



## William Duane Ban

January 5, 1951 - March 12, 2018

William Duane Ban, age 67, left us on Monday, March 12, 2018 in Glendive, Montana. To his loved ones, he was a father, partner, grandfather, son, brother and friend. To many he was known as Billy Ban, and there will never be another. A celebration of Bill's life will be held later this spring. Silha Funeral Home of Glendive has been entrusted with the arrangements.

Growing up on a ranch in Terry, Montana, Billy learned the value of hard work at a young age. He rode horse, cut hay and bucked bales all summer. He would listen to baseball games on haystacks between bale deliveries. He took a liking to all sports, and when off ranch duty, he would practice baseball by throwing rocks into the air and hitting them, wearing out several bats. Sports were life to Bill until the day he died. Some of his fondest memories were his high school years where he played football, basketball and ran track at Sacred Heart in Miles City, Montana. He was a standout player and felt lucky to be coached by one of Montana's finest, Dan Connors. After high school, he was given a chance to play football and run track at Stanford University. His stay was short and life led him to Butte School of Mines (Montana Tech). There he starred for their successful football team as defensive back and kick and punt returner. Coach Connors always told him, baseball was his best sport and may well have been, as Billy was invited to try out by major league baseball teams three different years after high school as a center fielder.

As a lover of poker and bringing people together from all walks of life, Bill appreciated that everyone has a story to tell, especially an outlaw. Always first

to give someone the benefit of the doubt, he often would humbly add, "Most people are trying their best," in conversations. He loved to share about his colorful adventures - from his time in Las Vegas to owning his own business during the 1980's oil boom to his Vietnam War service. If he had an issue with somebody, he'd tell them himself. If someone had an issue about someone else he would ask them, "Why are you talking to me about it? Go tell them." He never complained about any curve ball life threw him. He was a one of a kind, and we only wish we had more time to hear more stories, talk politics or even ask who we should pick for March Madness or the Super Bowl. Our hearts will never be the same.

Bill was preceded in death by his life-long partner, the late Veronica Wiseman and his mother, Delaine "Skippy" Ban.

Bill is survived by his father, Ed Ban; daughters, Kim (Rudy) Stulc of Glendive and their children, Henry and Ada Stulc, Marcy Wiseman of Glendive and her children Landon Barnett and Jace Wiseman, Sadie (Riley) Lubbers of Lolo, Montana and their children Kendall Wiseman, Kadyn Wiseman and Veronica Lubbers, their sister, who Bill considered his own daughter, Dawn (PJ) Torres of Glendive and their children Taya, Meadow, Vinny and Venice Torres; one sister, Niki (Willie) Kleineasser of Billings, Montana and numerous nieces and nephews.

Remembrances and condolences may be shared with the family at: [www.silhafuneralhomes.com](http://www.silhafuneralhomes.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Duane Ban*

December 07, 2022 at 04:10 PM



“ *Your journey is done. Rest in peace, Billy*

**Doug Zignego** - March 20, 2018 at 01:40 PM



“ *BILL WAS A FRIEND OF MINE.ID KNOWN HIM FOR 5 YEARS .HE SURE KNEW HIS SPORTS MAINLY FOOTBALL.HE CAME CLOSE TO PICKING THE TEAM THAT WOULD WIN THE SUPER BOWL MANY TIMES.HE COULD TALK FOOTBALL WITH YOU FOR HOURS EVEN GOING BACK TO THE FIFTIES.WE WILL MISS HIM AROUND HERE.HE WOULD TALK ABOUT HIS KIDS OFTEN ALSO.HE LOVED THEM VERY MUCH JIM FROM EL CENTRO*

**jimmie bragg** - March 18, 2018 at 03:22 PM



“ *My condolences go to Bills family as well. So sorry to hear this news. I enjoyed listening to Bills views on everything from politics to ball games. He was a major reason for alot of Miles City Sacred Hearts legendary success back in the day yet He always said it was the team. From sports to cards He had great game. Always proud of his beautiful daughters as the best part of Him. RIP Bill Clay and Laurene*

**clay newton** - March 17, 2018 at 04:44 PM

KF

“ *Rest in peace, my friend. You always had a ready smile and a kind heart. I am saddened at your passing, but look forward to seeing you again some day.*

**Kent Frette** - March 17, 2018 at 02:57 PM

NT

*Billy sure did have a great smile. He was always willing to help me when I needed it, too.*

**Nick Terhaar** - March 17, 2018 at 03:40 PM

NT

“ *Condolences to the family for your loss. We were teammates and personal friends at Sacred Heart. Class of 1969. I will miss you Billy. Happy trails to you until we meet again.*  
*Nick Terhaar*



**Nick Terhaar** - March 17, 2018 at 01:19 PM

NT

“ *Nick Terhaar here. Former teammate and personal friend of Billy's at Sacred Heart class of 1969. We always had so much fun off the court and on the court. He gave me confidence like few other players I have known. What a talent. I'm glad he didn't end up playing for Terry, they were tough enough the way it was. I will miss you Billy but I will promise you that the wonderful stories will continue. Happy trails to you until we meet again.*

**Nick Terhaar** - March 17, 2018 at 01:05 PM

Peggy  
Stulc

“ *Peggy Stulc lit a candle in memory of William Duane Ban*



Peggy Stulc - March 17, 2018 at 06:59 AM

BR

“ *So sorry to hear of bills passing, he was definitely one of a kind and I will truly miss BSing with him , had a lot of good times playing poker and pinochle with bill over the last 20 some years. RIP Billy Ban*

Bob Rogers - March 17, 2018 at 12:40 AM

CD

“ *Carole J. Diede lit a candle in memory of William Duane Ban*



Carole J. Diede - March 16, 2018 at 01:40 PM

GB

*So sorry to hear this. Prayers for all. Greg and Cindy Ban*

Greg and Cindy Ban - March 17, 2018 at 03:31 AM

BL

“ *May the Lord wrap his arms around Bill and his family. He was one of kind, had strong opinions, and stood up for what he believed in. I enjoyed playing cards with Bill, and he will be missed!*

Bill LaFond - March 16, 2018 at 01:29 PM

BT

“ Dawn, Kim, Marcy and Sadie I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of your Dad.

*Cherish your Memories and hold them close they will help get you through the difficult days ahead.*

*Hugs Becky Tipton*

---

**Becky Tipton** - March 15, 2018 at 07:30 PM