



William Edward Bailey

November 18, 1947 - September 15, 2021

William Edward (Bill) Bailey, of Oakford, passed away on September 15, 2021, at Memorial Hospital in Springfield after a long and courageous battle with multiple sclerosis (MS). He was born November 18, 1947, in Springfield, Illinois to Matthew Thomas and Isabel Pedigo Bailey.

William grew up in Oakford, Illinois, and graduated from Petersburg Porta High School in 1965. He proudly served in the United States Army from June 1967 to June 1969 and was a veteran of the Vietnam War. After his discharge from the Army, he was employed by Oscar Mayer in Beardstown.

He married Kathleen Blair Lynn of Chandlerville, Illinois, in a private ceremony at her parents' home on December 14, 1970. In December 2020, Bill and Kathleen celebrated their 50th anniversary "COVID-style" – six feet apart.

Bill had many loves, but topping the list was horse racing; he spent many afternoons and evenings enjoying the thrill of trying to pick a winner. He was also an avid sports fan and especially enjoyed the St. Louis Cardinals. He enjoyed music and was known to always have an eclectic mix of songs playing. He enjoyed fishing and often told stories of the Big Catch. Later in life, he was a proud fan of his granddaughters in their various sports and activities.

Bill is survived by his wife Kathleen; his son Bart (Becky) of Petersburg; two

granddaughters, Brice Bailey and Bren Bailey, both of Petersburg; his sister Mary Ann Duncheon (Jerry Behrens) of Oakford; his nieces Julie (Roy) Cook and Phoebe Crowe; and his nephews Matthew (Becky) Duncheon and Phil Thomas.

Per Bill's wishes, cremation rites will be accorded and there will be no formal services.

Memorials may be made to the Porta High School girls basketball program, 1500 Owens Avenue, Petersburg, Illinois 62672. Condolences may be sent to Kathleen Bailey, c/o Heritage Health, 900 North Rutledge Street, Springfield, Illinois 62702.

Tribute Wall



“ *William Edward Bailey*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Kathleen, so sorry to hear about Bill. I was informed of his passing from Lana Winklemann Grothe today after I continued to receive no responses to emails I sent him during the summer.*

I grew up with Bill in Oakford until I reached seventh grade then our family (Jaeger) moved to Springfield never to be heard of again ! And then, about six years ago, while playing tennis, I got a phone call from Bill who had reached out to me after doing much investigation as to how to contact me.

During the last six years Bill and I communicated numerous times each month and through him I relived my Oakford childhood along with sharing our Military experiences.

Unfortunately, I had a feeling that something bad was happening for while vacationing this June through September I kept sending emails with confusing or no responses.

I was hoping that his health issues was getting addressed by the VA and that getting the mechanized wheel chair would him enjoy life.

I will miss chatting with Bill, he was a good friend, good person and a great American.

Bill's friend Bob Jaeger

Email: Bobjaegeraz@gmail.com

Bob Jaeger - October 13, 2021 at 09:34 PM

JH

“ Bill will always be remembered by Clint and I with a smile. He was such a funny guy and could talk a mile a minute. We would listen hard trying to catch it all. We shared many good times with Bill and Kathleen when we were all newlyweds in Oakford. I find it wonderful that the Cardinals are on a winning streak and am sure it is in honor of Bill-the true Cardinal fan. Rest in peace, old pal. You will be missed. Clint and Judy Hurdle

Judy Hurdle - September 21, 2021 at 06:17 PM

AS

“ So sorry for your loss. Deepest sympathy to all.
Sincerely, Anita Leinberger Stephans

Anita Stephans - September 21, 2021 at 08:38 AM

KS

“ Kathleen sorry for your loss ❤️

Karen Spears - September 21, 2021 at 07:43 AM

ES

“ Ellen Standish lit a candle in memory of
William Edward Bailey



Ellen Standish - September 19, 2021 at 01:06 PM

SB

“ Kathleen and family: The Class of 1965 is very saddened to hear of Bill's passing.
At the same time we know that he suffered long and fought very hard to overcome the health issues he faced. Bill was one of our favorite guys. He always kept us laughing.
We will miss him .
Sharon (Lounsberry) Barnhill

Sharon Barnhill - September 18, 2021 at 07:59 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Edward Bailey.



September 18, 2021 at 04:25 PM

BH

“ Barbara Tibbs Haynie lit a candle in memory of William Edward Bailey



Barbara Tibbs Haynie - September 18, 2021 at 12:31 PM

JH

“ Kathleen and Family;
Thinking of you and your family in this time of sorrow. May your memories bring you comfort and peace.
Judy Hollis

Judy Hollis - September 17, 2021 at 08:19 AM

JH

“ Kathleen, so sorry for your loss.

Jeanne Hogg

Jeanne Hogg - September 16, 2021 at 10:29 AM

LH

“ Larry And Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of William Edward Bailey



Larry and Mary Hundt - September 16, 2021 at 08:24 AM

BL

“ Kathleen and Family,
Bill and I grew up together in Oakford. We had a load of fun times and a few times we caused some folks a little grief. Nothing major but grief none the less. We've been friends since around 1957-58. We were both Vietnam veterans and we discussed that quite often. The last year and a half, I tried to visit with him but wasn't allowed because of the COVID pandemic. May God bless you and mat God rest his soul. He has spent his time in Hell.

Bob Lynn - September 15, 2021 at 07:40 PM

JB

“ So sorry Kathleen - my deepest condolences to you and your family
—Jo Braden

Jo Brden - September 15, 2021 at 05:53 PM

KB

*Sorry about your loss I worked with Bill for 18 years at oscar Mayer
Ken brue family*

kenneth Brue - September 17, 2021 at 09:46 PM