



# William "Bill" H. Hoffman Sr.

AUG 23, 1936 - JAN 29, 2019



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## **William "Bill" H. Hoffman Sr.**

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**B**ill Hoffman, age 82 of Lewes, DE, passed away peacefully Tuesday, January 29th surrounded by his family. He was born on August 23, 1936 in Mayfair, Philadelphia to Paul and Grace Hoffman, along with his big brother, Paul Jr.

Bill graduated from Drexel University with a degree in Structural Engineering and was drafted to the Army where he served as a Military Police Officer until being honorably discharged in 1965. He was a scratch golfer and enjoyed many years on the links, accepting multiple golfing awards and accolades. He also enjoyed surf fishing, bird watching and spending time with his family laughing and relaxing. Bill was a loving husband and devoted to his wife of 55 years, "His Judy". They enjoyed entertaining, landscaping, traveling and spending time with their family and friends. Bill had an easy-going personality, and over the years he and Judy made many friends in the areas in which they lived (West Chester and Downingtown, PA, Southport, NC, and Lewes, DE.) Bill was a caring father to his three children, Janette, Jill, and Billy. His children adored their daddy just as much as he adored them. They spent many giggly evenings listening to the bed-time stories he would tell as his Brothers Grimm - style fairy tale heroes and heroines met horrible ends, while villains such as the Big Bad Wolf ended up winning the day. They also delighted as he held handstands so long that he'd walk up a flight of steps still standing on his hands. Bill was a neighborhood dad to all the friends of his children. His elaborate snow paths, which included high curves and massive bumps, made "Hoffman's Hill" the famous snow day destination of all the neighborhood kids. He even went so far as to wet the course down with a hose on frigid nights to increase the speed for the next day and delighted in the excitement and fun it brought to everyone.

The family spent summer vacations at the Jersey Shore where Bill would construct large sand castles, fortresses that usually had an element of movement and possibly danger - like 'alligators' in the moat. He spent hours playing with his children, body surfing and burying them under sand mounds. He was adventurous whether it be a roller coaster ride, a game of neighborhood baseball or kickball in his backyard, doing flips and back dives in his pool or engaged in a family night of



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snacks and board games. Bill lavished that same fun-loving personality on his 3 grandchildren Benjamin, Jack, and Eden, who have just as many memories of Pop-pop as did his kids.

He enjoyed working with his hands and was a master at woodworking and creating things in his basement shop in his early years. He enjoyed landscaping, having a beautiful lawn, and just being outside.

Bill and his brother Paul loved to entertain their families with their boy-hood tales and memories and were still laughing about them together at the final moments of his life.

Bill Hoffman was a great man, beloved by many and cherished by his family and friends. He will be remembered for his fun-loving personality as well as the special ways he touched each person in his life, always offering a big warm smile. The memories he leaves behind will continue to live in and throughout the hearts of us all forever.

In accordance with Bill's wishes his ashes will be scattered in the waters that he loved to fish. As is fitting to his style, Bill expressed not to have a somber service, but instead a party, and the family will honor his request with a celebration of life which will be held early summer in Chester County, PA.

Bill was a generous supporter to the Make a Wish America foundation and Memorial donations in his memory may be made to [wish.org](http://wish.org).



## Tribute Wall

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AL

**Arlene Loep** posted:

Dearest Judy, Memories of sharing a warm friendship with you and Bill will remain a cherished part of our lives. One can't even think of Bill without smiling. He was a genuine, self effacing, and gentle soul who welcomed all with such a kind and warm manner. How he will be missed by us! But oh how happy the Lord will be to welcome him home! I can just hear him telling a few jokes up there. He was a blessing to everyone he ever met, and he was a joy and blessing to us. You, and your family, are in our thoughts and prayers. With all our love, Fred and Arlene

February 8 at 1:48 PM

MA

**Mj Ambrovich** posted:

Bill's booming laugh is etched in my memory. Thank you for sharing the wonderful, vibrant and full life he lived. Wishing you all peace during this time. Love to you all...

February 8 at 4:21 AM

VA

**Val Ambrovich** posted:

Sorry for your loss but what a great blessing to have such a wonderful husband and father for so many years.

February 8 at 3:23 AM



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



February 5 at 3:55 PM

AG

**Al Gombar** posted:

So sorry to hear. It was great seeing him and the gang this past fall in Avalon. He was a pleasure to be around and will be surely miss, God bless, Al Gombar and family.

February 5 at 3:37 PM



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TD

**Terry Cosgrove-Devine** posted:

Judy and all the family. Our sincerest condolences to all of you. We all have fond memories of your fun loving husband, dad and grandpa. Some of my fond memories were on Friday and Saturday when Judy and I would be heading out to garage sales. Billy was usually with us under duress and bill would just sit here shaking his head and saying here they go again no knowing all the treasures we were to bring home. Many times when we arrived back home and we would unload the car he would just look at our collection of junk and not comment just shake his head or just laugh at the stuff. I could write a book about Bill Hoffman and all the good times we all shared. At the shore, at the bridge table, also the beetle bug that we had to see reverse A LOT. Progressive dinner parties, swimming pool parties to name a few. We had a final weekend in October in Avalon, N.J. In 2019. Thanks for your friendship Bill and all of our wonderful memories .

February 5 at 3:18 PM

KS

**Kathryn Saiers** posted:

Bill had a great sense of humor and wit. A quiet but contagious laugh. We will miss him. He will still be with us in spirit as we remember and talk about the fun times, good times we shared as friends. Our love and thoughts are with Judy and the family. Kathie and Dick

February 5 at 2:42 PM

MA

**Mary** posted:

Judy, I was so sad to hear of Bill's passing. Winding River Rumor had the two of you possibly moving back, we were so excited at the prospect! The two of you are very special to this community, and to George and I. Our thoughts and prayers are with you! Love, Mary and George

February 5 at 1:03 PM

MS

**Mike And Karen Saxe** posted:

Judy, Karen and I were so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Please know that our prayers are with you and your family. May your memories serve to see you and your family through this difficult time. Should you need anything at all, please don't hesitate to call. Fondly Mike and Karen

February 5 at 11:49 AM



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**Nina Backes** posted:

Judy, I am so sorry for your loss. Please know that you and your family are in my prayers for God to comfort you and give you strength. Nina Backes

February 5 at 7:57 AM



# 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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