



Ben Gill Clements

OCT 13, 1941 - OCT 22, 2010



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CLEMENTS, BEN GILL was born October 13, 1941, in Dallas, Texas, to Pauline Gill Clements and William Perry Clements, Jr. He grew up in Dallas, but began his love of outdoors at a young age in scouting, weekends at Coon Creek Club, and fishing and hunting trips with his father. Gill often had baby coons, alligators, and owls he was caring for at his home. Once a month Gill and his Dad went camping and Gill became an Eagle Scout before he turned 13. After graduating from Thomas Jefferson High School, Gill attended SMU and joined Phi Delta Theta fraternity where he made many lifelong friends. He graduated in 1963 with a degree in Finance and joined the training program at the First National Bank of Dallas. In October of 1963, Gill married Patricia Lindall of San Antonio, and by 1969 they had 3 children, Cathy, Bill and Peg. In 1968, Gill joined SEDCO, the offshore drilling company his father had founded, and he served as its Treasurer for 4 years before becoming President and CEO in 1973. In 1983, B. Gill Clements was named outstanding Chief Executive Officer in the Offshore Drilling Industry. At that time SEDCO was the largest offshore drilling company in the world. After SEDCO was purchased by Schlumberger, Gill retired from the drilling business, and from 1985 to present he began a new career as an active and successful investor across numerous investment disciplines. Gill was an outdoorsman throughout his life, hunting with his Dad and his son in British Columbia and Africa, and fishing with friends and family in Alaska, Maine, East Texas, and Michigan. Gill was always eager to teach others ways to enjoy the outdoors. He was a keen observer of wildlife and plants, sharing his delight in nature. His sporting legacy will be his beloved Hollyglen property near Athens, Texas, where he built two significant lakes and spent much of his time and energy the last 15 years. Gill's sense of humor, mischievousness, and ability to tell and enjoy a good story enlivened his family time and his friendships. He was an independent person who accepted and fulfilled his responsibilities while enthusiastically pursuing the



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activities he enjoyed: reading, summers in Michigan, golf, planning fishing weekends, getting a unique boat constructed to go after a specific kind of fish, supporting Pat's horse related activities, and playfully teasing with his grandchildren. He was a devoted and loving son to his parents throughout his life. Gill's quiet strength and unwavering sense of objectivity and calm in speaking with others was unique as was his ability to come up with creative solutions to problems. Gill is survived by his wife, Pat, with whom he shared a loving marriage of 47 years; his children Cathy Matthews and husband Buzz, Bill Clements and wife Gigi, and Margaret Napier and husband Jeff; his father Governor William Perry Clements, Jr.; his grandchildren, America, Pauline, Cate, Gill, Perry, Emily and Will; his sister Nancy Clements Seay; many friends in Texas and Michigan and his associates at the Cumberland Hill School Building. His absence creates a huge void in many lives. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, October 27, 2010, at 4pm, at Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, 8011 Douglas Avenue, Dallas, Texas 75225. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Pauline Allen Gill Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders at Children's Medical Center Foundation, 2777 Stemmons Frwy., Ste 700, Dallas, Texas 75207.



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MC

Mc posted:

I called him "Dad" for a large portion of my childhood and lived as a foster child in his home. I grew up riding "Snowball" a white pony on Chiggerbit Farm, with Cathy, Bill and Peg. Long lazy summers in pastures of green, fishing and riding around the farm with my brother and sisters on a reconditioned postal truck. Sleepovers in an old caboose and feeding catfish in the pond. Growing up with the Clements was one of the greatest joy's and tragedies of my life. At age 17, my "mom and dad" returned me to Lena Pope Home with no explanation and no goodbye. I didn't understand what happened, I felt lost, numb, hopeless and confused. I waited for days knowing for sure that mom and dad would come and get me, but they never did. Everything I knew was gone, my family was gone and I was thrust into a world where I knew no one and had no understanding of how to function without my family. Years and years of homelessness, poverty, depression, attempted suicide followed, driven by the belief that I was so broken and horrible that not even my family wanted me. Forty years has come and gone and it still brings tears to my eyes when remembering the family of my childhood. Although I could be bitter, I consciously choose not to and instead will remember this man as my dad, someone I loved, who gave so much to me and will always consider family. Always in my heart....Love Mary ❤️

May 13 at 6:54 AM

DD

Dan Daniels posted:

I just recently heard about Gill's death from a notice of Bill's death in the local Florida paper. It saddened me a lot to learn of the loss of these two outstanding individuals. I was an employee at Sedco from 1974 until 1985 and got to know Gill while working in the school house at 1901 N. Akard while representing Bobby Cox's operations in the North Sea. My fondest memories of Gill include his highest standards and ethics; and his ability to not waver during some trying times. He will be missed. I count my years at Sedco as the pinnacle of my professional career due primarily to the professionalism of its management. I truly felt like I was part of a "family".

