



William W. "Bill" Wallace

November 1, 2022

Best Dad Ever, King of Dad jokes and puns that could make you groan, a man the President held the door for, William W. "Bill" Wallace, 89, of The Long Community at Highland, and Hickory Lane, Leola, passed away peacefully at the Lebanon VA Medical Center while under the care of hospice on Tuesday, November 1, 2022.

Born in Christiana, PA, he was the beloved husband of the late Barbara Roberta Shenk Wallace, with whom he had celebrated 64 years of marriage and who died in 2020 and the son of the late William W. and Florence Donoghue Wallace.

Bill graduated from Solanco High School, Class of '51. He was in the Naval Reserves from 1950-1954 and Active Duty from 1952-1953. He worked as a Purchasing Manager for New Holland Machine, Sperry/Ford/Case New Holland–CNH from 1957–1991, 1993-1997. He also worked as a Bailiff for the Lancaster County Courthouse for 14 years.

He was a faithful member of St. John's Lutheran Church since 1956 where he was a choir member with his wife from 1956–1963, serving as the Music and Worship Director in the early 70s and ran the Food Bank at the Church. He was a 3rd Degree Free and Accepted Mason with the Christiana Lodge. In addition to his beloved Philadelphia Phillies, he was a devoted Philadelphia

Eagles fan. He “enjoyed” playing golf with friends and had a long-standing golf/lunch tradition with his father. He attempted to learn to ski with his daughter in the 70s, but after the instructor told him he “Sure did fall well,” he took to reading in the lodge during ski time.

While having a “healthy respect” (fear) for horses, he nonetheless routinely carted his daughter and an assortment of 8 & 9-year-old classmates to the weekly summer horse shows at Lancaster Tennis and Riding Club, and spent untold hours at the barn as chauffeur for riding lessons, trips to Devon Horse Show and the races at Fair Hill, where his long-shot bet on Battleship Grey finally came across the finish line after horses for the next race had come out on the track.

He loved to go fishing and the yearly 1st day of trout season camping trips with buddies were a favorite, along with canoeing on the Conestoga.

A long family tradition was vacationing in Ocean Pines from 1981-2014, managing to fit everything his wife had overpacked into his beloved Wallace Wagon Country Squire for the trundle down to OCMD in June and August. Along with other family trips to Grandpa’s Deer Camp in Potter County, the farm in West Virginia, California, Las Vegas, Maine, Key West, England, Ireland, and Belgium, he enjoyed cruises to Bermuda, Nova Scotia and the Caribbean. Although the drive home from Miami to Lancaster by way of Williamsburg, during Hurricane Agnes is not something he wanted to repeat.

It was on one of these trips with friends to OCMD in the late 80’s that while stopping for breakfast at Hank’s Place in Chadds Ford, while entering the diner, someone held the door for them to enter. Thinking the man looked familiar, but not able to place from where Dad exchanged pleasantries with him and they wished one another “Good Morning.” Once inside, Dad’s friend said, “You know that was Senator Biden.”

He is lovingly survived by his daughter, Margaret E. (Molly) Wallace, Lancaster, PA, sister, Gertrude A. (Trudy) Steffy, Lancaster, PA, Brother in Law, Robert A. Shenk, Lancaster PA, Sister in Law, Betty Shenk, Millersville, PA, nieces, Karen Shenk Hollman, companion of Frank Melvin II, Debra Shenk Fish, (Jim), Joanne Shenk Weidman, (Carl) , Beth Murr, Eldridge, Brenda Murr Lowry, (Dana), Nephews; Robert A. Shenk Jr., (Gail), William Steffy (Deborah), Edward Steffy (Karen). He was preceded in death by a sister, Jane Wallace Murr, sister-in-law, Evelyn Haig Shenk, three brothers-in-law, Calvin Murr, William A. Shenk, Ralph Steffy, and two nephews, William A. Shenk, Jr. and Robert Murr.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Bill's Memorial Service at St. John's Lutheran Church, 223 W. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA on Tuesday, November 22, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. with The Rev. Margaret Kassees officiating. The family will receive friends at the Church on Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the service. The interment will follow the service at Conestoga Memorial Park with Military Honors rendered by the Red Rose Veterans Honor Guard.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Lebanon VA Medical Center, Attn: Eagles Heights Hospice, 1700 South Lincoln Avenue, Unit 1-4B, Lebanon, PA 17042. The family appreciated their genuine care during this time.

