



William (Bill) Albert Leuschner Jr Ph. D.

November 22, 1934 - February 13, 2026

William (Bill) Albert Leuschner Jr., passed away peacefully on February 13, 2026, at the age of 91. Born on November 22, 1934, in Brooklyn, NY, he was the son of William Albert Leuschner Sr. and Martha Horne.

Bill lived a life defined by intellectual curiosity, steady dedication, and a deep commitment to the stewardship of natural resources. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Forestry from the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University in 1960.

Believing that effective stewardship required both ecological insight and economic understanding, Bill earned an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania in 1966 and completed his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan in 1969.

Following completion of his Ph.D., Dr. Leuschner joined the University of Minnesota in St. Paul, where he worked in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service's North Central Forest Experiment Station. In 1972, he joined the faculty at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) as Assistant Professor of Forest Economics, later becoming Professor of Forest Economics. He was widely known for his research on the Southern Pine Beetle and the economic impacts of forest disturbances.

In the early 1980s, Bill participated in the USAID-supported Resource Conservation and Utilization Project (RCUP) in Nepal, contributing to

interdisciplinary efforts in watershed management and renewable natural resource development.

Later in his career, he joined Clemson University, where he continued teaching and advising graduate students. He was ultimately named Professor Emeritus of Forest Resources.

He was married for 64 years to Margery Ann (Ring) Leuschner. He is survived by his wife Margery; his sons, Erik Leuschner and his wife Victoria Lee, and Ian Leuschner and his wife Andrea Dixon; and his grandson, William Albert Leuschner III.

A visitation will be held at McCoy Funeral Home in Blacksburg, Virginia, on March 14, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation (<http://www.vfef.net/donate.html>).

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **14**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

McCoy Funeral Home
150 Country Club Dr. S.W.
Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 552-3211
mccoyfuneralhome@verizon.net
<https://mccoyfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

NA

“ Dear Margery, We know this is a difficult time for you. We are saddened by Bill's passing, he was an integral part of the Gun Club. Please accept our heartfelt condolences. Sincerely, Nancy Adelis, Rob Jerome, Bill Boston and the St. James Rifle and Pistol Association

nancy adelis - February 24 at 04:40 PM



“ Bill and I were close friends and neighbors. We both moved to unincorporated St. James Plantation during the early days. Bill was an active participant in the formation of the Town of St. James and supporting organizational structures. Many of us relied on his depth of educational and personal knowledge in making the Town of St. James a very successful community. Marge, you have our prayers and sympathy. Thanks, Bill, we will miss you. Gary & Tootie Tagtmeyer.

Gary Tagtmeyer - February 23 at 10:59 AM

DF

“ Marge, Erik, Ian, and family,

I am so sorry for your loss. Bill was a kind man with quiet strength, an incredible steward of the environment, and a dedicated Friend of the Library. All of us who had the privilege to know him are better because of him.

Diana Fotinatos

Diana Fotinatos - February 23 at 09:27 AM

JS

“ Marge,
I was so sorry to learn of Bill's death. I enjoyed working with him for several years on the Friends of The library Board, and I respected and appreciated him.
Judith Steffens

Judith steffens - February 23 at 08:27 AM

BL

“ *I had the privilege of volunteering with Bill on our local Firewise Committee where his intellect and expertise informed much of our work. While others spent their retirement years relaxing, Bill continued his passionate commitment to environmental stewardship and public education. As a result, he left us wiser and safer and better equipped to live in harmony with our surroundings.*

Barbara Lemos - February 23 at 08:16 AM

CB

“ *Very sorry to hear about Dr. Leuschner's passing. My deepest sympathy to the entire family,*

Charlotte Burgess - February 22 at 11:12 PM

JR

“ *Marge.Eric.Ian..and families..please accept my deepest sympathy on Bills passing..evidently I've known him for 64+ years..Bill was a great husband. father and a devoted scholar in his passion to preserve nature...Bills' dry sense of humor will not soon be forgotten..Rest in peace.. Jim Ring...Brother in law..brother of Marge...Uncle to boys.*

Jim. Ring - February 22 at 08:59 PM