

William Benjamin Harrell, III

William Benjamin Harrell, III

Virginia Beach, VA

12.14.1941 - 04.14.2017

Birthplace: Suffolk, VA

Served in the : Marines

William Benjamin Harrell III, "Wild Bill", 75 passed away on April 14, 2017. Born in Suffolk, VA on December 14, 1941, he was the son of the late William B. Harrell, Jr. and Kathryn Baines Harrell. He was preceded in death by his infant son William B. Harrell IV and older sister Miriam E. Beale.

He graduated from Suffolk High School, Class of 1960. He was active in Boy Scouts and achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. He was noted for his athleticism and was a member of the school's football team. He loved to play tennis.

He joined the US marine Corp and was honorably discharged in March of 1965. He was owner of Harrell Electric Co for over 50 years. He was a Master Electrician with a Class A, Building, Electric, and Gas contractor license.

He belonged to Suffolk Jaycees where he was responsible for initiating the first Miss Suffolk, VA pageant. He was also a member of the Suffolk Kiwanis and Merrimac Kiwanis Clubs. He served as President in each of those organizations. Bill was a past Lt. Governor in Kiwanis. He was also a member of Main St. United Methodist Church in Suffolk, VA.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 13 years Mary Ann Thrasher-Harrell, three children Debbie H. Kennedy and husband John, Connie H. Schau and husband Ray, and William E. Harrell and wife Lorna and seven grandchildren Samuel Kennedy, Jacob Kennedy, Kathryn Schau, Logan Harrell, Ryland Harrell, and Jillian Harrell; sister Linda Harrell Oates and husband Ron; former wife and mother of his children Elizabeth Dare Harrell; and nieces and nephews Kathy Parzygnat and husband Mark, Nancy Oates, Howard Patrick Beale, Jr., Kaye Beale Hewitt, and Michael Beale.

A memorial service will be conducted at Main Street United Methodist Church on Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at 1 PM by Rev. Myrtle F. Hatcher. Burial will follow in Cedar Hill Cemetery. The family will receive friends in the R.W. Baker & Co. Funeral Home and Crematory, 509 W. Washington St. Suffolk on Tuesday from 6 to 7:30 PM. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Caring Voice Coalition, 8249 Meadowbridge Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116. Condolences may be registered at RWBakerFH.com

Service

Wednesday, April 19, 2017 - 01:00pm
Main Street United Methodist Church
202 N. Main St.
Suffolk, VA 23434
United States

Visitation

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 - 06:00pm
R.W. Baker & Co.
509 W. Washington St.
Suffolk, VA 23434
United States

Charities

Caring Voice Coalition
8249 Meadowbridge Road
Mechanicsville, VA 23116
United States

Guestbook

Holt Livesay

Sun, 04/16/2017 -
08:13pm

Doggone, Billy. We'll miss you, Buddy. Sorry to see you go, but know you've had some tough times the last few years.

Holt Livesay

KG

Mon, 04/17/2017 -
08:19am

With love and support for the family from a coworker of Willie, who is a fantastic person to know, and so much of that comes from having wonderful parents.

KG

Doug Kennedy

Mon, 04/17/2017 -
09:45pm

What a wonderful man whose legacy will live on in his children and grandchildren. Like so many, my life was enriched by knowing him.

Doug Kennedy

Randy Betz

Tue, 04/18/2017 -
11:56am

I will miss Billy. The knowledge and skills I acquired working with Billy during those few months in 1980 helped me in my career and eventually enabled me to help skilled trade employees and job seekers.

Randy Betz

Donna Riley

Tue, 04/18/2017 -
12:29pm

Maryann, Debbie, Connie, Willie, Bette and the entire Harrell Clan.....I am so very sorry for your loss. Bill was a wonderful fellow who enriched many lives. I know you will all miss him so very much, but he will live on forever in your hearts. There are no words of comfort at this time, but as time goes on you'll remember all the wonderful memories you share. Hold tight to one another for now and know Bill his shining down on all of you. Hugs Donna

Donna Riley

Steve Dawkins

**Tue, 04/18/2017 -
12:59pm**

"Uncle Bill", we will all miss you. You always brightened my day when you stopped by our office for a visit. You have the knack for making people smile. Rest in peace, my friend.

Steve Dawkins

Bill Bradshaw

**Tue, 04/18/2017 -
01:59pm**

Although it has been a while since I last spoke to Billy, I still have great memories of a time when we were neighbors. He was one of those rare people in life who would cause you to smile as soon as the conversation started, and when it finished you were probably laughing out loud. We worked together for a short time, and to this day I'll share some of those crazy work stories to other people who may have known him as well. I don't believe I ever met another man who enjoyed life as much as Billy. But his love of life was a distant second to his love of family. No man ever loved his children more than Billy loved his. To Debbie, Connie and Willie, I'm so sorry for the loss of your dad. But I hope you can take solace in the fact that he will be remembered as one of those guys that everyone liked, made everyone smile, and left everyone he touched with memories they'll never forget.

Bill Bradshaw

Joe Buchanan

**Tue, 04/18/2017 -
01:59pm**

I worked at a BSA camp with Bill and was associated with his father and his sister. A marvelous family and great memories of those years.

Joe Buchanan

Martha Garratt Boone

**Tue, 04/18/2017 -
04:19pm**

Debbie, Connie, and Willie,
I was sad to hear of your Dad's passing. I have many happy memories of our growing up years on Brewer Ave! I have been praying for all of you. I am sorry that I can't attend the service, but know my thoughts are with you all.

Martha Garratt Boone

Martha Garratt Boone

**Durwood & Carolyn
Scott**

**Tue, 04/18/2017 -
08:57pm**

Willie & Family: We are very sorry for your loss. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers at this sad time. May God Bless and be with each of you.

Durwood & Carolyn Scott

Ronald H. Williams

**Wed, 04/19/2017 -
09:27am**

Dear Harrell Family,
On behalf of the City Treasurer's Office, I want to extend to you our sincerest sympathy on the loss of Billy. I have many fond memories of "Wild Bill" and I will cherish them all. There are not enough words to describe Billy. He was always a pleasure to be around. He always had a smile on his face. I know that he will be missed greatly by his family and friends, but I know that he will always live on through the many memories that each of us have of him. Please know that you all are in our thoughts and prayers. Please find comfort in knowing that Billy is no longer suffering. He is in a better place.

Please let us know if we can be of assistance to you in anyway.

Sincerely,

Ronald H. Williams, Treasurer and Office Staff

Ronald H. Williams

**Virginia (Watford)
Cuff**

**Thu, 04/27/2017 -
07:57pm**

Debbie, Connie, and family,
Condolences in the loss of your dad. He was such a kind and comical man. I shall never forget the laughter, pep talks, and kindness shown to me during my tennis playing days. Please know that my husband, Elliott, and I are praying for you.

Virginia (Watford) Cuff



R.W. Baker & Company
Funeral Home and Crematory