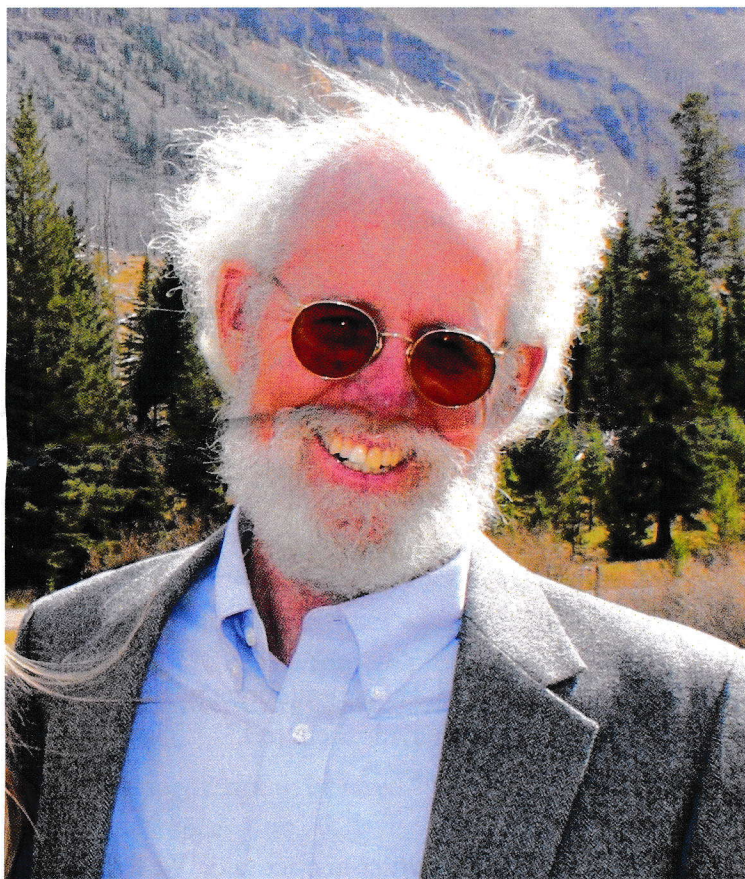




William (Bill) Albert Johnson
April 28, 1949 - February 7, 2026

Bill had a collection of quotes and poems that were important to him. We hope that you find some wisdom in what he held dear.

"If you are not in front the view is always the same."

"If you don't want it in print, don't let it happen."

- Aspen Daily News

Bill had this one in the front of almost every one of his notebooks:

"For they had learned that true safety was to be found in long previous training, and not in eloquent exhortations uttered when they were going into action."

Thucydides

The History of the Peloponnesian War

Circa 303 B.C.

"People will forget what you said; People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel."

- Maya Angelou

"Somebody with a flair for small cynicism once said, 'We live and do not learn.' But I have learned some things.

I have learned that if you must leave a place that you have lived in and loved and where all your yesterdays are buried deep - leave it any way except a slow way, leave it the fastest way you can. Never turn back and never believe that an hour you remember is a better hour because it is dead. Passed years seem safe ones, vanquished ones, while the future lives in a cloud, formidable from a distance. The cloud clears as you enter it. I have learned this, but like everyone, I learned it late."

- Beryl Markham, *West with the Night*

"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Sometimes our light goes out, but is blown again into instant flame by an encounter with another human being."

- Albert Schweitzer

"Age does not protect you from love. But love, to some extent, protects you from age."

- Anaïs Nin

"It's no good trying to get rid of your own aloneness. You've got to stick to it all your life. Only at times, at times, the gap will be filled in. At times! But you have to wait for the times. Accept your own aloneness and stick to it, all your life. And then accept the times when the gap is filled in, when they come. But they've got to come. You can't force them."

- D.H. Lawrence, *Lady Chatterley's Lover*

"Life is ours to be spent, not to be saved."

- D.H. Lawrence

"Isn't it strange that we talk least about the things we think about most?"

- Charles Lindbergh

"If there ever comes a day when we can't be together, keep me in your heart, I'll stay there forever."

- A.A. Milne and Winnie the Pooh

"Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending."

- Maria Robinson

"And still it was gone. Seeing it again could not be living it again. You can always rediscover an old path and wander over it, but the best you can do then is say, 'Ah, yes, I know this turning!' --or remind yourself that, while you remember that unforgettable valley, the valley no longer remembers you."

- Beryl Markham, *West with the Night*

"Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning to dance in the rain."

- Vivian Greene

"Happiness is like a butterfly; the more you chase it, the more it will elude you. But if you turn your attention to other things, it will come and sit softly on your shoulder."

- Henry David Thoreau

"There is never a time or place for true love. It happens accidentally, in a heartbeat, in a single flashing, throbbing moment."

- Sarah Dessen, *The Truth About Forever*

"Have you ever been in love? Horrible isn't it? It makes you so vulnerable. It opens your chest and it opens up your heart and it means that someone can get inside you and mess you up."

- Neil Gaiman, *The Sandman, Vol. 9: The Kindly Ones*

"Sometimes love means letting go when you want to hold on tighter."

- Melissa Marr, *Ink Exchange*

"True love is not so much a matter of romance as it is a matter of anxious concern for the well-being of one's companion."

- Gordon B. Hinckley, *Stand a Little Taller*





“Life will break you. Nobody can protect you from that, and living alone won’t either, for solitude will also break you with its yearning. You have to love. You have to feel. It is the reason you are here on earth. You are here to risk your heart. You are here to be swallowed up. And when it happens that you are broken, or betrayed, or left, or hurt, or death brushes near, let yourself sit by an apple tree and listen to the apples falling all around you in heaps, wasting their sweetness. Tell yourself you tasted as many as you could.”

- Louise Eldrich, *The Painted Drum*

"It isn't possible to love and part. You will wish that it was. You can transmute love, ignore it, muddle it, but you can never pull it out of you. I know by experience that the poets are right: love is eternal."

- E.M. Forster, *A Room with a View*

"Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get - only with what you are expecting to give - which is everything"

- Katharine Hepburn, *Me: Stories of My Life*

"We don't exist unless we are deeply and sensually in touch with that which can be touched but not known."

- D.H. Lawrence

"My God these folks don't know how to love - that's why they love so easily."

- D.H. Lawrence

With rue my heart is laden

With rue my heart is laden
for golden friends I had,
For many a rose-lipt maiden
And many a lightfoot lad.

By brooks too broad for leaping
the lightfoot boys are laid;
the rose-lipt girls are sleeping
In fields where roses fade.

- A. E. Housman

Miss Me But Let Me Go

When I come to the end of the road
And the sun has set for me
I want no rites in a gloom filled room
Why cry for a soul set free?
Miss me a little, but not for long
And not with your head bowed low
Remember the love that once we shared
Miss me, but let me go.
For this is a journey we all must take
And each must go alone.
It's all part of the master plan
A step on the road to home.
When you are lonely and sick at heart
Go to the friends we know.
Laugh at all the things we used to do
Miss me, but let me go.

- Unknown