



Temperatures

71

47

Forecast

Friday

20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 71. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north-northeast in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 18 mph.

Scattered showers and occasional thunderstorms, possibly a heavy one, after midnight. High around 66.

South wind 5 to 11 mph, with gusts as high as 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Friday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before noon. Partly sunny, with a high near 71. Southwest wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north-northeast in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 18 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 47. North wind around 5 mph.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 68. North-northeast wind 5 to 7 mph.

Saturday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 46. North-northeast wind around 6 mph.

Sunday: Sunny, with a high near 67. Northeast wind 5 to 7 mph.



Ledger & Times file photo

Bill Adams of Bill Adams Construction in Murray, left, is shown with Ronnie Gibson, founding president and CEO of The Murray Bank, in September 2014 during the grand opening of the bank's Hazel branch. Adams' firm handled the renovation of the building at Main and Barnett streets that now houses the branch.

■ Adams remembered...

Adams remembered as man of action

By **MORGAN WILLIAMS**
Staff Writer

Everyone who knew Bill Adams for any amount of time could agree on his most recognizable feature: his deliberate dedication to serve those around him. This dedication translated into a life of leadership paired with a teaching spirit.



He held onto this spirit of commitment right up to his death on Wednesday, Oct. 28, which was also his 49th wedding anniversary with his wife, Genevieve Adams.

Adams' leadership was evident early in his life when he was an Eagle Scout in Boy Scouts of America Troop 45 of Murray.

"I met Bill when I was 11 years old and an Eagle Scout. He was my merit badge counselor at 18 years old and I could tell he was a natural-born leader," said David Garrison, manager at

■ See Page 2

■ Adams remembered...

From Front

Morningstar Foods plant and longtime friend of Adams. "Most kids when they're 16 or 18 don't care about giving back to their community. It's all about themselves."

"Bill wasn't like that. He understood what Boy Scouts gave to him during his time and he wanted to give back to the organization," Garrison said.

"He was a hero and role model to all of us, especially as I got to know him during our professional careers."

Adams was a businessman and assistant professor, with a penchant for entrepreneurship, detail and making sure those around him were in a position to do their best.

"Murray lost a great leader," said Barry McDonald, Adams' colleague and friend at his construction firm aptly called Bill Adams construction. "I met him while I was studying at Murray State in the Construction Engineering Technology program that he helped to develop and he's been a teacher to me ever since."

"He was a teacher that made sure that his students understood, made sure that they could do their best under his instruction. He has probably asked me, 'Do you understand what I'm saying?' a thousand times over the past 30 years. He's the best person I've ever worked for."

Adams and his team were instrumental in the design and construction of industrial, residential and commercial buildings across western Kentucky and northwest Tennessee.

"He concentrated on detail in everything he did," said McDonald.

"He was an honest contractor, even if that sounds like an oxymoron," said Garrison, who had worked with him on plant renovations at Morningstar.

"He was a true mentor and had the patience to teach, not just tell someone what to do, but

how to do it."

"Teaching, like leadership, came naturally to him," said Garrison. "He had the character and strength to tell you the truth and the technical expertise to execute projects without any problems."

"He would help anyone, do anything and never cut corners," said John D. Hopkins, Adams' partner and co-owner of Cheri Theatres in Murray for 29 years. "If he said he was going to do something, you could count on him."

"People always asked me how we could be partners for 30 years, but it's really easy to be partners with your good friend," Hopkins said. "If he built it, it was right."

Adams was as dedicated to building up his community as he was to designing and constructing the buildings in it.

"I'd known him for many, many years, personally and professionally, and he was one of the finest men that I've ever known," said Bob Rogers, Murray Independent School District superintendent.

"He was an outstanding businessman and made a great contribution to the school board, just like his father," said Rogers.

He not only served as a board member on the MISD Board of Education, but also on the Murray City Council, Murray Planning Commission and the Four Rivers Council of the Boy Scouts.

He also served as a member of the MSU Board of Regents and held office as the vice-chair for two years.

"He truly had a servant's heart," said Vicki Travis, who served with Adams on the Board of Regents for five years. "It was only right that he was chosen to serve on the Board and serve is the right word to use; he did everything he could and more."

"I've known him all of my adult life and he was a man of

character and spoke his convictions clearly," Travis said. "But I can't talk about Bill without mentioning his wife, Genevieve Adams, and his strong ties to First Baptist Church."

Adams was not only a devoted member of Murray First Baptist, he also served as a Sunday School teacher for 45 years, as well as a deacon and member of various church committees.

"He served Murray State, the community and the Lord faithfully," Travis said. "He always did what was best and I am honored to have worked with a man with such integrity."

"Bill invested himself freely and for decades, he wholeheartedly served this community through leadership positions," said David Parker, longtime friend. "We can't measure the impact he has had (and will continue to have) on our community."

"He was always a leader, so invariably he was asked to lead," said Parker. "He just had good ideas and he brought out the best in others for the common good."

"He would stick with you. He could always be counted on for help and humor."

Adams' son, Chip, offered a similar portrayal of his father.

"Dad's hobby was public service, but it never detracted from his family life," Chip said. "He was always a teacher. A lot of people would go to him for instruction and he would tell you how it is, if you asked."

"He gave 110 percent with everything he did, whether it was at a board meeting or in the classroom or in Sunday School," said McDonald. "He always made a point to make what he did worthwhile." ■