

Bill was born and raised in Chickasha, Oklahoma. He studied professional writing at the University of Oklahoma. He then got a B.S. in Elementary Education from The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO) in 1971 and an M.S. in Elementary Administration from SWOSU in 1974. He started teaching in 1971 and became the principal/P.E. teacher at West Elementary in Chickasha in 1977. The Bill Wallace Early Education Center in Chickasha is named in honor of him. Wallace left the school system in 1988 to pursue writing fulltime. He wrote a total of 32 books, seven of which he wrote with his wife Carol. He has three children, Laurie Beth, Amanda Nicole, and Justin Keith.

#### Children's books authored by Bill Wallace

- *A Dog Called Kitty* (1980)
- *Trapped in Death Cave* (1984)
- *Shadow on the Snow* (1985) published as *Danger on Panther Peak* (1987)
- *Ferret in the Bedroom, Lizards in the Fridge* (1986)
- *Red Dog* (1987) reprinted, *Aladdin* (2002)
- *Beauty* (1988)
- *Danger in Quicksand Swamp* (1989)
- *Snot Stew* (1989)
- *The Christmas Spurs* (1990)
- *Totally Disgusting* (1991)
- *The Biggest Klutz in the Fifth Grade* (1992)
- *Buffalo Gal* (1992)
- *Never Say Quit* (1993)
- *Blackwater Swamp* (1994)
- *True Friends* (1994)
- *Watchdog and the Coyotes* (1995)
- *Journey into Terror* (1996)
- *The Final Freedom* (1997)
- *Aloha Summer* (1997)

- *The Backward Bird Dog* (1997)
- *Upchuck and the Rotten Willy* (1998)
- *Upchuck and the Rotten Willy: The Great Escape* (1998)
- *Eye of the Great Bear* (1999)
- *Upchuck and the Rotten Willy: Running Wild* (2000)
- *Coyote Autumn* (2000)
- *Goosed!* (2002)
- *Skinny-Dipping at Monster Lake* (2003)
- *No Dogs Allowed!* (2004)
- *The Pick of the Litter* (2005)
- *The Legend of Thunderfoot* (2006)
- *The Dog Who Thought He Was Santa* (2009)

#### Books co-authored by Bill and Carol Wallace

- *The Flying Flea, Callie, and Me* (1999)
- *That Furball Puppy and Me* (1999)
- *Chomps, Flea, and Gray Cat (That's Me!)* (2001)
- *Bub Moose* (2002)
- *Bub, Snow, and the Burly Bear Scare* (2002)
- *The Meanest Hound Around* (2003)
- *That Doggone Calf* (2009)

#### Awards

- 1983 Oklahoma Sequoyah Children's Book Award (*A Dog Called Kitty*)
- 1983 Texas Bluebonnet Award (*A Dog Called Kitty*)
- 1985 Nebraska Golden Sower Award (*A Dog Called Kitty*)
- 1989 Utah Children's Book Award (*Trapped in Death Cave*)
- 1989 Nebraska Golden Sower Award (*Ferret in the Bedroom, Lizards in the Fridge*)

- 1989 South Carolina Children's Book Award (*Ferret in the Bedroom, Lizards in ...*)
- 1990 Florida Sunshine State Children's Book Award grade 6-8 (*Trapped ...*)
- 1991 Texas Bluebonnet Award (*Danger on Panther Peak*)
- 1991 Oklahoma Sequoyah Children's Book Award (*Beauty*)
- 1991 Kansas William Allen White Award (*Beauty*)
- 1991 Wyoming Soaring Eagle Award (*Trapped in Death Cave*)
- 1992 Texas Bluebonnet Award (*Snot Stew*)
- 1992 Pacific Northwest Territory Award (*Danger in Quicksand Swamp*)
- 1992 South Carolina Children's Book Award (*Snot Stew*)
- 1994 Maryland Children's Book Award Intermediate Level (*Danger in Quicksand...*)
- 1995 Connecticut Nutmeg Children's Choice Award (*Biggest Klutz in Fifth Grade*)
- 1995 Arizona Children's Choice Book Award (*Totally Disgusting*)
- 1996 Florida Sunshine State Children's Award (*Blackwater Swamp*)
- 1997 Utah Children's Book Award (*Watchdog and the Coyotes*)
- 1997 Wyoming Indian Paintbrush Book Award (*Watchdog and the Coyotes*)
- 2000 Arrell M. Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award--OK Center for the Book
- 2004 Maryland Children's Book Award Intermediate Level (*Goosed*)
- 2006 Wyoming Indian Paintbrush Book Award (*No Dogs Allowed*)

## Literary Landmark

Literary Landmarks are located across the country and are designated to recognize a deceased literary figure, author, or his or her work. Examples of authors who have been recognized with literary landmarks include Tennessee Williams, William Faulkner, Edgar Allan Poe, Willa Cather, Robert Frost, and Mark Twain.

The Bill Wallace Literary Landmark, dedicated on August 1, 2020, is located at Centennial Park, 801-899 7th St, Chickasha, OK. The Bill Wallace Literary Landmark joins several literary landmarks in Oklahoma including those dedicated to such literary figures as Will Rogers (landmark in Tahlequah), Angie Debo (located in Stillwater), Woody Guthrie (located in Tulsa), and Sequoyah (located in Sallisaw).

For a full list of Literary Landmarks go to:

[http://www.ala.org/united/products\\_services/literarylandmarks/landmarksbystate/landmarksbystate](http://www.ala.org/united/products_services/literarylandmarks/landmarksbystate/landmarksbystate)

The Chickasha Public Library, 527 Iowa Avenue, has Wallace's materials easily available to children for circulation. A display case of Wallace materials and memorabilia can be seen at the Chickasha Library.

[www.chickashapl.okpls.org](http://www.chickashapl.okpls.org)

(405) 222-6075



**William "Bill" Wallace (1947 – 2012)**

Bill was teacher, principal, and writer. He authored 38 children's books, won 22 state book awards, received the Arrell M. Gibson Lifetime Achievement Award, and with his wife Carol was inducted into the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma Hall of Fame. When asked why he became an author, he replied, "Trying to read to a class of 25 (fourth graders) kids who aren't listening is downright MISERABLE. Finally, students asked me to tell stories about when I was growing up. I soon ran out of these, so they decided I should make up new stories. I became a writer so I could survive my first year as a teacher. The class loved the stories I wrote for them and persuaded me to get somebody to make us a real book."

From his first published book, *A Dog Called Kitty*, to his last, *That Doggone Calf*, Bill entertained and educated children.

**He made a difference.**