



William "Bill" Downs

SEP 21, 1951 - SEP 2, 2014



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William "Bill" Downs

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William "Bill" C. Downs, age 62, passed away on Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at Christiana Healthcare in Newark, DE. He was born on September 21, 1951, son of the late Edgar and Marguerite (Shockley) Downs.

Bill was a 1970 graduate of Cape Henlopen High School and then went on to work as a Head Greens keeper for the golf course at Rehoboth Beach Country Club. By 1980 he ventured out on his own and established Downs Ground Maintenance (DGM, Inc.), an excavation company which his one son proudly operates today.

Bill enjoyed hunting trips to Virginia and his afternoon naps in the recliner. An animal lover, he had quite the eclectic collection of farm pets, from Ostriches to Emus and Donkeys to Lama's. He loved spending time with his grandchildren on the farm, taking them for tractor rides and exploring nature. He was a community minded man who was instrumental in establishing the Cape Henlopen Tax Payers for Fair Elections Scholarship. Another of Bill's enjoyments in life, was attending local auctions, finding the best treasures for the best price! An excellent cook, he loved preparing meals for his family and perhaps playing a practical joke on someone at the table. His quick wit and devoted friendship will be missed by all.

In addition to his parents, Bill was preceded in death by his brother, Edgar Downs, Jr. He is survived by his wife of 6 years and companion of 14 years, Andrea; two sons: David R. Downs and his wife Ericka of Wilmington, DE; Robert J. Downs and his wife Desiree of Georgetown, DE and stepson, Bryan Edwards of Angola, DE; one stepdaughter, Carla Robinson and her husband Jason of Goldsboro, NC; three grandchildren: Lauren, Quinn and Mary Downs; three step-grandchildren: Bailee, Cody and Sydney Robinson; three sisters: Judi Klute and her husband Richard of Lincoln, DE; Margaret Cresmer and her husband James of Rehoboth Beach, DE and Jean Steffe and her husband Ron of Harbeson, DE; nieces, Susan Allen and Susan Kalet and nephew James Klute and their children; many dear friends who he considered family and all his beloved farm animals.



Obituary

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Funeral Service will be held at 11 AM on Monday, September 8, 2014 at Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Atkins-Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE where friends may begin visiting at 9:30 AM. Interment will follow services at Conley's Chapel Cemetery, 22150 Robinsonville Road, Lewes, DE. In Bill's honor please dress casually for his services.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to A. I. DuPont Children's Hospital, 1600 Rockland Road, Wilmington, DE 19899.

Please sign Bill's online guestbook at this site.

PDF Printable Version



Tribute Wall

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MF

Maria Fraser posted:

Robert, I am so saddened to learn of the passing of your father. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

September 22 at 8:00 PM

GS

Georgia Salazar posted:

My very deepest condolences Bill was one of a kind. I am so glad I have the chance to know him. I worked at the Crystal Rest. in Rehoboth for many years and Bill was a daily customer more than that he was a dear and loving friend. Love you Bill Rest in Peace my Friend.

September 20 at 8:00 PM

SS

Suzy Legg Smarr posted:

Andrea, Jean and Susan So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you. God Bless Suzy Legg Smarr

September 9 at 8:00 PM

BB

Brett Booker posted:

Andi, with deepest sympathy in your loss. Prayers for you, and your family.

September 8 at 8:00 PM

DB

Donnie And Karen Brittingham posted:

Thinking of you; our deepest sympathy.

September 7 at 8:00 PM

AR

Allen & Diana Riley posted:

Bill-you will be missed. Our morning "gatherings" will never be the same! To Andrea & all Bill's family we extend our sincere sympathies & prayers. Our thoughts & prayers will be with you all - memories & Bill's many stories will keep him in our minds & hearts forever. Allen & Diana Riley

September 7 at 8:00 PM



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KF

Keith & Lynn Misener And Family posted:

To Andi, Robert and all of the Downs Family, Very sorry and sad to hear of Bill's sudden death. Please accept our most sincere sympathy and deepest condolences. Bill's passing is a sore loss to family, friends and the community. Keeping you in our thoughts, The Miseners

September 7 at 8:00 PM

JH

Joanne Hoffman posted:

Dear Andi, Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time . With deepest sympathy to the entire Downs family.

September 6 at 8:00 PM

TW

Terry Warrington posted:

Andrea and Family, I am so saddened to learn of your loss. Thinking of you during this difficult time and sending wishes for strength and know that the memories will soon lift you back up. Hugs. Terry

September 4 at 8:00 PM

DM

David Mullins posted:

Andy very sorry for your loss your friend

September 4 at 8:00 PM

LL

Linda Mitchell Larrimore posted:

Andy, I am so sorry for your loss. I know you had wonderful life with Bill. I am just around the bend if you need anything.

September 4 at 8:00 PM

DM

David Mullins posted:

ANDY SO VERY SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS YOUR FRIEND DAVE.

September 4 at 8:00 PM



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SB

Steve Bunting posted:

We were friends back in high school and had many fun times together in those days. Rest in peace Bill and May peace be upon your family and loved ones.

September 3 at 8:00 PM

AJ

Allen M Jackson posted:

RIP BILL YOU WILL BE MISSED

September 3 at 8:00 PM

SM

Sandi Minard posted:

I am so grateful to have known Bill. I still find it hard to believe that I will never see that amazing smile or hear his contagious laugh again. My thoughts and prayers are with you Andi and the entire family. I am sure it goes without saying, but I will say it anyway....he was a great man. He will be dearly missed.

September 3 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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