



Statement from the Office of the First Selectman on the Passing of Bill and Jane Shannon

(Bethel, CT – Jan 28, 2014) The Bethel community is in mourning today over the loss of two of its finest citizens and friends, William (Bill) and Jane Shannon, who perished together in an automobile accident on Tuesday, January 28th. Both will be long remembered for their generous contributions to the community over a period spanning many decades.

Bill, a longtime member of the Bethel Democratic Town Committee, served the town in numerous capacities, including First Selectman and Selectman, Board of Police Commissioners, Insurance and Pension Commission, Economic Outreach Commission, Justice of the Peace, Special Policeman and most recently was a member of the Charter Revision Commission. Bill was well regarded by all who served with him in town government and well known for his sense of optimism, respectfulness and civility in dealing with difficult political issues.

Jane Shannon will long be remembered for her decade of service as Bethel's Town Clerk, holding that position from 1984 to 1995, as well as for her contributions as a member of the Bethel Public Library's Board of Directors. Bill and Jane both worked tirelessly in support of causes in which they believed deeply. Bill, a steamfitter by trade and a longtime union official, worked diligently to protect the rights of laborers and for equitable pay.

The sudden passing of Bill and Jane Shannon leave a painful void in our community that will be felt for a very long time. On behalf of the Town of Bethel, I offer our deepest condolences to the Shannon family.

Matthew S. Knickerbocker

First Selectman