



Mr. William F. "Bill" Griffith

January 13, 1949 - November 13, 2021

WHITESBORO – William F. “Bill” Griffith, age 72, transitioned to Spirit, with the light of God, on Saturday, November 13, 2021; his son Michael was by his side.

Bill was born in New Hartford, NY on January 13, 1949 to mother, Ruth (Deuvall/Yaehrling) and father, Fred Ira, both deceased. He leaves behind his sister, Lorraine Griffith-Bucklan; and half-sister, Joyce Yaehrling. He attended New Hartford High School and would fondly share about being a body builder and climbing the ropes in gym class to touch the high ceiling. Bill married Vanessa D’Arts/Pucine, Michael’s mom, who is still living. Though divorced, they remained caring friends for 40+ years. He later married and shared 20+ years with Diane Skutnik before he was tragically widowed. Most recently he was in a 10+ year relationship with JoAnn Ferguson.

Bill was a US Navy Veteran, having served during Vietnam from 1967 until his honorable discharge in 1974. He enjoyed his career as a cable installer, from the early days in the 1970s until he retired after 35 dedicated years; he rode the evolution of technology, happy to bring this household joy to so many families over the years. “I get to see the inside of peoples’ worlds,” he’d say in wonder and appreciation.

Bill had a challenging early family life, though in adult years he came to know love and kindness. He loved the outdoors, the simple thrill of fishing. He was a sweet man, a sensitive and strong man, a good man, truly. He could have a slightly cynical view with wry humor, but balanced with a lightheartedness and

smiling eyes. To see how little children felt safe with him and how he could make them laugh with his silliness and gentle teasing, was heart-warming. You will always be in our hearts, Bill.

Bill's Memorial Service and Celebration of Life will be held on Tuesday afternoon, November 23, 2021 at 2:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave.

Thank you to Hospice & Palliative Care, Inc. and the caregiver angels at the Abraham House in Utica, who helped bring tender Grace to his transition. Bill, we love you, may your soul be in Peace.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV **23**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Tribute Wall



“ I am so sorry to hear the loss of Mr Griffith, while I may be a stranger his son Michael and I are genetically close cousins. I hope someday to solve how.

Matthew Haber - May 27, 2022 at 02:49 PM

LB

Michael's mother came to US from Colchester..England...Vanessa D'arts was her maiden name, had only one child, Michael and div. after a short marriage when he was toddler; and she died January 18, 2022 in Utica.....remarried name was Puccinemaybe that may help. Mr Griffith was married a short time to Michael's mother.....

Lorraine griffith bucklan - March 24, 2023 at 04:37 PM

KF

“ I meet Bill at Bev's dinner. I enjoyed having breakfast with him. He was a gentle man. I am glad I got to know him. So happy he meet some to love.

kathy fuller - November 28, 2021 at 12:22 AM

LB

Thank you for your kind words. Bill did find love with Wife Diane who died at 42, but he never fully recovered from her sudden death... May they find each other in heaven!
His sister...Lorraine Griffith

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 28, 2021 at 01:00 PM

LK

“ *Distance keeps me from attending the Memorial Service but Bill will always hold a special place in my memories. Wish we had kept in touch after I left New Hartford 50 years ago. I remember him like it was yesterday and hold nothing but fond thoughts of him. May he Rest In Peace.*

Laurie Kempf - November 23, 2021 at 09:28 AM

LB

*Thank you...for heart warming lovely message...
Lorraine Griffith Bucklan-
Bill's sister*

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 23, 2021 at 02:03 PM

DO

“ *Dan, Bob, Carol, Sharon and John O'Neil purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Mr. William F. "Bill" Griffith.*



Dan, Bob, Carol, Sharon and John O'Neil - November 22, 2021 at 03:06 PM

DO

“ *Billy, you were our favorite cousin. There are no words to describe the laughter and joy we shared together as kids. (We laughed together so much the adults got mad at us!)
God called you to your heavenly home, but we will always treasure our memories, and the good times with you here on earth.
To 'Rainey, Joyce Elaine, and Bill's friends and family - the Lord bless you and comfort you in this time of loss and sorrow. As the old hymn says, "There's Healing in His wings".*

