



## Reverend Dr. William J. Doorly

December 13, 1929 - January 9, 2011

Rev. Dr. William J. Doorly, HR. (12/13/1929 – 1/9/2011) who died on Sunday, January 9, 2011, at the age of 81, following a year's battle with esophageal cancer. Bill leaves to cherish his memory, his wife, Elba Doorly; children, Mark and Louise; brother, Bruce and sister, Leona "Lee"

Bill served as adjunct professor of biblical studies at Neumann College in Aston, PA. His great love was studying the Bible, particularly the Old Testament. Bill and Elba were also dedicated ecumenists, and studied Torah on Saturdays for a year at the Main Line Reform Temple. Elba says of her husband, "He was a lovely, meek, humble man, who evolved throughout his lifetime. He was also a passionate musician, playing blues and jazz piano, a great core of his life."

Dr. Doorly received the B.A. from Temple University and his MDiv. from Princeton Theological Seminary ('57). He began studies for his D.Min. at Lancaster Theological Seminary at age 60. His doctoral thesis "Prophet of Love" was Bill's first book to be published by the Paulist Press. Bill completed his doctoral studies following retirement in the early 1990's, and subsequently

published five other books drawn from his studies of Ancient Israel.

An Ecumenical Memorial Service will be held on Sat. Jan 22, 11am at Main Line Unitarian Church, 816 S. Valley Forge Rd., Devon PA 19333, with participation from Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Thomas Paine Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and Main Line Unitarian Church. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Endowment Fund of the three named Churches.

Bill's publications:

"Prophet of Love" 1989

"Prophet of Justice" 1991

"Isaiah of Jerusalem" 1992

"Obsession With Justice: the Story of a Deuteronomist" 1994

"The Religion of Israel" 1997

"The Laws of Jahweh" 2002

# Previous Events

## Service

JAN 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Main Line Unitarian Church  
816 South Valley Forge Road  
Devon, PA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Elba -*

*Bill's life was an inspiration and embodied the very meaning of friendship. We will miss him.##imported-begin##Kathi and Jim##imported-end##*

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January 21, 2011 at 01:58 PM



“ *Elba and Family,*

*Please know that Bill's friends at CORA Services are thinking of you and that we remember Bill with much affection and love.##imported-begin##Julie and Andy Zellers-Frederick##imported-end##*

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January 20, 2011 at 04:28 PM