bill met his future wife, Pauline, a graduate in Sculpture at Edinburgh University, with whom he was to share over fifty-three happy years of marriage. They had many interests in common, particularly a love of Italy, art & classical music. Bill was an accomplished player of the lute with a passion for early European music. He was interested in literature and the natural sciences - especially fascinated by paleontology, making finds retained in the collection of the National Museum of Scotland. He enjoyed playing golf, while throughout his sixty years living in Scotland he retained his interest in American football, optimistically following the progress of Baltimore Ravens each year.

In his Ministry, his first charge was Kirkliston Parish Church at the centre of a country parish in Midlothian. He was there for six years before being called to St Anne's Parish Church,

Corstorphine, Edinburgh where he remained for twenty-five years until his retiral. Throughout these years he was also chaplain to several hospitals.

Bill was much loved by his congregations, who spoke of his gentleness and humour, his faithfulness and grace, his courage and wisdom - a strength in challenging times, a reassuring presence, a listener. He was a man who led by example and who had the whole trust of his people.

Above all, Bill was a devoted family man to his wife and two sons - one a law graduate and the other a consultant haematologist. After a period of illness borne with great courage and dignity, Bill died in January. He is survived by his wife, one son and two grandchildren.