



## Mr. William D. "Bill" LaFluer

October 7, 1947 - September 15, 2020

UTICA - Mr. William D. "Bill" LaFluer, age 72, was reunited with his wife when he passed away on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, with his daughters by his side.

Born in Syracuse on October 7, 1947, William was the son of the late Wilson D. & Geraldine (Schmigel) LaFluer. He was a graduate of Henninger High School. In 1965 he relocated to Utica, and on April 15, 1967 he married the former Camille A. Fanelli with whom he shared 41 years as her constant companion, and as quoted, "he was the wind beneath her wings". Camille passed away on December 27, 2008. After they were married, later in 1967, Bill enlisted in the United States Navy where he served his country with honor during the Vietnam Era stationed on the carrier/repair ship USS Amphion. A proud veteran, he was the recipient of the National Defense Medal 1st Award, Vietnam Service Medal, and the Vietnam Campaign Medal. In the years that followed, being the true patriot that he was, Bill continued serving his country as an Army Reservist and was a member of the Military Police, attaining the rank of Major upon his retirement from service. Bill's main employment was at the US Materials Handling Corporation where he worked in various capacities and displayed his dedication and diligence. As his responsibilities grew, Bill became one of the only 'non-owners' appointed to a management position, retiring in 2013.

Although Bill was a reserved soul, he was a man of great emotion. An outdoorsman, he enjoyed hunting, especially in the Southern Tier, camping,

and day trips with the entire family to Verona Beach State Park, and Delta Lake State Park. As a dad, he was supportive of his daughters' endeavors and accomplishments. As the grandchildren came, they trumped his girls for his attention, and he loved spending time with them. Precious memories were made "for the boys" who had the privilege of living with their pop. He had unique nicknames for his grandchildren and they loved that individual special attention. Holiday gatherings with festive meals were an annual event, but Bill's favorite food fare included steak-and-potatoes, pasta (especially lasagna), and "liver and onions" prepared only by his wife! Bill was an avid golfer, a fan of NCAA March Madness, and football in general, topped off with a yearly Super Bowl bet with "an old war buddy" who he always kept in touch. When his wife was involved with the Sons of Italy, he supported all her involvement and charitable endeavors. They also participated in Sunday Night Couples' Bowling at the Vista Lanes. When raising his family their home parish was St. Anthony & St. Agnes Church.

Bill is survived by his beloved daughters and sons-in-law, Rene and Ed Wright Jr., and Lisa and Damon Lewis; his grandchildren, Megan Wright, Edward William Wright; Vincent Turturo, Andrea Maltais, Anthony Turturo, and twins Rebecca and Isabella Lewis. Also, Daniel Coleman was blessed to know Bill as a grandson would. Daniel and Bill's grandson Anthony lived and cared for one another, and "Pop" provided a roof over their heads and food on the table, ...and the boys took care of the rest. He also leaves his brother and sister-in-law, Philip and Priscilla LaFluer; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews, cousins; sisters-in-law, Joan Mancuso, and Shirley Mario; his daughters' in-laws, Edward Sr. and Roseanne Wright, and Robert and June Lewis, all of whom were a part of life for Bill and Camille and their family; and friends who preceded Bill, Maryann and Dick Phillips, friends to the end, and sorely missed. He was predeceased by his brothers-in-law, Anthony M. Fanelli Jr., and Robert P. "Bob" Mario; and his cousin, Rodger Jablonski, who was like a brother.

The family is grateful to ICU nurse Shelly at MVHS at St. Luke's Health Care

for her compassion and empathy during Bill's last moments.

Visitation will be held Sunday afternoon from 2:00-3:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Due to current restrictions, we will be operating at a limited occupancy. We ask for your patience as we try to accommodate those coming to support the LaFluer family. Face masks must be worn and contact tracing will be implemented. Interment will take place in St. Agnes Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Please take a moment to connect with Bill's family through the "Memories" section of his obituary.

