



William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.

November 22, 1954 - January 14, 2012

Mr. William R. "Bill" Willis, Jr., age 57, of North Utica, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, January 14, 2012 at the Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center with his loving family by his side.

Born in Utica on November 22, 1954, William was the son of William R. Willis, Sr. and the late Betty Jane (Jackson) Willis. Raised and educated locally, he attended T.R. Proctor High School. Bill married his high school sweetheart "Livy", the former Olivia M. Talerico, on September 21, 1974; they always stood by each other's side, were best of friends, and loving and supportive parents.

For over 30 years, Bill was dedicated to his profession as an independent transportation specialist as well as a driver for various local and long distance hauling companies. He had a passion for horses and an abiding appreciation of their wonders. Memories of this fun-loving, dedicated, and hardworking man will fill the hearts of his loved ones. Bill was always supportive and able to communicate his love to his family, and they were always first in his heart and mind. He also had the capacity to bring family and friends to his home to be together. He enjoyed watching old Western movies and recently dedicated much time to assisting his son as he established a local business.

Bill is survived by his wife, Livy; his daughter and son-in-law, Melissa A. and Daniel J. Corbett of N. Utica; his son, William R. Willis III; his father, William R. Willis, Sr.; and his step-grandchildren, Megan, and Danny Corbett, all of N. Utica. In addition, he leaves his aunts, uncles, cousins, and many loyal and

longtime friends, including George and Bonnie Hazard, Vaughn and Karen Lewis, Dave Taylor, and Jim and Connie Davis. He was predeceased by his maternal grandparents, Henry and Anna Jackson; and his in-laws, Vincent and Katherine Talerico.

The family extends deep appreciation to the entire Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare Center especially the 6th floor staff for the outstanding care and accommodation offered to Bill as well as his family.

Visitation will be held Tuesday from 5:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. By family request, please omit floral offerings. William's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Wednesday morning at 10:00 from the funeral home and at 11:00 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where his Mass of Christian Burial will be offered by Rev. James Cesta.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

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

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Service

JAN 18. 10:00 AM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com
<https://www.eannacefuneralhome.com>

Service

JAN 18. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish
648 Jay Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 735-1482
<https://www.mountcarmelblessedsacrament.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - January 14, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Livy So sorry about Billy We were going to come today but Dick has a terrible cold and is not feeling well. We love you and are thinking of you all and I will give you a call at a later date. Take care sweetheart love Dick and Sue Williams

Dick and Sue Williams - January 18, 2012 at 05:46 AM



“ Gretchen Crandall lit a candle in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.



gretchen crandall - January 16, 2012 at 06:10 PM



“ *CAROL SPRINGER lit a candle in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.*



CAROL SPRINGER - January 16, 2012 at 06:10 PM

CS

“ *CAROL SPRINGER lit a candle in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.*



CAROL SPRINGER - January 16, 2012 at 06:08 PM

VR

“ *Livy, Melissa and Billy,*

I am truly sorry for your loss. Aunt Katie, Mary Angela, Jackie and Mary also send their prayers and sympathies. I am sure Bill will be missed dearly. We are all thinking of you.

Vicky Rakowski

Vicky Rakowski - January 16, 2012 at 12:23 PM

SW

“ *Shelly Withers lit a candle in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.*



Shelly Withers - January 16, 2012 at 10:19 AM

SW

Liv, Melissa and Billy....so sorry to hear for your loss. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Shelly Withers - January 16, 2012 at 10:19 AM

SD

“ *Willis Family,
We are so very sorry for your loss. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.
We knew Bill Jr as a great father, husband and son. It was an honor to know him and to know the entire Willis Family. He was a wonderful man and always so full of life and love for his family.
Our thoughts are with each one of you.
Love & Sympathy
Sean and Rachel Donnelly*

Sean and Rachel Donnelly - January 16, 2012 at 08:26 AM

KD

“ *Billy / Melissa & Family,
Although no words can really help to ease the loss you bear, just know that you are very close in every thought and prayer. Please let us know if there is anything you need.
Kimberly Donnelly & Family*



Kim Donnelly - January 16, 2012 at 12:12 AM

MT

“ *Livie and family
Our thoughts and love are with you all. Dominick stills tells the stories about Bill picking him up from school and oops I better stop that memory story there. We love you Livie and please give the kids a hug. Our thoughts are also with Bill Sr. We still cant believe it.*

*Love,
Dominick and Mauri*

Mauri Talerico - January 15, 2012 at 09:02 PM

AS

“ *Arlene Shaffer lit a candle in memory of
William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.*



arlene shaffer - January 15, 2012 at 07:51 PM

GC

“ *Melissa and family...
I am so sorry for your loss. Thinking of you
and sending prayers to you all at this difficult
time.
All our Love
Gina and Pat Corridori*



Gina Corridori - January 15, 2012 at 07:50 PM

BR

“ *Great guy*

brandon - January 15, 2012 at 07:46 PM



“ To Livy and Family, I am very sorry for your loss. Bill was such a nice and helpful man to my Daughter Juliana and I. I know my step dad(Vaughan) is going to miss him dearly. My prayers go out to your Family

Kristina Macri - January 15, 2012 at 12:44 PM



“ Kristina Macri lit a candle in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.



Kristina Macri - January 15, 2012 at 12:42 PM

VL

“ Bill has been a friend of mine for 35 years, we were in the same transportation business. He was loyal and dedicated to me as I was to him. I can't believe that he is no longer with us. I will miss his laughter, his professional advice and all of our long conversations. My heart goes out to his wonderful family.
Vaughan Lewis

Vaughan Lewis - January 15, 2012 at 01:58 AM

KM

“ Karen Macri lit a candle in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.



Karen Macri - January 15, 2012 at 01:50 AM

VL

“ Vaughan Lewis lit a candle in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.



Vaughan Lewis - January 15, 2012 at 01:49 AM



“ Ed_crandall@yahoo.com lit a candle in memory of William R. "Bill" Willis Jr.



ed_crandall@yahoo.com - January 14, 2012 at 05:03 PM