

BILL MOODY

Class of 1975



Bill Moody was a Seneca Falls native and the son of Robert and Barbara (Hill) Moody Jones. Bill had two brothers, Robert (Biff), David, and a sister, Debbie. Bill raised his four children in Seneca Falls with his wife Kathleen (Netti), whom he married on October 10, 1980.

While a high school athlete at Mynderse, Bill concentrated his efforts on the baseball diamond. Seeing Bill's pitching dominance during a JV scrimmage, MA Hall of Fame Coach John Nicholson brought him up to the varsity team as a freshman.

Bill's 4-year career records are incomplete but statistics have been compiled from contemporary newspaper articles. In Bill's varsity pitching debut in 1972, he struck out 14 and pitched a 1-hitter against Canandaigua for the win. After his sophomore season, Bill received the team MVP and Best Pitcher Award and

was named Wayne-Finger Lakes League Honorable Mention. As a junior, Bill was named to the W-FL first team All-League. He led the team that year with the highest batting average and received the Best Pitcher and the MVP Award. The *Finger Lakes Times* highlighted a pitching matchup between two top pitchers--Mynderse junior Bill Moody and Waterloo senior Dan Ellison. Bill and the team emerged victorious over Waterloo for the first time in three years.

Times statistics between 1972 and '74 include the following: a record of 12-4; 24 appearances consisting of 127 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings with an earned run average of 1.51; allowing only 84 hits, 35 runs, 21 earned runs, and 33 walks with 185 strike outs. Bill started 16 games, completed 15 and recorded 9 complete game shutouts. Of those 21 earned runs, 18 were given up during Bill's freshman campaign when he appeared in 10 games and pitched a total of 40 $\frac{2}{3}$ innings. In his sophomore and junior years, Bill allowed only three earned runs and all three were scored by Sodus in a Class A, Section V tournament game in 1973. The *Times* that year noted this accomplishment with the headline, "Moody runs streak of 68 innings without allowing an earned run". As a senior, Bill received the MVP Award for baseball for the third year in a row and was the only player unanimously selected to the W-FL Class AA-A All-League Team. In the postseason, Mynderse was declared Section V, Class AA co-champions with Pittsford Sutherland when the game was called with a scoreless tie in the top of the seventh inning. In the championship game, Bill gave up 6 singles and struck out 11 with no walks. In addition, Bill and his teammates were declared league champions in '73, '74, and '75. His pitching career record was 22-6 with eight 1-hitters. He never gave up more than 3 runs in a game and

averaged 9+ strikeouts a game throughout his career at Mynderse. Bill could not have earned any of these honors if it wasn't for his teammates and coach John Nicholson.

Bill played for the Water-Falls Cardinals, a semi-pro baseball team coached by Angelo "Suff" Suffredini, member of the MA Hall of Fame. The team went to the finals and lost to Split Rock in 1974 but emerged victorious a year later with a win against Split Rock in a 13-inning game that lasted 3½ hours. Bill was named the outstanding pitcher of the playoffs in the win. In that same timeframe, Bill attended try-out camps held by the Cincinnati Reds and Pittsburgh Pirates.

Bill served as a volunteer JV and varsity baseball coach at Mynderse under John Nicholson. Later, he became the JV coach and then took over the helm as varsity coach in 1996 until he retired in 2004. During that time, Bill led the varsity program to 50 wins. In 2001, the team made it into the Section V Class CC semi-finals as the 16th seed. As the 11th seeded team in 2002, Mynderse lost in the finals to a strong Avon team. The 2003 and 2004 teams were league champions. Bill also coached freshman basketball for 10 years.

Back in the day, Bill set the school record for most strikeouts (17) in a single game and while he was the coach at Mynderse, son Billy tied the school record in his senior season. This was one of Bill's proudest moments--being able to share this accomplishment and the school record with his son. This record still stands today.

Bill dedicated much of his time volunteering in Seneca Falls. He coached many youth basketball teams that traveled to tournaments in the Finger Lakes and as far as Killingly, Connecticut. He officiated basketball games for the Seneca Falls Community Center and the CYO program, especially at St. Patrick's every Sunday. A basketball tournament in his name, the Bill Moody Memorial Basketball Tournament, was held from 2005-2010. The Bill Moody Memorial Baseball and Softball Award is given at graduation sponsored by the Community Center Boosters Program. Bill was also a high school football official for 15 years and had the pleasure of officiating with his MA Hall of Fame member father-in-law, Nick Netti.

Bill's life was cut short at the age of 48 when he passed away suddenly on December 17th, 2004. Bill's family wants to thank the MA Hall of Fame Committee for recognizing his many achievements as a baseball player, community member, volunteer, and coach in Seneca Falls. Bill and Kathy have four children; Nicole (Ian) Spitzer, Alissa (TJ) Barnes, Billy Moody, and Christine (Dylan) Moody. Bill would have adored and loved spending time with his grandchildren Drake, Gavin, Lilly, and a granddaughter due December 2019.