

# Meet Me at the *Bakery*

**After the death of her husband, Katy author Priscilla Boos' book chronicles her dark journey through profound grief and loneliness**

*Written by Noreen Stavinoha*

*A former Navyman standing 6'3" with a charming smile and irresistible wit, Bill Boos captured Priscilla's heart from their first date in January of '71. Priscilla's light hearted personality and compassion for others led to Bill's proposal on only their second date.*

Nine months after Bill and Priscilla Boos first met on a blind date, the two were married



Both had a viable sense of humor and enjoyed immense laughter throughout their 39 years of marriage. "Bill had a quick wit that was unmatched and he kept us laughing 'till the very end," she says. Family and friends enjoyed witnessing the playful banter between the couple and admired them for their gracious spirits.

Boos always prided herself on her thirst for life; if she was knocked down, she'd pick herself back up and keep on going. But when Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease took the life of her husband, Boos fell hard and discovered it was next to impossible to get back up. She soon realized she couldn't do it herself so she enlisted the help of a grief counselor and a Yorkshire terrier puppy named Buddy Rose. The puppy was recommended by Boos' counselor after a particularly bad episode in her grieving and proved to be her best antidote to depression. "She saved my life," says Boos.

### Inspired by a Dream

Revisiting the torrent of emotions and events surrounding her husband's death while writing the book was no doubt challenging, but it was one of those events that gave her the title for her manuscript. Bill had a dream one night that he was in a beautiful town so filled with love and enchanting music, he presumed it was heaven. He was escorted by a spirit he couldn't see but he could talk to, who showed him around. In the center of town was a bakery where people were constantly bringing baked goods in and out without exchanging money. "When you come," he told his wife when he woke up, "meet me in front of the bakery. I'll be waiting for you."

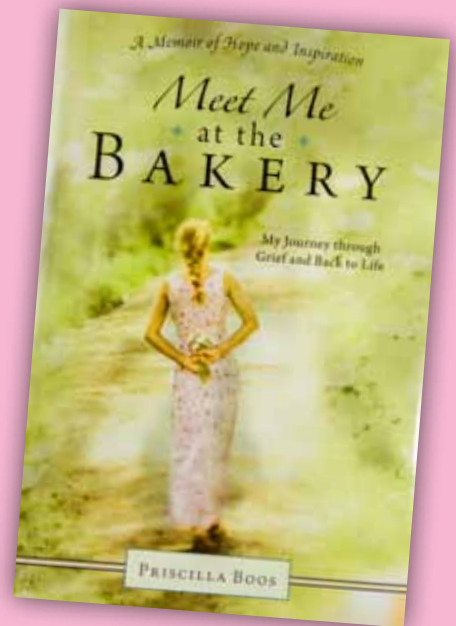
"I've been told my whole life, even as a child, that I was a very good writer," shares Boos, "so I knew I had the ability. I really just started by thinking I would leave something for my grandchildren and it grew from there. Once I started writing, it just flowed."

The book was actually finished in six months. She had family and friends read the manuscript, and they all agreed it should be published. Most important among the readers was her brother, whom she knew would be totally honest in his opinion. When he gave the go-ahead, she knew she was on the right track, but found herself procrastinating instead of getting it to the publisher. Something was missing, and it took some introspection on her part to figure that out. Finally she realized there was another chapter that hadn't been written.

Boos hadn't yet cleaned Bill's closet, and she knew that had to be part of her story. Once it was done and the chapter written, she asked the chaplain at Texas Children's Hospital where she works to read it. The chaplain remarked that it was probably the most important chapter in the book because that is the most difficult chore for families who have suffered loss. Thus affirmed, Boos shipped the manuscript off to Crossbooks, a division of LifeWay Publishing.

### Special Bonds

The recollections in *Meet Me at the Bakery* include some important lessons for readers who are facing impending or recent loss. One aspect that stands out is the honesty with which the family dealt with their situation. Bill's impending death was never treated like an unmentionable topic. Even their young granddaughters were told that



### A Wife's Journey

"My book is about life taking a sharp turn onto a road I never flagged on my road map of life when my husband became very ill. After he died, I journeyed through the Valley of the Shadow of Death where I learned about fear, pain, and darkness, but I learned about God's amazing love and care. I worked hard to fight my way through that horrific place, and I did come out of it. The book is inspiring and contains a positive message."

### About the Author

Priscilla Boos grew up in Long Island, New York, but relocated to Texas, in the early 1980s with her husband, Bill, and their two young children. Priscilla is a Certified Grief Recovery Specialist through the Grief Recovery Institute of Sherman Oaks, California. Now widowed, she lives in Katy, Texas.



**Meet Me at the Bakery is available through retailers such as [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and [lifeway.com](https://www.lifeway.com).**

their beloved Poppy was terminally ill and all their questions were answered.

Bill had a special bond with his youngest granddaughter, Tina. They spent many hours together eating Blue Bell ice cream and watching SpongeBob, he was her "buddy". Upon learning he was going to die, she announced she would never again watch SpongeBob. When he learned of this, Bill told her that after he was gone, he wanted her to continue watching that show because he'd be watching from heaven and it would make him happy.

Tina was in the room when her beloved Buddy took his last breath, then she left the room. When her mother found her, she was in her room watching TV. When asked what she was doing, Tina replied, "Buddy said I should watch SpongeBob when he died."



## Full Circle

Boos wants readers to know that it is possible to come back from that deep state of grief that occurs with the loss of a spouse.

She talks freely now about the memories that she cherishes about her husband's life and the things that helped her keep her sanity. The help she received from her grief counselor, along with fellow Katyites, family, and friends, has come full circle and led to receiving her own certification as a grief recovery specialist. She takes immense pride in helping others get through difficult times on that personal level as well as with her book.

"What we had together was so very special," Boos recalls of her marriage to Bill. "I am forever grateful for that." KM

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Katy Magazine would like to thank Delicias Del Contry for lending us their facility to capture the beautiful photography for this story.*



NOREEN STAVINOHA lives in Katy with her miniature schnauzer, and loves writing the amazing stories of some of Katy's most interesting citizens.

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