



William Allen DeYoung

February 23, 1949 - October 2, 2024

William Allen DeYoung of Tustin peacefully started the next chapter of his journey on Wednesday, October 2, 2024 at his home surrounded by loved ones.

He was born February 23, 1949 in Grand Rapids MI where he lived until drafted after high school. He served as company clerk in the Army on the DMZ of Vietnam until his return home in the early 70s.

Raised to appreciate and love music, Will became a bass player with a unique style all his own. During high school he was a member of the band "The Pedestrians" where he played bass and did back up vocals. They had a #1 hit, Think Twice, in the Michigan tri-state area in 1966.

After returning from Vietnam, he moved to Mobile, Alabama where his two daughters were born. He had various careers during that time but was always playing music with bands.

He returned to his childhood home in Grand Rapids to care for his aging parents until they passed. In 2013 he met Trena Haney and moved to Tustin where they roamed the woods on 15 acres and traveled the back roads of Michigan to explore places unknown. They became each other's sidekick, past, present and future.

William, aka Will or Bill (in early years) played music throughout his life and was a devoted advocate for Nature and the environment. He spent as much time outdoors as possible. He had a thirst for knowledge and was known to be quite the jokester.

He is survived by his wife, Trena Haney of Tustin; daughters Angela Fisher (Ted) of Mobile Alabama and Ellen Arnold (Bryan) of Bay Minette Alabama; Trena's children, Dwan Bridget of Tustin Michigan and Todd (Christine) Bridget of Mesick Michigan; 9 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren; sister Patricia Dekker of Fremont Michigan and friends he considered brothers, Rich Allen of Tustin and Rick Emery of Jenison Michigan.

He was preceded by his parents, William R and Dorothy DeYoung.

The family requests you share a memory of him here and in lieu of flowers a tree be planted in his honor.