June 13 at 12:16 PM

ZM

Zelda Morrison posted:

Ex Sedco Abdn employee – remember the good ole days at Seco Aberdeen & Dallas. So many wonderful people worked for Sedco and I remember the reunions at The Old Schoolhouse. RIP – The Celments family will always be remembered.

April 16 at 3:13 PM



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DE

Debbie posted:

I remember back in Dallas when we had lunchions in the old school building Gill would visit sometimes. He was a very nice person and I was proud to work for Sedco.

December 7 at 10:24 AM

KR

Karen McClain Ramthun posted:

I worked at Sedco Offshore Drilling in the early 1980's. Mr. Clements was a kind man and had such a gentle way about him. I am shocked and saddened to hear about his passing. My prayers go out to all of the Clements Family.

October 27 at 1:47 PM

BC

Bob Caruth posted:

Keep your best memories to the front of your mind, so that they will be remembered first and stay longest. Gill and you have more friends than you think. Gill touched many peoples lives and brought direction with stability. Tie a knot and hang on, there is a lot left to do, his legacy is not finished.

October 26 at 2:29 PM

MH

Marian Hunter posted:

Pat, I was so sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers are for you and your family and I pray you find the strength to help you in this time of need. Marian

October 26 at 11:26 AM

JW

Julie Whitaker posted:

Dear Pat, I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time. God Bless you all.

October 26 at 11:00 AM

SG

Sue Guelker posted:

Dear Pat, So sorry to hear of this tragedy. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Sue

October 26 at 10:34 AM



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BY

Barbara & Minter Yount posted:

Dear Pat, Just learned today of Gill's untimely passing and was so shocked. We feel so fortunate that we had the opportunity to spend an evening with you and him after Jay's wedding so many years ago. Please accept our sincere condolences and know that our thoughts will be with you in the coming weeks. Barbara and Minter Yount

October 26 at 9:38 AM

JL

Jim Latimer posted:

We had the pleasure of knowing Gill in Michigan, and enjoying his many contributions to the Wequetonsing community there. His service on boards there and his ready smile were a rich and valued part of the community. He had many friends, and they and we will miss him greatly.

October 26 at 7:47 AM

AK

Alan H. Kaufman posted:

I worked directly with Gill from 1977 until 1984 as an outside legal adviser on some international legal issues facing Sedco at the time (deep ocean mining, Iran, Gulf Oil spill) and to this day can't think of a more honest, thoughtful, intelligent, pleasure of a man to work with. Gill was unfailingly decisive, always kept his word, always accepted responsibility for his decisions and had a terrific sense of humor. With the mess in Iran, the oil spill and other issues, Sedco was faced with some big problems in new areas. Gill hadn't been CEO for much more than 5 years and yet he showed an ability to evaluate things, make and carry through on decisions that was remarkable. But at this tragic time, it is more important to remember what an fine, decent, civil and gracious man he was. Now 25 years later I still feel the impact of his exceptional character. I learned so much from him, and owe so much to him. I can't imagine the unfathomable loss his family must feel.

October 26 at 4:14 AM



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RM

Ross Mason posted:

Our families were neighbors in the mid-70's three doors down on Briarwood. Gill & Pat were like our parents down the street, purely joyful, steadfast in their attention to all of us. We shared many wonderful memories, like trips to swim in the Forney ranch pond, and some painful (like when brother Greg caught his nylon shirt on fire playing matches with Bill, and required skin grafts... but lived to tell about it) I'm certain Gill positively influenced my Dad to invest time hunting at a time when he felt he could least afford it. Just 11 fast years ago, what a great surprise to open the door at our Baylor overnight suite the night our son Cameron was born to see Bill, there to let me know he and Gigi had just had theirs, I believe named Gill. We're all so stunned and sad. I pray for our friends and recognize their father and husband, who dearly left an impression of how life and love is supposed to be.

October 25 at 6:45 PM

BC

Bill Campbell posted:

Gill and I discovered we were both pranksters. In chemistry lab we were partners and we got another class mate to "taste" a mixture we had made of dilute nitric acid. Thank God no long term damage was done. I'll always remember Gill's invitation to Koon Kreek. God bless, Gill Bill

October 25 at 2:43 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ben by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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