



## William E. Zwirz

August 21, 1944 - January 21, 2021

William Zwirz, Lived life to the fullest

With a heavy heart, we announce the passing of William Zwirz, age 76 of Lewes, DE. He was born on August 21, 1944 in New York City, NY, son of the late Edward and Margaret (DeNota) Zwirz.

Bill was a native of Throggs Neck, Bronx, NY, where his fondest memories included summers at his aunts' houses in Connecticut and Maryland. He often spoke of swimming, barbecues, and family reunions in both places and maintained close ties with all of his friends, cousins, aunts, and uncles in both states. He had a passion for genealogy and for sharing the history of his ancestors who came from Germany, Ireland, and Italy.

Bill maintained, in his own words, "the longest part-time job in history", as a baker at his best friend's bakery, where he learned and mastered many new recipes. When he met his wife, Maria, he sang the song "Maria" from West Side Story, making everyone in the bakery laugh. He worked there from the age of 16 for at least a decade.

From 1966 to 1968, Bill served his country as a hospital corpsman for the US Navy. These were his proudest years, and he was able to travel throughout Europe. This allowed him to fully impress his future wife, for when she told him she was from Malta, he was able to say that he was very familiar with the Mediterranean island, having traveled there during his service.

Following his military service, Bill worked for Con Edison in New York as a Senior Operator in electrical distribution. During these years, he married and moved to Matawan, NJ and began a family. He also started a power-washing business in 1980 that he ran for 20 years, while also working for Con Edison.

Bill retired to Lewes, Delaware in 2004 and successfully convinced 3 of his wife's sisters and their husbands to retire and join him and Maria in a beach community. During their

retirement, Bill and Maria enjoyed traveling and entertaining. He also loved playing poker, reading, antique cars, and especially volunteering. His greatest joy was becoming a grandfather in 2017 and again in 2020. Bill was gregarious and well loved by those who knew him. He lived a full life with many adventures and the many people who adored him will miss his humor, warmth, positive energy, sense of fun, and kindness.

In addition to his parents, Bill was preceded in death by his brother, Eddie; and his niece, Diana. He is survived by his beloved wife, Maria Zwirz; his children: Bill Zwirz, Jr. and Alisa Zonis (Daniel); his grandchildren: Lucy and Nate; his brother, Bobby Zwirz (Gina); his sisters-in-law: Emma, Joyce, and Evelyn; his brothers-in-law: Richie and Tommy; and his nine nephews and nieces.

Services are private.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions in Bill's memory to Boys Town, 14100 Crawford Street, Boys Town, NE 68010.

Please sign the online guestbook located on the tribute page.

# Events

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**FEB**   **Flower Delivery**   **03:00PM**

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Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium-Atkins-Lodge Chapel  
16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, DE, US, 19958

# Comments

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“ Bill was a good friend and I enjoyed playing cards with him. He will be missed by a lot of people. I enjoyed our conversations many times in front of his house. Bill & Vickie Gillingham

**Bill Gillingham** - February 09 at 11:06 PM

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“ Always at Panera's with friends and I walk in. Teasingly saying I know you! Rita Healey

**Rita Healey** - February 09 at 01:22 PM

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“ Bill's smile was contagious. He was always the life of the party. And what great parties there were in Matawan! When we first moved to Matawan, Frank took a second job at 7-11. He remembers Bill stopping by after he was done working his shift at Con Ed, and having great conversations with him. Bill always made him laugh. His love of life was unmatched and will live on. We will miss him. Our sincere condolences to Maria, Billy and Alisa and the rest of your family.

Dorothy & Frank Schneider

P.S. The obituaries beautiful to read, as is the video of Bill's life.

**Dorothy Schneider** - February 07 at 01:57 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Parseell Funeral Homes & Crematorium** - February 05 at 02:27 PM



“ Beautiful presentation. Rest in Peace Bill...

**Vic Guempel** - February 09 at 01:55 PM

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“ Our relationship with Bill began more than 40 years ago, on the first day we moved down the street from his family. He came to welcome us into the neighborhood and offered any help we might need. Bill's smile, friendliness and generous heart impressed us from the start. We have wonderful memories of the times our families spent together. We are so sad to learn of his passing. Bill will always be in our hearts.

Elaine and Bob Franzblau

**Elaine and Bob Franzblau** - February 01 at 10:08 PM



“ Thank you Elaine and Bob. So many great memories from growing up in Matawan. My father was very fond of both of you as well as your sons. Hope all is well and thank you for the great tribute. :)

**William Zwirz Jr.** - February 03 at 03:46 PM

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“ Dear Maria and family.  
You have my sincere sympathy on the passing of Billy.  
Billy was such a great guy. I always looked forward to seeing him at the Elks on a Friday afternoon. People were always happy to lend him a hand for any reason. He became very independent after getting his car that was outfitted especially for him. He and Maria were a great couple. I know he will be missed by many, especially Maria. Rest in peace Billy!

Mary Jane Neenan

**Mary Jane Neenan** - January 29 at 08:40 PM

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“ Bill was a special friend. There are many fond memories over 40 years of knowing him, but how do you sum it all up? There so much about a great guy like Bill, but most of all he made everything fun, happy and special. God Bless his wonderful spirit. Emma & Kevin Rooney

**Kevin Rooney** - January 29 at 07:54 PM

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“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of William E. Zwirz.



