



William "Billy" Michael Costello

January 16, 1944 - January 5, 2021

William "Billy" Costello 1944-2021

PETERSBURG, IL--

William "Billy" Michael Costello of Petersburg, lover of stories and jokes, parties, people, pizza and pubs, passed away into eternal life January 5, 2021, at Memorial Hospital in Springfield, Illinois. His wife Jan was by his side.

Billy was born in Jacksonville, Illinois, on January 16, 1944, to James M. and Agnes E. O'Connell Costello. He was the youngest of five children. His brother Frank preceded him in death as did his parents. Survivors include his wife Janet "Jan" Grosboll Costello whom Billy declared was "prettier than a speckled bird dog pup," his daughter Monica Prince, brother Jim (Ruth) Costello, sister Dodie (Dallas) Ingemunson, and brother Johnny (Carol) Costello, and many beloved nieces and nephews representing three generations.

Forever proud of Jacksonville and his Irish heritage, Billy attended Routt High School and lived and worked in Jacksonville for the next 40 years. His running dialogue of jokes, his fantastic memory, his love of people, and his determination to provide the best service made him a customer favorite at Myers Brothers and Lukeman's where he worked nearly thirty years.

The dapper Irishman with the “smiling blue eyes and the pocket square” then took his sales and marketing skills to the State of Illinois where he worked a decade at Correctional Industries prior to his retirement.

A passionate guy, you always knew how Billy felt about most everything. He often made mention that the best thing he ever did was to marry the love of his life, Jan nearly 40 years ago. His outgoing nature made for lively discussion and strong opinions. It was great when you were on the same page, but it eventually worked out fine even if you weren't! He treasured his family and friends above all.

He loved reunions of every kind and looked forward to all of them—the long week-end Costello reunion in July, the Grosboll reunions in Las Vegas—and in Jacksonville, the Routt reunions and the gatherings of good friends at Don's Place. He loved cars, as well as camping both close by and far away. He and Jan loved their snow dogs, Cheyenne and Brennan. Billy loved the twist, the jitterbug, Frank Sinatra, and Bobby Darin. He loved the Cubs and the Bears. He loved playing euchre and solitaire. He loved watching the news and sports of all kinds, as well as western movies, World War II movies and history and nature shows. Kind, thoughtful, insightful and caring, he made everyone feel loved and appreciated. Billy loved life and he always made us laugh. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, and many will be raising a glass to him with a toast.

A graveside service will be held at Oakland Cemetery in Petersburg on January 16, 2021 (his Birthday), at 2:00 p.m. with Pastor Stephanie McCullough officiating. Al Grosboll will share remembrances, Mary Kate Smith will sing one of Billy's favorite songs, and Damian Zimmerman will conclude with a bagpipe farewell tribute. Due to the pandemic, we ask that everyone practice social distancing and wear a protective face covering if you attend the graveside service. Cremation rites were accorded by Hurley Funeral Home.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Petersburg Rural Fire Department, 18480 IL-97, Petersburg Illinois 62675, Menard County EMS, 19072 IL-123, Petersburg, IL 62675, or Routt Catholic High School, 500 E. College Ave., Jacksonville, IL 62650. Please visit hurleyfh.com to leave online condolences and share memories.

Cemetery Details

Oakland Cemetery

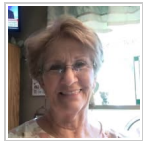
Petersburg, IL

Tribute Wall



“ *William "Billy" Michael Costello*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Jan and family - Jan, I am so sorry! I just ran across this online and before, had not known. I'm thinking of you. Please know that. ❤️❤️*

Deborah Price-Schrowang - January 16, 2021 at 01:10 PM



“ *The world lost a great guy. Bill brought such fun & energy just being in the same room. I met him when my buddy Rod Heriford worked with him at Lukemans. Wow late 70's. I'll always remember his smile and wink. May he rest in peace. God bless Jan.*

Steve Sturgeon - January 15, 2021 at 08:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William "Billy" Michael Costello.*



January 15, 2021 at 03:55 PM



“ *Great memories of Billy. He had the best smile and made everyone laugh and feel at home. So sorry for your loss, Jan. His obituary captured his personality and life perfectly.*

Natalie Mitchell - January 13, 2021 at 06:19 PM

NF

“ Nancy/Ryan, Snopkos, Mitchells, Grosboll family purchased the Infinite Love for the family of William "Billy" Michael Costello.



