

Harold L. Boda

3101 Kenmore Avenue

Dayton, Ohio 45420

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A TRIBUTE TO BILL YOUNG

Bill Young was a Christian gentleman with vision, contagious enthusiasm, vigor and a love for his fellowmen especially for boys and youth he served for so many years.

His determination tempered with common sense and business acumen inspired all of us serving on the Boys Work Committee of the Dayton YMCA to pursue the goal of relocating and building a new Camp Kern. Under his tireless leadership during the search process we visited numerous potential camp sites sometimes fighting mosquitoes and wading in snow up to our thighs. The search ended when Bob Young, the Dayton YMCA attorney, and I, as chairman of the Boys Work Committee, accompanied Bill Young one evening to "the top of the hill" and purchased, in the name of the Dayton YMCA, the first 120 acres of what is now the Camp Kern site. I shall never forget Bill's recitation of thanksgiving and unbounded joy as we left the negotiating conference with the seller.

In the years that followed almost all of Bill's time and energy were spent in successful efforts to bring into reality the architect's master plan for the new Camp Kern.

Bill Young was not driven by the desire to be known as just a builder of modern camp facilities but by the conviction that such ^{improved} facilities would provide the environment and programs which would result in the mental, physical and ~~spiritual~~ ^{spiritual} growth and enrichment of ~~campers~~ ^{campers} thus more effectively accomplishing the fundamental purposes of the Young Men's Christian Association.

campers

improved

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