



# **William (Bill) E. Watkins Jr.**

FEB 2, 1938 - SEP 29, 2019



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## **William (Bill) E. Watkins Jr.**

FEB 2, 1938 - SEP 29, 2019

**W**illiam Ernest Watkins, Jr. was born on February 2nd, 1938 in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania to William and Helen Watkins. Soon after, Bill, his parents and his sister Anne moved to a farm in Connecticut where Bill developed his love of horses. At the age of six, the family moved to Towson, Maryland. One of Bill's fondest memories was riding his motorcycle through Towson High School in the year prior to his graduation from there. Along with riding motorcycles, Bill also got interested in building and driving go carts. At the age of 16, Bill went to work for International Harvester, in Baltimore, with his father where he honed his machinist skills.

His love of go carts led the way for Bill to build and race cars at local dirt tracks in and around Maryland. In 1967, Bill sold the engine of his race car in order to build the shell of the house he built in Cape St. Claire Maryland. Around the same time, Bill started working at Westinghouse in the Aerospace Division in Linthicum. After 10 years there, he transferred to the Oceanic Division at the Bay Bridge location in Annapolis.

During his time in the Oceanic Division, he was instrumental in the building, testing and the deployment of the Deep Star 2000 which was a 2 man sub used to place flow meters on the axis in New York harbor. Bill continued to work for Westinghouse until 1978 when he broke his back at work. While recuperating, Bill opened the Captain's Catch Seafood House on the outskirts of Cape St. Claire. In the late 70's, while serving as foreman for Dick Rice and Rice Builders, Bill moved onto overseeing the construction of 100+ homes in the community now known as Atlantis in Annapolis, MD.

Bill then moved onto the Bay Hills Golf Course as head groundskeeper. After a couple of years, Bill went to work for Anne Arundel County as a contracted maintenance person. Bill would eventually retire from the County as an inspector with Buildings and Permits. Throughout all of his working endeavors, Bill developed a variety of (including playing with Johnny Cash at the



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Uline Arena in Washington DC and with Ronnie Dove at local establishments), playing pool and owning a boat. Bill built his own radio controlled airplanes which led to earning his pilot's license and purchasing his own plane.

In the 70's, Bill coached little league football in the Cape. Bill was a long time Baltimore Colts and Ravens fan. Bill spent 5 years as an EMT at Company 19, Cape St. Claire Fire Department. Bill was instrumental in building a sound proof wall at Anne Arundel Fish and Game where he was life time member. Bill was also a life member with Elks Lodge # 622 in Annapolis, MD.

Bill is survived by his wife of 43 years, Judith Lynn (nee. Seipp), daughters Deborah Hayes, Barbara Luckham and Tracey Watkins (David Lomboy), grandchildren Robert Manning, Christopher Manning(Dana Manning), Jennifer Manning, Brandon Luckham (Tatum Schumann), Joshua Luckham, Hunter Lomboy (Jasmine Lilly) and Matthew Hayes, great-granddaughter, Sophia Lomboy, Sister and brother – in – law, Anne and Fred Sauerbrey and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and his daughter, Cheryl.

Residing in the same house that he built in 1967, Bill passed away at his home on Sunday September 29, 2019 after a lengthy illness.




# Events


**William (Bill) E. Watkins Jr.**

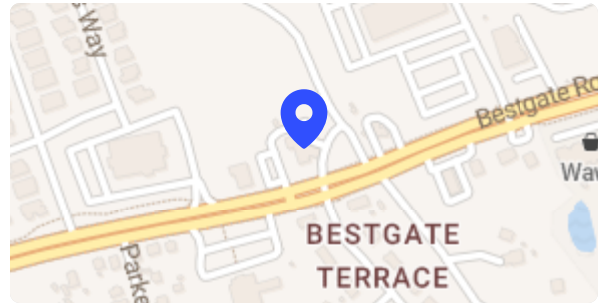
FEB 2, 1938 - SEP 29, 2019

## Viewing

 **Saturday**, October 5, 2019


 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM ET


 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**  
814 Bestgate Rd, Annapolis MD 21401



## Funeral

 **Saturday**, October 5, 2019

 2:00 PM ET

 **Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care**  
814 Bestgate Rd, Annapolis MD 21401





## Tribute Wall

**William (Bill) E. Watkins Jr.**

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**Anonymous** sent an A Full Life to the Watkins family.

October 4 at 5:52 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Watkins family.

October 3 at 11:48 AM



**Alfred C. Sauerbrey** posted:

When Bill was a teenager, his family lived in a row house in Baynesville, MD. Next door lived the Proudfoots, a family with four children. The Proudfoots still remember a bizarre incident involving Bill and his older sister, Anne, when they were teenagers. One evening the Proudfoots were all enjoying a quiet dinner when all of a sudden their front door flew open. Anne came running into their house yelling, "Don't let him touch me! Don't let him touch me!" She ran through the living room, through the dining room where the family was eating, through the kitchen, and out the back door, all the while yelling, "Don't let him touch me!" Right behind her came Bill trying to catch her, likewise running straight through the house and out the back door. Then all was quiet again. The Proudfoots never learned what it was all about or how it ended up, but they never stopped laughing about it. Fred Sauerbrey, Husband of Anne, Brother-In-Law of Bill Rest in peace, my wonderful Brother-In-Law

October 3 at 7:16 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Pretty Please to the Watkins family.

October 2 at 6:40 PM





# Tribute Wall

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**Anne W. Sauerbrey** posted:

The best of the younger life of my brother Bill ("Billy" to me) was five years in Orange, CT on the farm bailing hay and making forts with bails of hay, playing croquet and badminton, and biking the country roads. We began our week with loads of worship and activity at the Orange Congregational Church. Our Dad was Sunday School Superintendent and Mom was a Sunday School teacher. Billy and I attended weekly softball games where Dad was the pitcher for his company's team. He frequently took us to the beach close by on Long Island Sound. Billy and I were active in Four-H Club; he won ribbons with our family garden produce in the annual fair, along with Mom's canned produce. Dancing class every Friday evening was a special time, followed by square dancing every Saturday. Billy had a lucrative country paper route enabling him to own a horse. There was a leaning water tower that mom warned us to stay away from because it was ready to topple (1945 - 1950). The tower still stands today and we warn our own children and grandchildren to stay away from it when we visit the old neighborhood. Anne Watkins Sauerbrey  
Sister of Bill

October 2 at 12:55 PM



**Anne & Fred Sauerbrey (Sister & Brother-In-Law)** sent a Divine Peace Bouquet to the Watkins family.



October 2 at 12:15 PM



**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Watkins family.



October 1 at 1:29 PM



**Ron Fleischmann** posted:

Bill was fun to be around. I was his neighbor when he lived in Riviera Beach & was building his race cars. "Wild Bill Watkins" as he was known on the racing circuit, would let the younger guys in the neighborhood to help him ready his cars for the weekend race. I say race (one race) because he usually only entered one race & wrecked & then trailers his car home to start the rebuild on Monday. I lost track of Bill after he moved to Cape St. Claire, but many years later he showed up at my home to inspect an addition I was building. I pray for Bill's family to have faith that he is good hands now even though he will be tremendously missed.

September 30 at 5:16 PM



## Tribute Wall

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**Anonymous** sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Watkins family.



September 30 at 1:40 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William (Bill) by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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