January 29 at 02:40 PM

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“ Sincere condolences to the Zwirz family on Bill's passing. We're sure he'll be missed by all whose lives he touched. May he Rest in Peace...

**Pat & Vic Guempel (Chapel Green)** - January 29 at 12:05 PM

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“ I I remember meeting Bill at the gym he was always such a fun person he used to share recipes with me while we were on the treadmill and then he did the most amazing thing he introduced me to his beautiful wife Maria and we have since become very close friends I miss you uncle Billy the name I used to call him and I know you are resting in peace because you are a beautiful person

**Ellen Murray Dougherty** - January 29 at 08:54 AM

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“ So sorry to hear of his passing. He was truly a great and funny guy and will be missed. Donna Ledogar/Sedgwick.

**Donna Sedgwick** - January 29 at 08:51 AM

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“ So sorry to hear of the loss of Bill. He was truly a lovely man, and always a pleasure to be around. My sincere condolences to Maria and the family.

**robin ledogar baker** - January 29 at 08:04 AM

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“ So sorry to hear the loss of Billy. Loved his beautiful loving spirit! It was always a joy to have his visits as he was so much fun. I will remember him always with fond memories.

Sheryl Ledogar Higgins

**Sheryl** - January 28 at 10:01 PM

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“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of William E. Zwirz.



January 28 at 08:31 PM

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“ Maria and Family, Our sincere sympathy goes out to you and your family. We will certainly miss Bill’s wit and his never ending stories. We will miss his calls and chatting about the old days in the country. Our trips to the casinos hoping for the BIG win, but coming home even was a win.....he would say “next time”. He would talk about his Lucy and Nate and was sad he could not see more of them but because of covid that limited visits. We enjoyed him always. God bless  
Ron and Mary Jane Lussier



**mary lussier** - January 28 at 08:11 PM



“ BILL WAS ONE OF THE BEST. WE TALKED ON THE PHONE FRIDAY FOR ABOUT TIMES HE STAYED UP HERE AND BECAUSE WE WERE THE OLDEST WE WOULD GET INTO TROUBLE WITH MY MOM. AND DAD. WE TALKED FOR OVER 2 HOURS THAT DAY. I WILL MISS HIM VERY MUCH AS HE HAD SO MUCH WIT AND NEVER SEIZED TO COME UP SOME CRAZY THING TO SAY. BILL I WILL MISS YOU BUT WILL SEE YOU LATER. LOVE LINDA COUTURE.

**Linda Couture** - January 29 at 05:53 AM



“ Bill was the best! He could always make you laugh no matter what! Just talked to him not to long ago about all the hell raising we do when he visited Ct! He truly loved you Maria and the children and grandchildren.

So sorry for your families loss, he surly will be missed!

Love to all Ted and Joan Verba

**joan and Ted Verba** - January 29 at 03:49 PM



“ Our sincere condolences to Maria and the Family. We will miss his cheerful smile and laugh! Barbara was so appreciative of the cakes from Billy that he baked for her Birthdays.I will miss our times together---most especially the many Happy Hours we spent around the Lewes and Rehoboth area Bars and Restaurants and the events at the clubhouse that He enjoyed cooking for us all. Sleep Well my Friend--you earned it!

**J. Robert Woods** - January 28 at 04:37 PM

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“ Bill was a gentleman who was loved by all who knew him. He always made you feel welcome with a smile to greet you. Bob and I will miss him , but will have his memories to share with others. Rest in the arms of a Angel.

**Colleen Franciotti** - January 28 at 11:18 AM

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“ Bill was a special guy. That twinkle in his eyes made you want to hug him. For sure, Brian and I will miss Bill. RIP.

**Kathy Tucker** - January 28 at 09:15 AM

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“ I'm sure going to miss the long telephone chats we had while I drove on I-95 between New York and Florida. He made the miles fly by as we talked about the old days in Throggs Neck, and wondering what our friends are doing now. I couldn't find a finer friend. He was always a good buddy.

**Eddie Imp** - January 27 at 03:31 PM



“ It was a pleasure getting to know Bill. He was always kind and enjoyed life. Never had anything negative to say about anyone.

**Dina Cotter** - January 28 at 03:50 PM



“ Bill was my Antlers up partner. While at the Elks we had many laughs. He loved to play cards. We missed him at our Friday night games at Tommy's house. He loved to eat good food. He was one of a kind. He would call me frequently to see how I and my wife were doing. Loved this guy. Billy where ever you are show them how to play cards. You will be missed. RIP

Joe & Kathy Lopez

**Joe Lopez** - January 30 at 05:09 AM



“ Maria and Family: What a pleasure knowing Bill and being your neighbors. Always a ready smile and a twinkle in his eye. Applewood Lane will not be the same without him.

Esther & Aren Breen

**esther breen** - February 01 at 02:50 PM



“ My first encounter with your great family was at the Union Street house in Matawan. Your Dad and Mom...great people. Look at all these tributes. I lost my Dad about a year ago...I can still feel his presence as you will...always. Wil Hercek

**Wil Hercek** - March 21 at 09:04 PM