Dan O'Neil

Dan O'Neil - November 22, 2021 at 01:14 PM

CC

*i second that!! Billy, you could light up a room with your laughter!
Rainey, Joycie, God bless you now and in the days ahead -*

Carol O'Neil Crawley

Carol O'Neil Crawley - November 22, 2021 at 01:48 PM

LB

*It is indeed a very sad time and such a devastating diagnosis taking Bill at quite a young age compared to rest of family....Bill was a sweet boy who grow up to be a good man. I do not have a contact #s for Dan or Carol since Dot died 1/2018...
I talked to Bill in hospice the day, 11/13, he later died; he is in heavenly HANDS in PEACE now.
His sister -
Lorraine Griffith Bucklan*

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 22, 2021 at 02:44 PM

LB

Thank you!

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 22, 2021 at 02:45 PM

LB

*Dan and all your siblings...
Thank you for the lovely memorial flowers...it was very kind of you.
Thank you.
Bill's sister...
Lorraine Griffith Bucklan*

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 22, 2021 at 03:27 PM

LB

*Thank you..to each of you.
Lorraine.....Bill's sister*

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 22, 2021 at 03:29 PM

AN

“ *I remember Bill from when we would call
"Harron" Cable to come in to do a hook up or
to service problems with cable for our
residents when I worked in the Business
Office of a local Nursing Home. He was one
of the nicest guys you could ever encounter. May he rest in peace.*



Anonymous - November 22, 2021 at 10:14 AM

LB

*Thank you for your kind words for my brother, Bill.
He was a great guy who lived a humble existence and deserved
better....He earned his heavenly wings!
His sister
Lorraine Griffith Bucklan*

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 22, 2021 at 11:23 AM

BP

“ worked with Bill from 1986 till his retirement. In my Tech years at cable he would met up with me and other techs to have coffee . Also I would be called for assistance on some of his big cable jobs. I loved working with Bill. He was a wonderful man , and so soft spoken. I will miss him deeply.

Barbara Jo H Palm - November 21, 2021 at 05:11 PM

LB

Thank you for your kind words on the death of my sweet brother; I am at a loss beyond words...but grateful Bill had friends who made his work days welcoming. We are never prepared for the finality of it when our loved one dies.

His sister -
Lorraine Griffith Bucklan

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 21, 2021 at 11:01 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Mr. William F. "Bill" Griffith.



November 21, 2021 at 03:38 PM



“ Worked with Bill at the cable company for many years. He was a sweet man. Then later reconnected at Bev's diner with my family. I truly enjoyed our breakfast talks. RIP Billy. 🙏 for the family.

Amy Hoffmann-Backman - November 21, 2021 at 10:41 AM

LB

I am Bill's sister and he talked fondly to me about his diner friends of breakfast. He enjoyed those times..

Thank you for your kind words....A horrible disease took a very nice man.

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 21, 2021 at 12:46 PM

LB

“ *My brother Bill was one of two children born to Fred Ira Griffith and his wife Ruth of Yorkville, NY; Bill was born in Utica, NY in the old St. Luke's Hospital, on January 13, 1949. I remember mom and dad carrying him into our home after he was born; I was so excited to have a playmate....He was a sweet red head with green eyes, and always smiling. He loved animals, esp his late dog, Trilby...and his cat, Henry.*

His hobby was keeping his antique Corvette, that he purchased as a young single man, in pristine condition; and, he loved and maintained his Whitesboro property

I spoke to him during his final day, assuring him that he was loved and starting a new chapter with our dear Lord leading him safely into HIS heavenly forever new home of Peace. Bill was protestant, baptised Methodist.

Author - Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - sister

Lorraine Griffith Bucklan - November 20, 2021 at 04:20 PM

TA

“ *Shared many childhood memories camping outside in the summer and catching minnows at Power Dam with Ruth and Joy. Go with God Cousin Tom*

Tom Artessa - November 20, 2021 at 03:11 PM