



Dr. Philip G. Hill

September 19, 1934 - July 12, 2024

Dr. Philip G. Hill of Greenville, SC, completed his life on earth on July 12th, 2024.

Philip Hill was born on September 19th, 1934 in Christiansburg, VA and was raised in Gainesville, FL. He studied theater at University of Florida, earned his master's at UNC Chapel Hill after serving briefly in the United States Air Force, and then earned his doctorate at Tulane University. His life was dedicated to his love of live theater.

Dr. Hill taught drama and speech at Furman University for 34 years and was chairman of the department for a long time, directing and producing countless performances over his decades of service there. His vast network of friends includes numerous former students who valued his teachings as well as his ongoing friendship. As a long-standing member of the American Theater Association, Dr. Hill served as treasurer for many years. He also served consecutively as president of both SC Theater Association and Southeastern Theater Conference.

A devoted family man, Phil was a strong and loving force in all the lives he touched. His animated readings of the Old Mother West Wind tales will forever be unmatched and a memory for his legacy to cherish.

Philip Hill was preceded in death by his parents, Clifton and Thelma Hill and by his grandson Bennett Lecture. He is survived by his loving wife of 67 years, Marjorie Fyfe Hill, sister Frances Hill (Gerry) of Colorado, three children Bob Hill, (Robin) of Parkton, NC, Judy Lecture (Rick) of Lyman, SC, and Tommy Hill (Michele) of Greer, SC, grandchildren Bobby Hill, Rachel Neese (Richard), Andy Lecture (Phillip), Travis Lecture (Grace), Sarah Hill, and Anna Hill, great grandchildren Mary, Phillip (PJ), Ethan, Charlotte, Owen, Lily and one more great grandblessing on the way. Additional family members are three step-grandchildren, seven step-great grandchildren, and three step-great great grandchildren.

Dr. Hill and his wife have been active members of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Greenville since 1965. A memorial service will be held at the church on Sunday, August 11, 2024 beginning at 2:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to The Parkinson's Foundation.

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Church Service

AUG 11. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (ET)

Westminster Presbyterian Church
2310 Augusta Street
Greenville, SC 29605

Tribute Wall

PS

“ *Pauline Segar lit a candle in memory of Philip Hill*



Pauline Segar - August 12, 2024 at 06:11 AM

PW

“ *Phil Hill was the best mentor anyone could pray for. It was my luckiest day the day I met him. He encouraged me to strive for better in both academics and performance. I had a car accident and was hospitalized for several months. His support of me throughout my recovery was beyond the duties of a teacher. He guided me throughout my Furman education and introduced me to graduate school at UNC Chapel Hill. I babysat for him and Margie at the various houses they lived in and was always treated as a special friend. They were my special friends, examples of what love looks like. I always admired his academic knowledge and his directorial talent. I am now a writer and actor in Los Angeles using all the tools he taught me. I hope I can be that kind of mentor before I join him on the other side of the veil.*

Patricia Willson - July 27, 2024 at 11:49 AM

JL

Thank you Pat. He certainly loved you too!
~ Judy

Judy Lecture - July 31, 2024 at 05:23 PM

DB

Dear Judy,

This is Delores, Nora's daughter. She worked for your parents years ago. Your parents came on my mind as I have not had contact with them since she passed away in January 2006.

I have been searching for a while, and remembered that your dad retired from Furman University. I just found out that he passed away in 2024. I am so sorry for your loss.

Please have your mom contact me via text at 864-616-6972. Feel free to contact me also.

It will be so good to hear from you and her.

Delores Brown - January 27 at 07:07 PM

KJ

“ *I was a theatre major in the early 90s when there were only about 7 or 8 of us who were declared majors and the theatre was home to all of us. Phil Hill was a wonderful mentor and brilliant person. He would stay with us until late, late at night while we hung lights for our one acts in his directing class. He pushed us hard in literature classes. He and Margie had us over for dinner. He discussed issues and literature and craft with us as adults. We all loved him. He was truly wonderful and without question one of my all time favorite professors ever (ever! even through undergrad and two graduate degrees!). I am so sad to see that he has left us. My most sincere condolences to Margie, Dr. Hill's family and his friends. I am so sorry for your loss!*

Kim Talbert Jennings, class of 1995

Kim Jennings - July 19, 2024 at 09:48 AM

DH

“ Though I first met Phil as a young faculty member 28 years ago (when he was addressing the faculty pointing out the need for a new Playhouse!), my fondest memories of Phil came after his retirement, as part of LGOTD (Lets go out to Dinner!), an event he and Margie organized for many years. I loved the great dinner conversations we all had about just about everything! Phil was a wonderful person who will be greatly missed. My condolences to Margie and the whole family at this difficult time.

Dennis Haney (Professor of Biology, Furman University)

Dennis Haney - July 17, 2024 at 10:46 AM

JL

“ Reading to his great grands was one of his favorite pastimes!



Judy Lecture - July 15, 2024 at 05:41 PM

JL

“ Reading to his great grandchildren was one of his favorite pastimes!



Judy Lecture - July 15, 2024 at 12:33 PM

KM

“ Dr. Hill was an inspiration to me, and the reason I chose an academic career. He was my first mentor in drama research and criticism, and always kind and supportive of students who wanted to learn. My best wishes to his family and all the Furman Playhouse folks who were lucky enough to work with him. (Kris McDermott '81)

Kristen McDermott - July 15, 2024 at 11:14 AM

EW

“ Dr. Hill, as I wanted to call him, or Phil, as he insisted I call him, was a significant figure in my life. My education and training under him at Furman was truly foundational in who I was to become. My friendship with him in the many years since I graduated has been meaningful. His encouragement and advice (never unsolicited) was very helpful in my life and career. When he once in conversation referred to me as a colleague, I really felt like I'd achieved something. I'll miss him and think of him often.

- E. Bert Wallace, FU Class of 1992

E. Bert Wallace - July 15, 2024 at 07:40 AM