



Ernest Melvin Rice

JUN 17, 1940 - AUG 22, 2021



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Ernest Melvin Rice

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E rnest Rice "Captain Bill"

Ernest "Bill" Melvin Rice, age 81 of Lewes, DE, passed away at home on Sunday, August 22, 2021. He was born on June 17, 1940, in Lewes, DE, son of the late Ernest M. and Charlotte (Smith) Rice.

Bill was a proud veteran, having honorably served in the US Marine Corp. After his military service, he started his own business along with his wife, Jean, called Indian River Lobster Co., where they provided seafood to the area. Bill started first clamming commercially, then fishing, and then went on to become one of Delaware's first lobsterman.

Bill was innovative, a veritable craftsman who built his own lobster pots and fishing nets. He was inspiring and a great teacher, sharing his wisdom and love unconditionally. Bill was a respected man amongst his family, community, and friends. Bill was our hero. Above all, Bill enjoyed spending time with those he held most dear. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, teacher, and best friend. Bill holds a permanent place in all our hearts. We will love you always. Pop Pop "Pops".

Bill is survived by his beloved wife, Jean Delores Rice (Killen); his children: Dwaine Rice of MD, Angela Rice (Shawn Rodgers) of Lewes, DE, and Jill Rice of Lewes, DE; his grandchildren: Dylan Rodgers, Derek Rice (Mary), Daniel Rice, Jacob Mallory (Brit), Jocelyn, Adam Rice, Summer, and Hunter; and his sisters: Betty Jane Cleaver of Lewes, DE, and Libby Hamilton and loving husband Harold of Salisbury, MD.

Please sign the virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

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DR

Daniel Rice shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Oh and I thought you'd think this photo of Brook'Lyn would be cool if you could see it. She just transformed into a teenager july 17th

August 4 at 8:49 PM



DR

Daniel Rice shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Hey pops! Just thinking about you. Your wife is still just fun an argumentative. She's sitting right next to me laughing as I let her know what im typing here.. little Avery, my son, he's 11 now. Is shown in the other photo, by the new Indian River Inlet Bridge. Im sure it has a more fancy "official name". Anyway, talk soon. I love you buddy.

August 4 at 8:39 PM



JM

Jessica Killen-Mariner posted:

I will always cherish our memories at Uncle Bill and Aunt Jean's house, especially in the summer! We always had a great time having family get togethers. He always had a story to tell. I will never forget him watching tv. with the volume off so he could lip read! He was always loving to my aunt and cousins and a brilliant man beyond words! Much love to family and friends as he will be remembered always.

September 10 at 8:22 AM

SC

Shannon Cooer posted:

What a great man. My heart breaks for all of you. He was one of a kind. Him and my grandad are up there lobster fishing I'm sure! I love you all. Prayers, Shannon Cooper

September 9 at 6:15 PM



Tribute Wall

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Fred And Kim Webb lit a candle in honor of Ernest.



August 29 at 1:47 PM



Daphne Brown September 12 at 12:22 PM

Billy an Daphne Brown send our condolences to the Rice Family. Bill was a great friend.



Fred And Kim Webb August 29 at 1:50 PM

Bill will be missed,a friendship of many years,working on the water together,just talking about life.RIP my freind



Media

Ernest Melvin Rice
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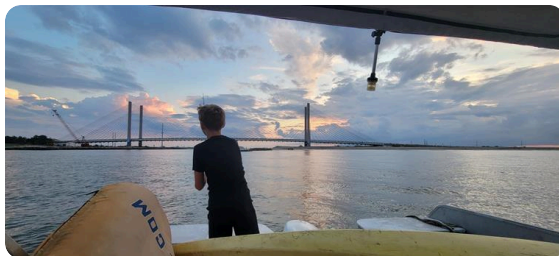
Daniel Rice shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

August 4 at 8:49 PM



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Memories only last if you share them

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



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