



William B. "Bill" Roberts

September 28, 1948 - March 20, 2024

William B. Roberts, 75, of Marietta, passed away peacefully on March 20, 2024 after fighting cancer for several years. Bill was born in Lancaster on September 28, 1948 to James W. Roberts and Sara "Sally" Fellenbaum Roberts. The oldest of three children, Bill was raised in Mount Joy, but found his home in Marietta.

Bill was a graduate of Donegal High School and Millersville University. In 1967, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served honorably for four years as a hospital corpsman. He served at Navy Medical Centers in Connecticut and Virginia, as well as on the USS Furse. After leaving the Navy, Bill worked as a Patrolman for the Mount Joy Borough Police Department while earning his degree in political science and history. In 1980, he became Chief of Police for Marietta Borough, a position he held until 1996 when the Marietta Police Department became part of the newly formed Susquehanna Regional Police Department. After serving as Sergeant and Chief, Bill retired from SRPD in 2011.

In his younger years, Bill loved playing tennis, winning several awards in the Police Olympics, and he later served as the tennis coach at Donegal High School. A man of many hobbies, he loved sailing, golf, photography, and scuba diving. Bill also enjoyed riding bike and watching his favorite sports teams, especially the Cubbies.

Bill and Marianne loved traveling. Some of their favorite destinations included New Orleans, Savannah, Charleston, Chicago, and France. Bill's favorite spot and "happy place" was their beach house in Ocean City, MD, where he particularly enjoyed spending time with his grandson, Cameron, and his beloved dog, Nola.

Cooking and baking bread were two of Bill's favorite pastimes. Dinners with family and friends always included a loaf of warmly baked bread from Bill's kitchen. Bill's shrimp and grits and shepherd's pie were family holiday favorites.

Bill was an avid music enthusiast. While he enjoyed all genres of music, classical music was by far his favorite. Listening to music in his music room brought him joy and relaxation.

Bill was a kind and loving husband, father, grandfather, and friend to many. Serving as police chief in a small town, Bill knew everyone, and everyone knew Bill. He will be deeply missed.

Bill is survived by his wife Marianne of Marietta; daughter Adrienne of Marietta; son Alex of Lancaster; stepchildren Hillorie Leaman of Bryn Mawr, Emily Leaman of Landisville, and Robert Leaman of Lancaster; grandsons Zachary Roberts, Cameron Murphy, Ty Brommer, Simon and George Merrick, and Tiago Leaman Bravo; sister Deborah Griffin of Vail, Colorado, and several nieces and nephews. Bill was predeceased by his parents, James W. Roberts and Sara Fellenbaum Roberts, and his sister, Barbara Roberts.

A celebration of life service with military honors will be held at the Marietta Community House, 264 W. Market St., Marietta, on Saturday, April 13 at 2:30 p.m. There will be no visitation beforehand, but there will be a reception after

the service. Memorial gifts in Bill's name can be made to Pennsylvania Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.).

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR 13. 2:30 PM (ET)

Marietta Community House
264 W. Market Street
Marietta , PA 17547

Tribute Wall

JM

“ My deepest sympathy to his family and friends. May he rest in peace. Jackie Mundorff



Jackie L Mundorff - March 29, 2024 at 09:08 PM

RS

“ Brother, working with you at Susquehanna Regional was always a good day. You made life fun. You were easy to get along with and never held a grudge against anyone. Everyone liked you. Thank you for the great memories.

Rick “Bugsy” Siegel - March 27, 2024 at 08:38 PM

RW

“ Deepest sympathies from all of us at Fire Department Mount Joy. Bill will always be remembered as a friend and a good man. May God comfort you all as you grieve your loss and celebrate a life well lived.

Roxanne Wolgemuth - March 26, 2024 at 06:05 AM

JS

“ JoNan Shirk lit a candle in memory of William B. "Bill" Roberts



JoNan Shirk - March 25, 2024 at 09:05 PM

B(

“ *Barb Ness (shirk) lit a candle in memory of William B. "Bill" Roberts*



barb ness (shirk) - March 25, 2024 at 08:58 PM



“ *So sorry to see this, sending our sympathy! Bill was kind and thoughtful. He and other patrolman always stopped by our Bank to check on us and stayed to chat awhile. I will always remember the good times we had in our conversations and questions we asked. Miss those times!*



Barbara Houseal - March 25, 2024 at 08:11 AM

CF

“ *So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He fought hard to stay on this earth because he loved his family so much. He always made a point to speak to me whenever he saw me. He was that way with everyone. A wonderful man.*

Christina Fair - March 23, 2024 at 06:41 PM

CE

“ *Bill was one of the best and it was always a joy to be in his company. He will be deeply missed by everyone who knew him. Please accept my deepest condolences. Love, Catherine Ellen*

Catherine Ellen - March 23, 2024 at 12:15 PM

HG

I have fond memories of Uncle Bill's kindness. He was such an intelligent man with an empathetic spirit. His love for his family was inspiring.

Heathermarie Griffin - March 23, 2024 at 01:42 PM

DE

I knew Bill as the Chief of Police of Marietta Borough while serving as an officer with the PA Fish and Boat Commission. I always appreciated his support, suggestions and comradary. Bill served this country as a US Navy veteran and the communities of Marietta, Maytown and Bainbridge as a Police Officer. Bill's commitment to public service was remarkable and will forever be remembered by those of us who were privileged to have known him.

*Prayers for support and comfort to the family during this difficult time.
Dave Eichler*

David Eichler - March 24, 2024 at 09:15 AM

MS

We are so sad that Bill has left, he was a good friend even though we didn't see each other often enough. He always stayed in touch. The world is an emptier place without him. We are thinking of you all. Ed & Marsha Silberhorn

Marsha & Ed Silberhorn - March 24, 2024 at 11:44 AM

CH

Bill was a friend growing up in Mt. Joy. Went to Donegal together. We had some great table tennis matches in the alley behind his parents house on Marietta Ave. He was a wonderful guy. Thoughts and prayers to his family.

Christopher-Kit Holmes - March 24, 2024 at 11:54 AM

RR

When Bill was a Marietta cop and our son Kurt was in High School, Bill mentored him and allowed Kurt to ride with him for a shift in the patrol car. Kurt graduated and became a Pennsylvania State Trooper. We liked and respected Bill, he will be sorely missed.

Robert Rummel - March 24, 2024 at 07:39 PM

NM

I knew Bill as a friend and fellow Navy vet. We spent many miles pushing each other while cycling the back roads of the county.

Neil Mengel - March 26, 2024 at 10:06 AM

SK

*To Marianne and the family,
I just learned a few hours ago of Bill's passing and want you to know that Cindy and I hold great memories of you and Bill. We are so sorry for your loss and hope time can erase the pain of his absence...but never of his memories Thank you both for all the great things you have done for others throughout our community. Remember: friendship never dies. STEVE & CINDY KRUT, Maytown.*

steve krut - April 13, 2024 at 07:26 PM