



William "Bill" Gabriel

March 22, 1950 - May 9, 2019

GABRIEL, William D., "Bill", Age 69, died on May 9, 2019 at his home in Clinton Twp, MI.

Bill was born in Detroit, MI. He was the son of Catherine (Bunce) and the late Fiorino Gabriel. He graduated from Utica High School in 1968. He was retired from General Dynamics where he worked for 34 years.

He was an avid golfer and won the Macomb High School Invitational Tournament in 1968 scoring 77. He also played drums and sang in a band. He loved music forming a band in High School called the "Unforgiven". He continued to play after retirement with a couple members from the original band along with new members in the band known as "Nightfall". He was proud of his charitable work with Special Dreams Farm in New Baltimore, MI where he formerly served as Trustee.

He was loving friend and neighbor. He was forever giving small gifts, flowers, treats and chocolates to everyone he encountered on a regular basis at the places he frequented like, his mother's retirement home, the bank or the doctor's office. His true joy in life was to brighten someone's day and he strove to be regarded for bringing happiness to all he knew. He was thoughtful, loving, kind and giving.

He is survived by his daughter Jennifer Gabriel, his mother Cathy Bunce, his brother Charles (Diana) Gabriel, his sister Christine (Thomas) Havel and sister-in-law Carol Gabriel. He will be very dearly missed by his nieces Julie (Mark) McCaffrey, Kimberly (Ian) Bigsby, Nichole Havel, and his nephew

Michael (Julie) Havel along with his great niece and nephews: Lexi, Evan, Ryan and Garrett.

Visitation Friday May 17th 3-9pm. Funeral Saturday May 18th 11am at Wujek-Calcaterra & Sons 36900 Schoenherr at Metro Parkway (16 Mile Rd). Share memories with the family at their "On-Line Guest Book" @ WujekCalcaterra.com.

Tribute Wall

R“

“ my first job at a golf course was at Sunnybrook. Al Lopez was the head Pro and Billy Gabriel was his assistant. I was 15 years old. I lived at nine Mile in Van Dyke and every day after school. I drove my bicycle up to 17 and Van Dyke to work. Billy was always a real gentleman and a sweet little golf swing I'm so sad to hear his passing, rest well Billy

reynold gutz. “Butch” - May 13, 2025 at 03:14 PM

LH

“ I just got reunited with Bill while listening to the band Nightfall Rock. I remember him fondly from my youth when he was in a band with my brother Gene Ryan (Hoenicke) The Unforgiven. I also have great memories of his family. Thinking of his family and friends at this time of sadness. My prayers are with you.”

Lauri Ann Hoenicke - May 21, 2019 at 12:00 AM

GE

“ Bill, I was looking forward to hearing you (and the guys) play in July, when I'll be up from Florida for our high school reunion. Seems I'll have to postpone that for a while. Even though you're in that better place, we'll miss you greatly, cause "baby, baby, you got the feelin!""

Gene - May 17, 2019 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Jen sending our condolences. We are so sorry about your dad. You are in our thoughts and prayers. May your memories of Dad help ease your pain. Elaine Ciaramitaro, Jackie's mom”

Elaine Ciaramitaro - May 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *Brother Bill I can not explain how much I love you and will miss you. Ever since we were kids you and your sister were always the apple of my eye and you were my protector . You always stuck up for me. It was just who you were.*

The music and how much you loved those drums. Who knew that in the future you would be such a great musician. It all started with your first set of drums in the basement and it drove Mom crazy. Then Rocky show up at the front door and asked you to be the drummer for their band. That is when your music all got started. You will always be with me and the great songs that you sang.

One of the best things I ever did was let you and Nancy adopt Jennifer. You were such a great Dad and you both were the most wonderful parents that she could have ever had. The Daddy Daughter Dances, all the Dance Classes and you were always supportive of whatever she wanted to do. It didn't stop there many of her friends got what ever help you could do for them. It also extended out into the neighborhood when ever you could help in some way. You were always quite generous in helping out whenever you could.

Well you have now entered into the spiritual world that we had many discussions over. I know that you are with the Lord and our loved ones and I am sure it is a lot different then what we thought it would be like. I know the Lord is telling you what a good man you were and rewarding you for all the good things you did in this life. I look forward to being with the Lord and you in the near future. I will always love you and miss you until I come home to be with our Lord and you"

Charles Gabriel - May 16, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JK

“My condolences to Bills family. I worked with Bill at GD for nearly 20 years. Bills great sense of humor made some of those long days at the office seem to fly by. Spinning Wheel was one of Bills signature songs, every time I hear that song, I think of Bill rocking it out.....Rest in Peace my Friend.”

Joe Klesko - May 15, 2019 at 12:00 AM

ES

“Rest in Peace my friend Bill. Hit em straight down the middle when playing those heavenly holes.My prayers and condolences to the family.Emil Silarski Detroit,Mi.Past worker friend”

Emil Silarski - May 14, 2019 at 12:00 AM

JH

“Bill, Miss you. Our thoughts are with your family. Especially Katherine. I wish I could physically visit you, Katherine; but that's not possible right now. However, as soon as I can, I will be there. Thoughts and Prayers,Jul and Lou Grande”

Julie Helton - May 13, 2019 at 12:00 AM

EM

“My condolences to the friends and family of Bill, he was a light in this world and will not be forgotten by those who were fortunate enough to have known him. He had a joyfully infectious personality, a beloved singing voice, and the biggest heart.I had the pleasure of signing with Bill in Nightfall years ago, and he made a point to visit me at karaoke and reach out from time to time. I was so saddened by the news that he had passed. His kindness will always be a highlight in my life.”

Elizabeth McDermott - May 13, 2019 at 12:00 AM

CG

“*Rest in peace my friend of many years. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Craig Griffin (Greenville, SC)*”

Craig Griffin - May 13, 2019 at 12:00 AM

TD

“*So sad to hear of Bill's passing. My thoughts and sympathy to his family.*”

Tom DeRight - May 13, 2019 at 12:00 AM

AF

“*Jennifer, I am so sorry to hear about your father. My prayers and thoughts are with you. JoAnn Nemick*”

A friend - May 13, 2019 at 12:00 AM

DE

“*Dear Cathy Bunce and family. My condolences on the loss of Bill; and my prayers for all of you at this difficult time. Denise (Giasson) Endres*”

Denise Endres - May 13, 2019 at 12:00 AM