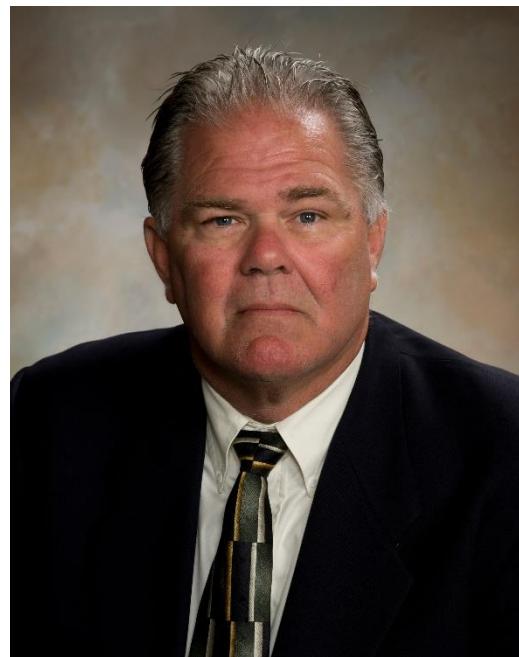


## **William R. "Bill" Orange, Jr. '91 Memorial Endowed Scholarship**

**Established in 2022 by Mary R. Orange '83**

Mary Orange '83 and her late husband, Bill '91, always discussed creating a scholarship. After he passed away in 2021, she and her children, Trey '16 and Elise, wanted to honor him with a gift they knew he would have supported wholeheartedly. They established a memorial scholarship in his name to support nontraditional students who are returning to school to pursue a degree in marine transportation with a license option.

Raised in the maritime industry, Bill initially pursued a career as a commercial welder and underwater diver post high school. However, a car accident led him to return to school at age 29. He worked for The Texas A&M University system for 25 years through both Texas A&M University at Galveston and the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service. Passionate about teaching and sharing his knowledge, his last position before retiring as a faculty member in the Marine Transportation department was the one he enjoyed most. Trey is following in his footsteps by working in the maritime industry while Elise is carrying on his love for the Galveston Campus by assisting with O-Week as a medic.



Mary graduated from Texas A&M University with a degree in business administration and worked at The University of Texas Medical Branch for 15 years on the administrative and clinical side. After a brief period as a stay-at-home mom, she spent the next 20 years with nonprofits and county government. After Bill passed, she retired and currently works part-time for a local nonprofit. The family hopes their gift will support nontraditional students, like Bill, who are returning to school to continue their education.