

With great sadness, I wanted to let you know that on Wednesday (May 30) we lost a very special person known to many of us within the FSL Family; Bill Baker. Bill was known to FSL through SeniorNet where he joined in 2005 as a coach and then a teacher. On any given day we would see Bill going thru the hallways at 790 with manuals in hand, and if the temperature was above 50 degrees Bill was sporting his shorts long before summer.

In a very short time his contributions were recognized as unique and very valuable. He soon became the Co-Chair of the Education Committee and demonstrated his leadership through new initiatives and innovative courses and was always an inspiration to his students and volunteers.

In 2010, he was elected a Co-Coordinator of SeniorNet at FSL, L.I. Coordinating Council and served in his dual positions for six years. As Co-Coordinator he participated in the SeniorNet National 25th anniversary that took place in Washington DC. The delegation was presented with the prestigious 2010 Chairman Award and recognized for its national and international accomplishments. Bill Baker's curriculum and other achievements were recognized as the best practices in the SeniorNet organization.

In 2011, Bill Baker was the recipient of the Phyllis Y. Haber award at SeniorNet at FSL, LI for exceptional achievements of promoting the new technology to adults 50 and over. Bill also worked and organized computer classes for the underserved communities throughout Long Island and for reaching out to seniors with disabilities. His work as Education Chair kept SeniorNet in the forefront of addressing the technology needs of today's seniors. He was always creating new courses and seminars that were timely and gave new ideas and new outlets to reach new students.

Bill was one of the "Go-To" people in Senior Net - someone who never said no to a request to assist anyone who needed help. As many of his colleagues in Senior Net have said "Bill trained so many of us to become the best instructors for Senior Net that we can be."

Bill had worked in publishing companies like McGraw Hill prior to retirement. He and his wife Geri have a son and daughter-in-law and two grandchildren.

My thanks to Moss Rawn, Diane Asser and Slava Vero for helping to write this note.

I also want to extend my thanks to the Senior Net Volunteers, and students who were in class with Bill on Wednesday when this tragedy occurred. You were all incredible and were right there to act quickly to get help. My thanks too to FSL staff who were on hand to assist.

As soon as we have the funeral arrangements, I will pass them along.

Thank you,

Karen

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