

William, Gloria and Tania Memorial Fund



Born in Brockton, Massachusetts, Gloria graduated from Williams College. While there, she met and married a young serviceman, William (Bill), who hailed from Rhode Island. Gloria stayed home during his Strategic Air Command posting in Africa. Later they made moves to several bases in Spokane, Denver and California. While in California, they were blessed with a daughter, Tania Romaine. During these years Gloria worked in the accounting departments of a cannery, chicken processing plant, winery, and a company that manufactured parade floats.

Bill's desire for a Ph.D. from American University brought them to Montgomery Village, MD, where they found a home. Gloria soon found a job at Sears. After receiving his doctorate, Bill became a professor of Business Administration and director of the former School of Management projects at Gallaudet University. He later founded the Experiential Program, a new cooperative education program for deaf students which linked them with employers who respected their skills and accommodated their disability and provided internship opportunities.

They joined St. John Neumann Parish and after retirement became active in many ministries and events in the parish. They were active in the 50+ Club, became parish sacristans, helped in funeral liturgies as Arimatheans, and participated in food drive collections, spaghetti dinners and the Youth Passion Play. Bill signed at masses for the hearing impaired. Tragically, an auto accident claimed the life of their daughter Tania and her unborn child. In her memory, Bill and Gloria established a Memorial Fund for outstanding high school graduates who have been active in St. John Neumann Parish. Gloria built up the fund by sewing clothes for dolls, children and adults, as well as making decorative items, and preparing baked goods for an annual bazaar.

Bill passed away in September, 2010 and Gloria went to her eternal rest in March, 2015. Although they have left us, because of their generosity – sharing their time, talent and resources - they left beautiful works that still continue in the parish. The Memorial Fund is named to honor their memory.

We ask God to bless Bill, Gloria and Tania and welcome them into his Kingdom, for they have been generous and faithful servants.