

Mrs
28.9.94

83 Westcliff Road,
Hermannus Cape
7200
8th September

My dear Mrs Burnett,

David & I were very sad to
learn of Bishop Bill's death
recently, & I should like to
offer you and your family our
sincerest sympathy in your loss.

I hope he did not have
to endure great suffering &
that his death came swiftly
and peacefully.

We will remember him for many
years, and admired him for
being a fine and fearless leader
of our Church through difficult
years. Accolades will have been

paid by those ²greater & more learned
and eloquent than ourselves,
but my own most vivid memory
of him was hearing him
deliver the sermon at the
St Andrew's Prep evensong on
the Sunday of Feast when
many parents were present. I
was in Alastair's last year
at Prep - 1969 I think. Bishop
Bill told the boys of when
he was a POW in Italy, &
how he was reduced to
begging in an Italian village
after escaping from the Germans.
He spoke so simply & told of
the great kindness & courage
the Italians had displayed in
taking him in with them.
His message was one of

that we have to be reduced to a state of humility and obedience before we are shown the way. I have always felt I learned this profound truth at that moving service. What an inspiration he was.

I do hope you will be able to keep up your own wonderful ministry, and I do want you to know that you and your family are daily in my prayers. I wish you safe passage through the months ahead, and that you will receive the comfort of Christ.

Should you ever be in these parts, please don't pass us by, as we would love to see you again.

With warm regards

Yours sincerely, Jennifer Smith