Our prayers go out to all as a sign of our continued support.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Agnes Cemetery

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

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **20**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

IM

“ I remember 2008 I met Mr. Bill and his late wife Camille, I had just turned 8 years old and they had this cute little white dog I always wanted to play with. Next thing I know, Mr. Bill was taking me to go see my mom, and he would watch me and my siblings when my mom and my younger brother's dad were away. Mr. Bill had become a really important person in my life, His moral compass pushed me to grow up as a really well-structured person because he was the only constantly positive person in my life. After a couple months of knowing him I took him as a grandfather to me. I just learned of his passing today... I'm so torn apart over this and honestly was the worst timing... I last spent time with him around August but i continued to text him to check on him.. i had no idea what had happened, he still had some strength in him... I wish I got to see him one more time honestly. God Bless you, Mr. Bill you will always be family to me, God bless Anthony and the rest of your family. I know they are having such a hard time; I cant even imagine..

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Isis Montejo - December 19, 2020 at 07:59 PM

FA

“ Antony V, Renee, Phil V and family.

*I'm so sorry to hear about Uncle Bill's passing. So many happy and extremely funny memories of him at the house. Lots of laughter coming out of that place - always.*

*One memory in particular still stands out - when Phil Vivenzo got the very popular Soloflex machine with power-bands for resistance. Uncle Phil loaded it up to the max and without any effort at all began benching the entire machines capacity. We all (Anthony, Phil and I just looked at each other and erupted in laughter!!)*

*I remember laughing to tears as this very large man made child's work of this machine while the boys struggled with it.*

*Prayers are with you all. I hope the everyone is doing well these days. So many years have passed so quickly.*

*My best to you always.*

*Gootie and Family*

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Frank A Aurigema - October 16, 2020 at 09:50 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. William D. "Bill" LaFluer.



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September 19, 2020 at 12:55 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. William D. "Bill" LaFluer.*



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September 19, 2020 at 09:04 AM



“ *Rene' and Lisa, your dad (my Uncle Bill) was so kind and humble. A great man and great dad to you both... Every memory I have of him is great. He always offered to lend a hand... the kind of guy who would give you the shirt off his back. I wish I spent more time with him and was closer to all of you. Thank you for the amazing testimony of his life you shared. Truly honorable. It's times like these that we reflect on how short life is and how much more important relationships are than material things. He lived a full life and touched many, many people. Love you both. Phil LaFluer Jr*

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**PHILIP K LAFLUER JR** - September 18, 2020 at 07:15 PM



“ *Rene' and Lisa, we are so very sorry for your loss. We are thinking of you both and sending lots of love! He was my Uncle Bill and my mom's "pain in her ass". Lol He will be missed! My Dad and uncle Bill are together again and I'm sure already getting into trouble!! We have alot of wonderful memories. Love you both! We are sorry we will not be able to attend the services, but we will be thinking of you. Joanna and Aunt Joanne*



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**Joanna Sweeney** - September 18, 2020 at 03:57 PM

AL

“ I will never forget how big of a heart Poppi had, Or his sincere love for all the twilight movies ❤️ and most of all the love he showed for everyone in his life. It was absolutely endless, and beautiful. He has made such an impact on both mine and my daughters life and will always be known as "Poppi" to us. He will always hold a special place in all our hearts now and forever. May he rest in peace. We love you popi always and forever, we'll never forget you.



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**Amber Lehner** - September 18, 2020 at 10:01 AM

TP

“ Rene, Lisa and Family,  
I am so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I know it will leave a void in all your lives and know you will get through it the best you can because that is what he would want. I can't tell you how grateful I am for the help Bill and your Family gave me getting Dick's estate settled. And I truly appreciate him checking up on me periodically especially because obviously he wasn't at full strength.  
It is so great that Dick and MaryAnn had such wonderful friends as Bill and Camille. From the outside looking in their friendship was beyond compare. Dick and Bill's friendship only grew as they looked out for each other after losing their Wives. I know most of us have good friends, but I am very thankful my Brother had such a friend as Bill. Bill was quite a guy and hopefully his spirit will live on through the Family.  
Many Prayers to You all as You go through this difficult time,  
Tim Phillips

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**Tim Phillips** - September 17, 2020 at 12:28 PM

KB

“ *Rene' and Lisa - Our sincere condolences to you and your families. Uncle Bill was a wonderful man and I will never forget how he took such great care of Aunt Camille when she was ill. His kindness, warmth and easy-going nature is something that I will always remember.*

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**Karen Burton** - September 17, 2020 at 08:09 AM