



William John Ostrander

AUG 4, 1947 - APR 18, 2026



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William John Ostrander

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William “Bill” Ostrander, 78, of Lewes, Delaware, passed away on Saturday, April 18, 2026, leaving behind a life defined by service, dedication, and deep love for family. He is survived by his son, Billy (Donna); his daughter, Jodi (John); and his stepdaughter, Amanda (Gus), as well as his eight beautiful grandchildren and one great-grandchild; his brothers Thomas (Kathy) Ostrander and Edward (Donna) Ostrander; his sister, Lisa Fallon; brother in law, Ace Robinson and many nieces and nephews, all of whom he adored deeply. He is predeceased by his sister, Nancy Robinson.

Bill was the beloved husband of the late Deb, whom he often described as his closest companion and best friend. Their bond was evident to all who knew them, and he carried his love for her with him always.

Perhaps the simplest way to describe Bill’s life is with one word: “service.” From a young age, he devoted himself to helping others - serving as a Boy Scout leader, Cub Scout den leader, church choir member, and volunteer firefighter. As an adult, he proudly served his country in the United States Air Force, traveling the world and spending time in Japan, Korea, and throughout Europe.

After his military service, Bill continued his commitment to others through a career in law enforcement and volunteer firefighting, ultimately serving in leadership roles, including Chief. He later earned his U.S. Coast Guard 100-ton Master’s license and spent years patrolling the Delaware Bay, assisting distressed vessels. He also piloted a river taxi along the Christina River in Wilmington, Delaware, where he shared local history and stories with passengers.

Bill’s dedication to service extended into every aspect of his life. He worked in security for the Philadelphia Phillies during spring training, taught as a substitute teacher in Palmyra, New Jersey, and was actively involved in numerous organizations, often serving in leadership positions,



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including as president of a local police union and vice president of several homeowners associations. He was a proud member of the Blue Knights and the American Legion Riders.

A man of faith, Bill believed in serving others as a reflection of God's love. He lived those values quietly but consistently, giving his time and energy to those around him without seeking recognition.

Bill lived a full and meaningful life, leaving behind a legacy of service, strength, and love that will not be forgotten.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, April 30, at 11:00 AM, at Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 26669 Patriots Way, Millsboro, DE.

Please sign the tribute wall at this site.



Events


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Chapel Committal

 **Thursday**, April 30, 2026

 11:00 AM ET

 **Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery**
26669 Patriots Way, Millsboro DE





Memories only last if you share them

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



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