



William J. Burns Sr.

December 15, 1935 - October 16, 2011

Mr. William J. Burns, Sr., age 75, formerly of Utica and currently a resident of DeBary, Florida, passed away on Sunday, October 16, 2011. His passing occurred at the Select Specialty Hospital in Orlando, Florida with his family by his side.

Born in Utica on December 15, 1935, William was the son of the late James D. and Carolyn (Mangan) Burns. He was raised and educated locally, a graduate of Utica Catholic Academy. On June 22, 1957 he married the former Della Marie Zupkas with whom he shared 27 years until her passing on July 3, 1984; their family meant everything to them and they meant the world to each other. When Della passed, William lost his lifelong friend and love of his life. William was the owner and operator of the B.J. Inn on Route 5 in Kirkland which he established with his wife and good friend, Glenn Jones. Upon his wife's passing, William sold the inn and worked for many subsequent years at Sharon's Lounge in Yorkville as Manager and Bartender, until he relocated to Florida. He was a stock car enthusiast by avocation and raced them at the Utica Rome Speedway. He was also a NASCAR fan. He pursued hunting, and later in life he enjoyed a good round of golf. He was a lifetime member of the Knights of Columbus, and the Teamsters Local #182. He was a former parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Church until its closing.

William is survived by his daughters and sons-in-law, Karen and Robert Jones of Whitesboro, and Donna and Brian Tanner of FL, with whom he resided; his sons and daughters-in-law, Christopher "Chris", Lt./UPD, Ret. and Julianne

Burns of New Hartford, William J. Burns, Jr. of Utica, James "Jimmy" P. Burns, UFD, Ret. and Deborah Seeber of Verona Beach, NY, and Joseph M. and Kimberly Burns of FL; and his grandchildren, Megan Burns, Savannah Burns, Christopher Burns, Jr., Dawn Jones, Brandon Jones, Shelby Burns, Daniel Tanner, Brionna Tanner, and Ryan Tanner. In addition, he leaves many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins, in-laws, Janet Burns, Katherine Dubinsky, Jo-Cecilia Moore, and Richard and Edna Zupkas; and his friends, Artie England, Glenn Jones, Dick Ryan, Paul and Lucille Ferraro, Sharon and Steve Santa Maria, and Carol Ann Tanner. He was predeceased by his brother, Robert Burns; his sisters and brother-in-law, Lois and Robert Sweitzer, and Sister Karen Burns, OSF; and his longtime friend, John Tanner.

The family sends a special thank you to William's daughter, Donna Tanner, his primary caregiver, for all her devoted attention to her father during his illness. Thanks also to Deborah Seeber and Jan Roman for the care they extended to William during his last visit.

The family will honor and celebrate William's life at a private gathering. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend William's funeral service and Celebration of Life which will commence on Monday morning at 11:30 at the Church of Our Lady of Lourdes where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. Joseph Salerno. The family will receive visitors at the conclusion of the Mass. Interment will take place in Kirkland Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

Kirkland Cemetery

French Road
Kirkland, NY

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William J. Burns Sr.



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - October 16, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ Joe, Donna, and Brian, I am very sad to hear about your Dad's passing. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

Laurie "Green" Tramonto

Laurie Tramonto - October 24, 2011 at 03:00 PM



“ Chris-
Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family
The "Bates" Family



Laurie Bates - October 24, 2011 at 09:52 AM



“ *I love you grandpa so much. You were the best grandpa ever .love you xoxoxoxoxo
From Savannah*



Savannah Burns - October 24, 2011 at 08:06 AM



“ *We are deeply saddened to hear of Bill's passing. He was a wonderful man, a wonderful friend. He touched our lives, and our memories of Bill shall be cherished always. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Burns family. God Bless.*



Karen & Craig Campbell

Craig Campbell - October 23, 2011 at 07:28 PM



“ *I remember when you said "You have beautiful blue eyes like your father." And I smiled and said to you "You are the best grandpa ever and you laughed and said "Thank you". I will miss you Grandpa! I love you! xoxoxoxoxoxo
Love,
Savannah*

Savannah Burns - October 22, 2011 at 07:43 PM

SB

“ Savannah Burns sent a virtual gift in memory of William J. Burns Sr.



Savannah Burns - October 22, 2011 at 07:30 PM

SS

“ Sabrina Scalzo-Cozza lit a candle in memory of William J. Burns Sr.



Sabrina Scalzo-Cozza - October 22, 2011 at 10:27 AM

SS

Chris, Julie, Jimmy, Megan and Burns family. So sorry to hear of your loss. Thoughts and prayers are with you.
Sabrina and David Cozza

Sabrina Scalzo-Cozza - October 22, 2011 at 10:30 AM

BE

“ To the entire Burns family, we have so many fond memories of the days at Sharon's Lounge and the many happy times we spent with Billy. May he rest in peace. Love Barb and John Eberley

Barb Eberley - October 22, 2011 at 08:39 AM

BZ

“ Dear Chris and family, my thoughts and prayers are with you in the loss of your Dad. May all the memories he made with you help you during this most difficult time. I will keep your Dad in my daily prayers. God bless.
Barbara (Salerno) Ziezio & family



Barbara (Salerno) Ziezio - October 21, 2011 at 11:12 PM

TF

“ May he rest in peace. All you cousins will be in our prayers.



Tim & Colleen Moylan Family - October 21, 2011 at 02:37 PM

BJ

“ R.I.P grandpa i miss you. you will always be in my heart. Love one of your many grandchildren Brandon Jones

Brandon Jones - October 20, 2011 at 07:18 PM

BU

“ Brenda Urbanke lit a candle in memory of William J. Burns Sr.



Brenda Urbanke - October 20, 2011 at 05:20 PM

RW

“ Joe, So very sorry to hear of your Dads passing. Your Dad and your entire family was a great part of my life, I will remember your Dad fondly.



Richard Wishart - October 20, 2011 at 04:15 PM

DL

“ David (Lee) Lia lit a candle in memory of William J. Burns Sr.



David (Lee) Lia - October 20, 2011 at 07:52 AM



“ Lori Wojtanowski lit a candle in memory of William J. Burns Sr.



Lori Wojtanowski - October 20, 2011 at 07:29 AM



*Please accept my deepest condolences. I hope you all find strength and comfort. I loved dad very much. God Bless you Donna and Brian for taking care of him; opening your home and giving him peace and happiness for all those years. Hold on to the love of those around you to help you get through the days ahead.
Love Lori*

Lori Wojtanowski - October 20, 2011 at 07:39 AM