



Bruce Nelson Gilbert

October 22, 2024

Bruce Nelson Gilbert, 83, of Lancaster, PA, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, October 22, 2024. Born in Elizabeth, NJ, Bruce was the son of the late Edwin Gilbert and Jean Lillian Nelson Gilbert.

Bruce called Lancaster home since 1974 when he moved from New Jersey to Pennsylvania. In the late 80's and early 90's, he spent five memorable years in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates, returning to Lancaster, loving his life and friends. He grew up in Scotch Plains, New Jersey, and from the 6th grade, attended New York Military Academy for both middle and high school. Bruce served his country in Vietnam in 1967 and 1968 as a proud veteran. He later graduated from Rutgers University, building a successful life rooted in dedication to his family and community.

Bruce was proud to be called Dad and loved being called "P-Pa" by his five grandchildren and all of their many friends. His favorite things to do were to watch lacrosse games at the University of Delaware and Haverford, spend time in Baltimore and the Elkridge Club with all the Moreaus, and most of all, spend time with family and friends at the Jersey Shore, both in Lavalette and Avalon. He was also very thankful for his friends and colleagues in Lancaster and cherished his "Lunch Bunch" outings and breakfast at the Rohrerstown Diner and Miss Callie's.

In addition to his family and friends, Bruce's other greatest love was for his country. Bruce was a very proud American and Vietnam Veteran having served in the Army. He would always remind anyone who would listen that despite the challenges we have here in the United States, it is the greatest place on Earth and we should all be proud of our country and serve in any way we can. In his later years, Bruce continued to serve the Veterans Association, including participating in holiday fundraising events and driving fellow veterans to their doctor appointments.

Bruce is survived by his two loving daughters, Leslie Gilbert Gillin (Stephen) and Kelly Gilbert Moreau (Matthew); and his five cherished grandchildren, Riley Gillin, Patrick Gillin, Teddy Gillin, Henry Moreau, and Lilly Moreau. He is also survived by his former wife and mother of his daughters, Sally A. Shoals. Bruce was preceded in death by his brother, Jules A. Gilbert.

Friends and family are respectfully invited to celebrate Bruce's life at Gray Funeral Home, 318 E Broad Street, Westfield, NJ 07090, on Monday, November 4, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. A Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m., followed by interment at Fairview Cemetery and Arboretum, 1100 E Broad Street, Westfield, NJ 07090.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations to The Wounded Warrior Project.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 4. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Gray Funeral Home
318 E. Broad Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

Memorial Service

NOV 4. 11:00 AM (ET)

Gray Funeral Home
318 E. Broad Street
Westfield, NJ 07090

Tribute Wall

DC

“ Bruce was one of my favorite bosses. Loved the emails we shared over the years. It had been a while since I heard from him, and I found his obituary. Rest in peace fine gentleman.

Donna Costigan - December 05, 2024 at 07:51 AM

GP

“ Gal and team at Pagaya purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Bruce Nelson Gilbert.



Gal and team at Pagaya - October 31, 2024 at 01:48 PM

GP

“ Gal and team at Pagaya planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bruce Nelson Gilbert.

Gal and team at Pagaya - October 31, 2024 at 01:48 PM

BR

“ I am saddened to hear of Bruce's passing. I knew Bruce through real estate in Lancaster county. He was always a gentleman and a true professional. Praying for your family.

Brenda Rutt - October 29, 2024 at 07:23 PM

PS

“ Leslie and Kelly, I am so sorry for your loss. He was a good man and I have many fond memories.

Pat Shirk

Pat Shirk - October 29, 2024 at 10:03 AM

DS

“ Bruce was the consummate gentleman. When my husband and his best friend passed away, Bruce was the first to be with me. And he has been a faithful friend for the past five years. I will miss his many kindnesses always. My heart is broken. Drema Shireman

Drema Shireman - October 27, 2024 at 06:49 PM

NS

“ Kelly and Leslie, on behalf of the "Lunch Bunch" from Berkshire Hathaway, we send our deepest condolences. This was a shock to all of us. He would refer to me as "Julie, the Cruise Director" as I was the one who took charge of deciding where and when we went. And sometimes, he wasn't happy with my choice of restaurants! Again, our condolences.

*Nancy Sarley
Jim Kuntz
Tom Kowalchik
Kathy Morgan
Sharon Kress*

Nancy Sarley - October 27, 2024 at 04:07 PM