Cemetery Details

Conestoga Memorial Park

95 2nd Lock Rd
Lancaster, PA 17603

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church
223 West Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Memorial Service

NOV **22**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church
223 West Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17603

Tribute Wall



“ *William W. "Bill" Wallace*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *I recently learned of Bill's passing. Bill was one of the very first people that I worked with when I joined New Holand in 1973. He was a great mentor to someone new on the job, had a great sense of humor and was a fine man. He will be missed. I am sorry for your loss. Mike Cooper*

Michael L Cooper - November 23, 2022 at 08:19 AM



“ *Matt And Kevia Walton lit a candle in memory of William W. "Bill" Wallace*



Matt and Kevia Walton - November 21, 2022 at 08:48 PM



“ *I knew Bill since high school. He was a great help with class reunions. My husband worked with Bill at New Holland Machine. I also knew Barbara. They were a wonderful couple. Now Bill has joined Barbara. May they rest in peace. Barbara Sample*

Barbara Sample - November 19, 2022 at 10:03 AM

BK

“ Bill hired me into the purchasing department in 1973 as a clerk typist. After 10 years of studies, with Bill as my supervisor, I was promoted to a buyer. Bill helped me get transferred to another building when I was having serious problems with an employee. He never ask my details, but got me the transfer. I am forever grateful to Bill for helping me with my career and being a great supervisor. Bill always talked about his wife Barbara and his daughter. After Bill retired our paths crossed again when I was called to jury duty and Bill was the bailiff. I have so many great memories of working with Bill, so many years ago. Thanks Bill. W3
Barbara Wollard Kunkel

Barbara Wollard Kunkel - November 19, 2022 at 06:03 AM

KS

“ CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS TO THE FAMILY OF A BROTHER MASON. KARL F. SCHUBERT 32ND FORMALLY #156 QUARRYVILLE, NOW #353 OXFORD LANCASTER AND HARRISBURG

KARL F. SCHUBERT - November 17, 2022 at 03:08 PM

GB

“ With sincere sympathy to Molly and the rest of Bill's family. He was a special person and will be missed by many.

Jerry and Betsy Benton

GERALD BENTON - November 17, 2022 at 09:17 AM

BE

“ Molly your Dad was always so kind to me. I'll never forget his treating me to all those holiday meals. I'm so sorry I can't make it next Tuesday but you will be in my thoughts.

Becky - November 14, 2022 at 09:13 PM

DA

“ Dear Molly,
I was terribly saddened to hear of Bill's passing. Bill was my bailiff for many years and although he "retired" some time ago, it seems like only yesterday he was here making things work properly. He was such a large part of our lives at the courthouse. He was the consummate gentleman who ran a tight ship but always with kindness and professionalism (he also often provided me with some good "dad jokes" to share with my daughters). On behalf of all of us at 50 N. Duke St., please accept our sincere condolences on your loss.

David L. Ashworth

David Ashworth - November 14, 2022 at 01:01 PM

 Gail
Miller

“ Dear Molly,
It was with great sadness that I read of your Dad's recent passing. As I read his obituary, I couldn't help but smile and chuckle at many of the memories that were mentioned. I recall the Susquehanna river fishing trips your dad took with my dad and Jack Watson. I remember the time he went fishing in Canada with my husband and father - that was some experience! Despite the passage of years, I retain fond memories of our time as next door neighbors. I will always remember your Dad and his contagious smile! My deepest sympathies,

Gail Jordan Miller

Gail Miller - November 14, 2022 at 11:59 AM

JH

“ *Jeanne Helmers lit a candle in memory of William W. "Bill" Wallace*



Jeanne Helmers - November 13, 2022 at 06:01 PM

WB

“ *William Benner lit a candle in memory of William W. "Bill" Wallace*



William Benner - November 13, 2022 at 09:51 AM

DR

Molly, Sincere condolences on the death of you Dad. My son and I visited him at the VA hospice unit sometime in October. He was a gentleman and a very good man. We went to the same church for many years.
Dotty Rowe

Dorothy Rowe - November 18, 2022 at 12:05 PM

DS

My sympathies to the family. I first met Bill when I was hired into the Sperry New Holland purchasing dept in June of 1967. I was hired as an Assistant Buyer and Bill quickly accepted me as part of the team. I remember, he was the Steel Buyer at the time which was New Holland's key commodity. I was amazed at his expertise and professionalism as he conducted business, negotiating steel pricing with the major producers. He was organized and methodical in his approach. I moved on in 1973 to other New Holland facilities but he made such a positive impression on me -- it impacted my further career at New Holland. Bill set the bar high. My prayers are with the family.

Dale W. Smith

Dale Smith - November 21, 2022 at 12:51 PM