



William Stephen "Willy" Hartnett

January 25, 1943 - July 4, 2024

CLINTON - William Stephen "Willy" Hartnett, age 81, found peace on Independence Day, Thursday, July 4, 2024, at the Lutheran Home after a final visit with his children. After suffering a four-year battle with Parkinsons, he went to be with his wife Grace who predeceased him.

"Wild Bill" was born on January 25, 1943, in Lackawanna, NY. "Butch" attended Canisius High School, continued there through college, and ultimately graduated with degrees from the University of Detroit and Syracuse University. He worked for RADC/Rome Labs where he helped bring about the end of the Cold War and was known as "The King of the Clam Bake."

Bill was heavily involved in the Knights of Columbus where he was a Grand Knight and the first recipient of the "William S. Hartnett Award" in 1966. He enjoyed travel, spending time with his wife and family, and the perfect sandwich...every bite needs to have the same flavor.

Willy was predeceased by his wife of 45 years, Grace; mother, Ruth; and father, Patrick. He leaves behind two children, Michael (Becky) and Stephanie (David); seven grandchildren, Patrick, Samantha, Zachary, Emma, Beth, Erika, and Nicole; and siblings, Trish (Dave) Lanz, Rick (Janice) Hartnett, Tom (Marsha) Hartnett, Mary Elizabeth (Bill) Coles, and their families.

We would like to thank the staff of the Lutheran Home for caring for Willy.

Visitation will be held on Saturday, July 13, 2024, from 12:30-2:30 p.m. at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Willy's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence at 2:30 p.m. at the funeral home. Those unable to attend may be present virtually at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86339794778>. Interment will take place in St. Agnes Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

This obituary was lovingly composed by Willy's family.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

601 Arthur Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-8588

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 13. 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Service

JUL 13. 2:30 PM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall

JP

“ Many good times at the house in Floyd and for me on the golf course. Katy and I have many fond memories of Bill and your mother. Beautiful people! Sorry for your loss, Joe and Katy Palermo

Joseph J Palermo - July 11, 2024 at 01:02 PM

FA

“ I got to know Bill by giving him Communion at the Lutheran Home. He always lit up at the prospect of receiving the Eucharist. I admired Bill; he brought cheer to all those around him. - Frank Anechiarico

Frank Anechiarico - July 10, 2024 at 09:29 AM

SS

“ My husband belonged to the Rome Knights of Columbus pre 2011 and it was at a Christmas party where I met your father. He was a very at ease person, happy, friendly, having fun and introducing his very talented wife, Grace. She played the piano for us and her husband was so very proud. Your dad could charm anyone; that was my impression. So sorry for your loss. Take good care. I miss the friendship of the Knights, most sincerely, Mrs. David Stephan

S. Jane Stephan - July 08, 2024 at 06:29 PM

TS

I met Bill when 7 of us gathered at Hospice to share our grief over the recent loss of our spouses/significant others. That was in April of 2015. We became friends and continued to meet for lunch frequently long after the 6 week sessions ended. He was quite the joker and could always make us laugh which helped us all to heal from our sorrow. He will be remembered for his kindness. Tess Slobuszewski

Tess Slobuszewski - July 09, 2024 at 07:51 AM

OS

“ Our brother, Love from your siblings planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Stephen "Willy" Hartnett.

Our brother, Love from your siblings - July 07, 2024 at 01:37 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Stephen "Willy" Hartnett.



July 07, 2024 at 01:37 PM