



William Leonard Vandersande was born on January 7, 1934 in Nijmegen, Netherlands. He died December 26, 2013 in Thousand Oaks, CA after a prolonged battle with vascular disease.

As a boy William (Bill) endured the hardships of Nazi occupation and witnessed The Battle of Market Garden in 1944. His home was destroyed during the battle but all family members survived. Post war he received a degree in mechanical engineering from the Arnhem Technical Institute. In 1958 he immigrated to the United States by working as a steward on a cruise ship. Upon arrival in the United States, he purchased an automobile and drove it cross-country from

New York to Los Angeles. While in Los Angeles he worked various jobs and spent his free time rally racing in a modified Triumph TR3.

Bill married Maryke Marttin in 1961 and shortly thereafter began working for the 3M Corporation. While working for 3M in Camarillo he was instrumental in developing magnetic tape technology. When 3M moved to Minnesota, Bill made the decision to remain in California and find new employment. He worked predominantly as a project engineer, most notably for Alco bar dispensing equipment, Rain-Bird sprinkler systems and TRW air bag systems. He retired in 1993 and shortly thereafter moved to Porterville, CA. While there he devoted his time to actively pursuing a lifelong passion of maintaining and flying sport aircraft.

Bill is survived by his son (Tim), daughter-in-law (Ulla) grand children (Kelsey, Karsten, Lena), family in the Netherlands (Frank van der Sande, Loek van der Sande, Trudi Hulleman), family in Australia (Wilma Bosman) and family in France (Miek van der Sande – widow of Ben van der Sande).