**William Bratton Simpson**

William Bratton Simpson was the first child of William E. and Lillian Simpson and was born in St. Louis, Missouri on August 28, 1933 and my sister was born October 19, 1935 in Washington, D.C. His father was a pharmacist and his mother was a housewife. He is the sole survivor of his family since his father passed in 1940, and his mother passed away in 1952 and his sister in 1996.

William Simpson’s primary and secondary education was completed in Detroit, Michigan. His first fulltime job was as a Traffic Court Clerk with the City of Detroit. He attended Wayne University before being drafted into the U.S. Navy in 1955. Upon discharge in 1957, He relocated to Los Angeles, California and took evening classes, working for Los Angeles County as a photocopy operator. He thought a religious life was in his future so he moved to Wilberforce, Ohio to complete his undergraduate work at Wilberforce University. He received a degree in Sociology and entered Payne Seminary.

In his senior semester at Wilberforce, he was employed by Vernay Laboratories in Yellow Springs in various positions before leaving to work for GM/Delco Products. While studying to become a fulltime minister and working in industry, He married Mary Gail. They set up housekeeping in Yellow Springs and brought two sons into the world. Along the way Simpson discovered that his personality was not people oriented, and he decided to attend the University of Dayton where he received an Associate Degree in Industrial Engineering. This enabled him to work for Delco Products from which he retired with 24 years of service.

Simpson’s community service has involved participation in an alumni chapter of his Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, part-time pasturing while studying to become a minster, Yellow Springs Village Councilman, coaching youth in soccer and baseball, and boy scouts. He has also served on the boards of the Yellow Springs Credit Union and Coordinated Home Care, a home health care agency.

His avocations are reading and travel.

*William B. Simpson*