Nancy/Ryan, Snopkos, Mitchells, Grosboll family - January 13, 2021 at 06:08 PM

JC

“ Billy Costello always brought a smile to our faces. He took great care in making the Chipman men and the Williams men look dapper. Please know, Jan, of our prayers for you at this tender time as we remember how you were there for us. Bill knew how to find the sweetness of life and enjoy it. May we do the same...Grace and peace, Janet and Bob Chipman

Janet W. Chipman - January 11, 2021 at 08:29 PM

TC

“ What a life force Billy Costello was! I will always remember his inimitable presence and style when I would accompany my father and grandfather, Bob and Bill, in Lukeman's on the Jacksonville Square. I really appreciated Bill's well-written obituary which captures his essence to a tee. Grace and Peace, Tim Chipman

Timothy Chipman - January 10, 2021 at 01:42 PM

CG

“ Dear Jan, John and I send our love and prayers to you. So sorry to hear of your sweet husband's passing.

Cindy and John Godbey - January 09, 2021 at 07:44 PM

WD

“ Our condolences Jan and Family. Many many years ago Bill and I were connected at the hip. We worked and played together. We laughed, joked, and cried together. We shared so much and I will never forget the friendship. May he Rest In Peace, Amen.

William Danner - January 09, 2021 at 01:24 PM

JG

“ A good and gracious man who lived life to its fullest. My deepest sympathies.
-Julie Zook Gerke

Julie Zook Gerke - January 09, 2021 at 12:16 PM

SL

“ It is all about the journey. And what a journey Billy had. Remembering his delightful antics will always make us smile. Rest in Peace, friend to all. Our deepest sympathy goes out to you all who were fortunate to have known him. God bless Jan, Jimmy and Johnny and families. Bob and Sue Large

Susan Large - January 08, 2021 at 09:04 PM

JS

“ Jan, sorry to hear this news. Please accept our condolences and prayers for you. May God be with you.

John & Norma Stiltz

John & Norma Stiltz - January 07, 2021 at 05:49 PM

MR

Jan, so sorry to hear this; sending sympathy and prayers for you and your family.

Mabel Ruppel - January 08, 2021 at 10:37 AM

DI

Oh, Billy—You are going to SO missed by ALL the Ingemunsons. Our love and deep sympathy to you, Jan. You are his heroine.
Dallas and Dodie

dodie ingemunson - January 08, 2021 at 01:11 PM

KC

Jan, just received the news from Dodie. Patricia and I are praying for Bill, you and the entire family. He was the life of the party; such a fun-loving man who loved people. And foremost was his adoration of you. May he rest in peace - the "Costello Reunion" in heaven just gained a master jokester!!

Karl Costello - January 08, 2021 at 01:54 PM

PN

Our condolences Jan. Prayers and thoughts are with you and family at this time of loss. Bill was an upbeat guy. He will be missed. May God's comfort be with you.

Paul and Jan Ninmer - January 08, 2021 at 08:20 PM

DB

Jan- so sorry to hear about Billy... always enjoyed my times with him... our thoughts and prayers are with you

Dan Beard - January 09, 2021 at 09:29 AM

SG

Jan, I am so sorry to hear of your loss! Take care of yourself!

Sandra Goodner - January 09, 2021 at 06:01 PM

JD

With sympathy to Jan and Bill's many friends and family.

Joe & Becky Dewees - January 09, 2021 at 08:18 PM

DP

Jan, so sorry for the loss of your beloved husband. Our prayers will be said for you and your family. Take care! Deb Pilapil and family

Deborah Pilapil - January 09, 2021 at 09:06 PM

DS

Jan I'm very sorry to hear about Billy. You and he are in my prayers. His obituary is spot on.

Dan Spillane

Dan Spillane - January 11, 2021 at 10:36 AM

KM

Jan, Uncle Billy is already so missed. I recall so fondly how his eyes would light up when he would talk about you; no matter the subject! You captured him beautifully and perfectly in his obituary - he was one of a kind in all the best ways. We love you and are keeping you in our hearts. Kathy, Gene, Jack, Annie, Erin and Patrick

Kathleen Madigan - January 11, 2021 at 08:17 PM