The Bill and Nell Hardage Endowed Scholarship

Bill Hardage has been a part of Wayland Baptist University, touching the lives of students, faculty, and staff, for more than 40 years. He began his Wayland tradition as a student and member of the track team. After graduation, he began coaching track at Wayland before moving into several different administrative positions. Dr. Hardage would have received his 40-year pin from Wayland in May 2006.

Bill possessed many amazing attributes that can be defined in several words: Christian, leadership, loyalty, determination, friend, and companion. He was an active member at First Baptist Church. He wanted to make an impact on students at the Wayland campus as well as offer and education to others that might not normally have the opportunity. He was instrumental in starting extension campuses all over the United States so others could have an opportunity to receive a college degree as well as be exposed to Christian morals, values, and ethics. He traveled to each of these locations several times a year in order to make a difference in the students’ lives.

Bill’s heart, soul, and commitment belonged to Wayland, and he spent his life trying to make it a better place to earn a degree and expose as many students as he could to Christianity. He had remained loyal and focused to improve and expand Wayland’s educational abilities and Christianity through all the physical changes, incoming presidents, and difficult times throughout the years. His job titles have included track coach, physical education department chairman, director of special services, academic vice president, advancement vice president, provost, vice chancellor, and executive vice president.