



William M Holley

JUN 30, 1934 - MAR 31, 2024



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William McVean Holley, a respected former Maryland State Police officer and cherished family man, passed away peacefully on March 31, 2024, in Bridgeville, Delaware. Born on June 30, 1934, in Rochester, New York, William led a life marked by dedication, service, and love. He was 89 years old.

William, affectionately known as Bill to his friends and loved ones, was the beloved husband of Eleanor V. Holley. The couple shared a profound bond since their marriage on December 15, 1972, in Frederick, Maryland. Together, they built a family that includes their daughter Laurie VanBibber and her husband Michael, their sons Daniel Holley with his wife Kristine, and William J. Holley with his wife Amy. William's legacy of love continues through his three granddaughters, Emily, Madison, and Cali, his two great-granddaughters, as well as, his two step-grandchildren, Justin and Chelsea who brought him immense joy and pride.

Predeceased by his parents, John and Edna Holley, and his sister Helen Holley, William's memory will be carried forward by those who knew and loved him. He was a pillar of strength and wisdom for his family, who will deeply miss his guidance and presence.

William's pursuit of knowledge led him to Loyola College in Baltimore, Maryland, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts. His education was the foundation for a career characterized by commitment to community and public service. He served his country in the Army before dedicating many years to law enforcement. As a retired Maryland State Police officer and a Deputy Sheriff for Carroll County, William's contributions to public safety were significant and long-lasting.

Beyond his professional achievements, William was deeply involved in his community. He was a former commander of the American Legion Post 191 in Mt. Airy, Maryland, and a member of the Fraternal Order of Police. His commitment to service extended to his active participation in the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the American Legion, and AMVETS, where he worked tirelessly to support fellow veterans.



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An avid golfer, William found joy and relaxation on the greens. His love for the sport was matched only by his dedication to the organizations he served. His intelligence, kindness, and loving nature were evident to all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

A celebration of William's life will be held at a later date, where friends, family, and colleagues will gather to honor a man whose life was a testament to the values of love, service, and community.

Please sign William's Tribute wall on this site.



Tribute Wall

William M Holley

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KH

Kim Heimberger lit a candle in honor of William.

May 31 at 10:41 AM



KH

Koren Heimberger lit a candle in honor of William.

May 31 at 10:34 AM



JW

Jonathan Willey posted:

Bill was an instructor at Pikesville when I graduated in 1968. He was also my Lt. in CVED when I retired. Great guy; funny at times but always the Trooper!

April 16 at 4:39 PM

EG

Ernie Gelwicks posted:

We had a lot of good times together with American Legion functions

April 8 at 5:08 AM

TM

Toby Moore posted:

Great guy who I really enjoyed playing golf with and listening to his stories about life. Miss him. Toby Moore

April 4 at 12:12 PM

WV

William Vogt posted:

He was one of the instructors of my class in the academy. He was tough but fair and he was one funny son of a gun. He brought the entire class down one night before lights out to give us instructions. His parting statement was for all of us go nighty peepers. I still use that today. RIP Wild Bill.

April 4 at 9:50 AM



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RT

Roger Thibaudeau. posted:

I knew Bill since my academy days in 1972. I always respected him always through my years. Even after I retired in 1999, I loved it when I had the opportunity to see him at some events and especially on the golf course. May you R.I.P. Brother.

April 4 at 7:29 AM

DS

Dennis E. Seymour posted:

It was my pleasure to have served with Bill for six years in the Police Academy. There was NEVER a dull moment.Denny Seymour

April 4 at 7:19 AM

WA

W. Lenny Athas posted:

Bill was a training officer when I came through the academy from January to June 1973. He was kind, committed and very knowledgeable. I remained friendly with him through the rest of my time with the MSP and I admired and looked up to him as a leader and fellow state policeman. May he rest in peace and god bless he and his family.

April 3 at 4:20 PM

JH

Jesse Haas posted:

Thoughts and prayers to the Holley family. May you cherish the great memories.Jesse Haas

April 3 at 4:00 PM

HK

Hak Koudelka posted:

A great friend and work partner for many many years; a wonderful boss and one of the funniest golfers I've ever had the pleasure of playing with. Heaven is in for a treat. God bless you pal.

April 3 at 1:51 PM

CC

Chad & Stefanie Coulter planted a Memorial Tree in honor of William.



April 2 at 3:26 PM



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Chad & Stefanie Coulter sent an Arrive in Style to the Holley family.



April 2 at 3:26 PM



Thomas Gue posted:

I knew Bill Holley as a 16 year old kid and, for some reason, he took an interest in me and became like a second father. We remained close friends and I will miss him. He was one of a kind. Love you Bill.

April 2 at 7:40 AM



Irv Lambdin April 5 at 6:31 AM

I first met Lt. Holley when I joined Maryland State Police 1971, as a recruit. Bill was one the instructor in the Police academy, with a great sense of humor. I reunited with Bill when I moved to Delaware, and began playing golf with Bill. He would always make it funny and entraining, what a character!!!!His memory will live on in the hearts of those who knew and respected him, as a leader and friend in the Maryland's State Police. RIP Irv Lambdin



T B Sheridan April 3 at 4:08 PM

Bill always had a smile and an endearing comment. He was a most enjoyable man who epitomized a Maryland State Trooper. God bless him. Terry Sheridan



Memories only last if you share them

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



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