

# THE LOVE OF A DONOR

## THE LOVE OF A DONOR: BILL'S LEGACY



In the quiet corners of Grand Isle, Vermont, and the sun-drenched streets of Coral Springs, Bill Stone was known as a man who could fix anything. To his family, he was "MacGyver." To his step-son, Andrew, he was the hero who climbed Mt. Mansfield to find "utter joy." To his wife, Nadean, he was her rock—the man who made everyone around him better just by being in the room.

But Bill's greatest project wasn't an award-winning pool design or the Hammond B3 organ he played for The Barefoot Beach Boys. His greatest project was Time.

When Bill was a young man, a shadow hung over his family tree. Both his father and grandfather had been taken by kidney disease at the age of 56.

When Bill and Nadean married 36 years ago, they didn't just exchange vows; they made a pact to fight that shadow together.

Through sheer discipline, a "MacGyver-like" attention to health, and an unshakeable spirit, Bill did the impossible. He didn't just reach 56; he blew past it. He gave his family 22 more wonderful years than anyone expected. He didn't start dialysis until he was 75, proving that with enough love and grit, you can rewrite the story you were handed.

Bill's life was defined by a selfless need to build foundations for others. In the late 1960s, he helped lay the very first stones of the Vermont Kidney Association. He was the silent engine behind the scenes—launching the VKA Voice newsletter and running fundraisers—never asking for a spotlight, only asking how he could help the person in the next chair.

His commitment to "fixing" the future even extended to medical science. By participating in a pivotal genetic study, Bill helped researchers identify the APOA4 gene mutation. Because of Bill's willingness to share his own story and DNA, families in the future will have the "fix" he had to fight so hard to find for himself.

On October 24, 2025, Bill Stone's long and valiant fight came to a peaceful end in the city where he was born. But true to his nature, Bill was still looking forward.

As a donor with the Lions Eye Bank of the Northeast, Bill left behind a final, miraculous gift: his corneas. He knew that while his own journey was complete, someone else was still waiting in the dark for a "MacGyver" to come along and restore their world. Through his donation, Bill isn't just a memory of a "lovely, gracious man." He is the reason someone else

will see the sunrise this February. He is the reason a father will see his child's face, or a student will be able to read their first book. Bill Stone spent his life fixing things, leading others, and finding extra time.

Through the gift of sight, his legacy of leadership continues, one restored vision at a time.

