



## Mr. William J. Adair, Sr.

May 29, 1937 - May 13, 2015

Mr. William J. Adair, Sr. age 77, passed away on Wednesday, May 13, 2015 at DePaul Horizons in Canandaigua, New York.

Born in Brooklyn on May 29, 1937, William was the son of the late William and Alice (Johnson) Adair. He was raised and educated in his native Brooklyn. A veteran of the United States Air Force, he honorably served his country stateside from 1955-1958. It was while he was stationed at Griffiss Air Force Base that he met the former Rose C. Obernesser whom he married on September 20, 1958 in St. Agnes Church in Utica. Rose predeceased her husband in February 2005.

Beginning in 1959, Bill pursued a successful and challenging civilian career in the (F.A.A.) Federal Aviation Administration at JFK Airport and he also held positions as an Air Traffic Supervisor in the tower at both Oneida County Airport and Griffiss Air Force Base. He retired in 1994 after 45 years of conscientious and rewarding service.

As dedicated as he was to his professional life, Bill considered his family life and his friendships to be of primary importance and significance. He was a good husband, a loving father, and loyal friend.

Bill is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Mary Alice and John McDonald of Mendon, NY; his sons and daughters-in-law, William J. Jr. and Kim Adair of Jericho, VT, and Jeffrey and Deborah Adair of Harrisburg, NC; and his grandchildren, Brent, and Bradley Adair, James, and John (Jack) McDonald; and Ashley Rose, and Andrew Adair. His extended family includes a number

of nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, and in-laws, Lawrence and Angela Obernesser, and Roy Russo. He was predeceased by his sister and brother-in-law, Isabelle, and Clair Grew; his brothers and sisters in law, Dr. Charles J. and Frances Obernesser, Ann Russo, Thomas and Doris Obernesser, Agnes and George Morris, Patricia DeBlois and Leo Obernesser. The family would like to thank the staff at Cedarbrook and DePaul Horizons for their excellent care to Bill.

The family will honor and commemorate Bill's life in a private gathering. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend William's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Wednesday morning at 10:30 at St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Mark Kaminski with Military Honors conferred. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of the service. Donations may be made to the Huntington's Disease Society of America or the American Heart Association in Bill's memory; envelopes will be available at the church. Interment will take place in Mt. Olivet Cemetery at the convenience of the family. Arrangements have been entrusted to the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., Utica, NY 13501.

# Tribute Wall

RG

“ I first met Willie Mike while I was an Air Force controller working at the Griffiss Control Tower. Always a good man, he inspired and mentored me as I transitioned to the FAA at both the Oneida County Airport Control Tower and at Griffiss Radar Approach Control. A unique personality and a great friend. As Bill would always say, "Keep the Faith"!

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**Ron Gurney** - June 30, 2015 at 01:35 PM

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“ Shared many many good times with Willie Mike (WM) hunting, fishing and partying. My sincere condolences to the family. Never forget when Bill got his boat and had it in the garage. He was sitting in it when Rose walked out and asked if he was going to be out late and if so if he wanted her to pack a lunch. Rest In Peace my friend.  
Ron Gugnacki (GI)

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**ron gugnacki (GI)** - May 19, 2015 at 08:38 PM

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“ The Esposito Family would like to offer our sincere condolences to all of Bill's Family, especially Mary, Jeff and Bill Jr. The Adair kids and the Esposito kids shared many memories during their high school years, memories that will not be soon forgotten. Life is short but memories live forever. God bless you Bill, see you in a while.  
Tom and Joan Esposito and Jeff, T.P., LoriAnne, Todd and Kelly

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**Tom Esposito** - May 19, 2015 at 01:36 PM