Bill Quain ’74

Let’s start with a few “Cornell Facts” about Bill:

1. Former Big Red Bear: ’72 – ’74
2. A Hotelie from the Notable Class of ’74
3. Met his wife, Jeanne, at a Cornell Fraternity party. Their two daughters are both Cornell Alumni.

Bill is the author of 27 books, focusing on Personal Success. Before the pandemic, he traveled the world, speaking to groups of all sizes, ranging from 20 to 20,000+ audience members. His books have been translated into multiple languages, and sold more than 2 million copies worldwide.

During his years in the Hospitality Industry, he was an Executive Chef, Food & Beverage Director, and a consultant for both independent properties and a number of major chains. After earning his Ph.D. Bill taught at several universities, including The University of Nevada Las Vegas and Florida International University. Today, he teaches Hospitality Management at Stockton University in Atlantic City.

At the age of 14, Bill began to lose his eyesight to Macular Degeneration. Now, he is almost totally blind. His Disability taught him to deal with Disruptions, Adversity and Change. His ability to adapt to unforeseen circumstances form the powerful background for many of his books. It also forced him to come up with creative solutions – for himself and others. For example, while teaching at Florida International University, Bill kayaked to work for 6 years! In 2001, he became the founding chef/host of PBS television’s Cooking Without Looking – a show targeted at Blind people. Today, Bill is still very active. He runs at least one half-marathon per year, and is now training to use a Guide Dog to keep up the pace.

Bill lives in Ocean City, New Jersey, with his wife Jeanne. As he always says – “A date at Cornell can last a lifetime.”

For more information about Bill Quain’s work, Click on “Bill’s Story” at www.billquain.com