



## Mr. William "Bill" Nowlin

May 22, 1940 - April 12, 2023

### WILLIAM RAY NOWLIN

"Bill" Nowlin, beloved husband, father, and grandfather died Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at O.S.F Hospital in Peoria. He was 82 years old.

He was born on May 22, 1940 in St. Louis, MO, and adopted by parents Rev. Ray S. and Cheryl (Babcook) Nowlin who preceded him in death.

His favorite childhood memories were of fishing with his grandpa and his dad. He graduated from Clinton High School and went on to attend Greenville College and Western Illinois University. Due to a medical condition he was exempt from serving in the military.

In 1963, he married the love of his life Teresa, who survives. They would have celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this July. They had two daughters, Lori (Bill) Canada, and Wendy VonBoeckman both of Manito. Bill's pride and joy were his 3 grandsons, Bo and Alex Canada, and Brandon VonBoeckman, all of Manito.

He is also survived by his sister-in-law Jacqueline Rebman of Rushville, IL and brother-in-law Tim (Linda) Pazara of Channahon, IL.

Bill first worked as a cottage parent in the boy's unit of the Illinois Soldiers and

Sailors home in Normal, IL. Bill later worked as a part time Deputy and Communication officer in the Schuyler County Sheriff's Department while also starting work with Caterpillar Inc. Bill retired from Caterpillar after 35 years most recently working as an Operations Consultant/ Technical Analyst in the Equipment and Attachments Division.

Bill's favorite pastimes were various. He enjoyed fishing at Springlake, listening to music, doing yard work, and spending time with his family. His real passion was being an amateur (ham) radio operator. He developed an interest in amateur radios and received his first amateur radio license at age 16. He was proud of the fact that he was able to make amateur radio contact with every country in the world as per confirmation by the DX Century Club. He also used his radio communication skills to assist with local Emergency Services and Disaster Agencies. He remained an active member in E.S.D.A for 45 years, 5 of those as Director in Tazewell County, during which time he was instrumental in securing the purchase of a mobile Unified Command Post vehicle based in Tazewell county and serving 5 other counties. In cooperation with F.E.M.A. Bill as well as others volunteered to travel to New Orleans for several weeks after Hurricane Katrina to provide the vehicle and their services for communication needs.

Bill died peacefully surrounded by his loving family. As per his request, cremation rites have been accorded and there will be a private family memorial service at a later date.

Maas-Hurley Funeral Home in Manito is in charge of arrangements. His family requests any memorial contributions be made in Bill's honor to the American Red Cross or charity of the donor's choice. Online condolences can be left at [www.hurleyfh.com](http://www.hurleyfh.com)

He will be dearly missed by all...



# Tribute Wall

BD

“ I was so surprised & sad to learn that Bill had passed away! I worked with him for many years as well as with his daughter. I always enjoyed talking with Bill & had hoped to stay in touch after I retired but didn't follow-up. I am so sorry that I didn't! Bill was a special person who was always so nice to me in my years at Caterpillar. Will always remember with a smile & so glad that I knew him! May glad bless his family & know how much I enjoyed working with Bill for those years! God bless!

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**Betsy Detrick** - July 17, 2025 at 10:32 AM

AS

“ Lori,  
I'm sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. I'm thinking of you and yours. Angela (Knuppel) Shatz

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**Angela Shatz** - April 28, 2023 at 09:23 AM

DW

“ First, I am so sorry for your loss. From the many years I worked with Bill on EMA and ESDA, I am pleased to call him a friend. He always encouraged others. He made them feel like their contribution made a difference. He was funny and a joy to be around. He thought the world of his wife and daughters and grandchildren. Lifting you all up in prayers.

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**Dee Wilson** - April 21, 2023 at 04:34 PM

TW

“ My deepest sympathy goes out to the family. Met Bill at Tazewell County EMA. Worked closely with him on several projects and call outs. Will definitely be missed. Terry and Dee Wilson, Hopedale II.

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**Terry Wilson** - April 21, 2023 at 12:57 PM

JF

“ So sorry for the loss of your family and my friend....Bill was a great person and leader for Tazewell Co ESDA.....RIP my friend....

Jim Frost - April 21, 2023 at 11:07 AM

MB

“ Lori and family,  
Was so sorry to read about your father's passing. I will keep you and he in my prayers. May God lift you up during this difficult time.  
Mary Pat (Fletcher) Bares

Mary P. Bares - April 19, 2023 at 01:09 PM

LH

“ Larry And Mary Hundt sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. William "Bill" Nowlin



Larry and Mary Hundt - April 19, 2023 at 08:29 AM



“ My deepest sympathies to you, Lori and your family. I remembering staying at your house when we were younger and both you parents were always so friendly and a bit mischievous. Prayers and hugs to you.



Karen Himmel - April 19, 2023 at 07:53 AM

NR

So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. He was a very good man. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family

Neal Ragan - April 21, 2023 at 05:37 PM

LC

*Thank you Karen*

**Lori Canada** - May 02, 2023 at 10:09 AM

MH

“ *Mary Herring lit a candle in memory of Mr. William "Bill" Nowlin*



**Mary Herring** - April 18, 2023 at 10:54 PM

CC

“ *Cheryl Cockerham lit a candle in memory of Mr. William "Bill" Nowlin*



**Cheryl Cockerham** - April 18, 2023 at 10:42 PM

RW

“ *Bill n Teresa was our neighbors in manito. Bill was a very nice man that loved his wife n girls when our kids grew up. He always smiled that smile that made me wonder what he was going to say next. I'm sure his wife n family will miss him greatly but he is so much better off then us. Rest in Peace Bill*

**Rae Wheeler** - April 18, 2023 at 09:03 PM

DW

“ Sorry for your loss Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family 🙏



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**Dan and Chris Wilson** - April 18, 2023 at 08:42 PM

KS

“ Your all in my thoughts and prayers Bill was a great guy..I love you all



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**kathryn smart** - April 18, 2023 at 08:25 PM

LA

“ 73's & 88 to you dad (WA9DKO)



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**Lori Ann** - April 18, 2023 at 07:55 PM

DE

“ Oh so many years ago in the mid 60's, Bill was a hoot to be around! One night in particular was when him & Teresa & Lori were visiting us for the weekend at the Schuyler County jail, myself & a few friends decided to have a few drinks. Just teenagers experimenting! Oh boy! Bill stuck around to keep an eye on us. We had fun until we woke up the next day. 🙄 Sorry for the long story, but I always loved to see them. I liked having “older sisters”! Bill will be missed & remembered at the same time. You are all in my thoughts. Dianne Emerick



Dianne Emerick - April 18, 2023 at 07:24 PM

LC

Thank you Dianne 💕💕

Lori Canada - May 02, 2023 at 10:09 AM