



# William "Bill" Burke

APR 30, 1940 - MAY 9, 2011



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## William "Bill" Burke

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**M**r. William G. Burke, age 71, passed away early Monday morning, May 9, 2011 at his home. He was born April 30, 1940 to George C. and H. Florene (Blakely) Burke in Muskegon, and was a life resident. Bill worked at American Coil Spring for 40 years before retiring, and was a U.S. Air Force veteran. He enjoyed spending time at his cottage in Fountain, MI, meeting with his breakfast friends every month, and he also loved his grand-puppies. On June 24, 1960 Bill married Julie Ann Wierda, and she survives him along with 3 children, Joanne (Chuck) Young of Twin Lake, Sandra ((Tom) Paquin of Ludington, Patrick (Marie) Burke of Muskegon; 8 grandchildren, Brittany (Kris) Hoffman, Jordan, Taylor, and Mackenzie Young, Brandi and Tiffani Schulz, Lance and Zack Burke; 1 great grandchild, Braedon Hoffman; 1 brother, Steven (Patti) Burke of Twin Lake; 1 sister-in-law, Cathy Burke of New Boston, MI; 1 aunt, Betty Richardson of Muskegon. He was preceded in death by his parents; 1 brother, Richard Burke; and his step-father, Thomas Trudell. A MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held at 11:00 AM Thursday at The Lee Chapel, Sytsema Funeral Homes, Inc. 6291 S. Harvey (231) 798-1100 with Mr. Fred Hoffman officiating. VISITATION with the family will be from 6-8 PM Wednesday at the funeral home. You may sign the family's online guestbook at [www.sytsemafh.com](http://www.sytsemafh.com) Contributions in memory of Bill may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, or the American Cancer Society.



# Events

**William "Bill" Burke**

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## Visitation

**Wednesday**, May 11, 2011

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

**Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444





## Tribute Wall

**William "Bill" Burke**

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**Anonymous** posted:

Sorry for your loss.##imported-begin##Joe Panici##imported-end##

May 13 at 4:34 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Pat - - I'm sad to hear about the loss of your father. Try to remember all the happy times you had as a family and now with Marie and the boys as a bigger family. A parent is one that you think of often and for a long time. Time will heal and then the "good" memories will come to mind. May he be blessed because he is in a much better place!##imported-begin##Pat Frishett##imported-end##

May 12 at 9:17 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Oh, Julie. My folks and I are so, so sorry to learn of Bill's death. I haven't seen you since our last meeting up at Meijer's. -- seems that is our best place to chat and catch up on things. Our sincerest sympathy.Love from: Ruth and Ray Gurn & Toni##imported-begin##Toni Rae Gurn##imported-end##

May 12 at 7:07 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Julie,I am sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I always enjoyed visiting with him and you when I visited Muskegon.My condolences.Travis##imported-begin##Travis Thorson##imported-end##

May 11 at 5:08 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.June and Bill##imported-begin##June VanDonkelaar##imported-end##

May 11 at 12:22 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

Killer always picked me up for breakfast with the boys flashing his wry grin he would say "are you ready Wenky?". Even when his health was failing we would load my wheelchair in his trunk and make sure I was comfortable. When I needed help with a project he would show up with his tool box and the same grin and a "what's up Wenky?". If the job was involved he'd bring Pat with him and they would go to work. Each knew what the other was thinking and seldom was a work needed. Bill Burke was a much better friend to me than I was to him. I'll miss you dearly, Killer. Gene

May 11 at 10:56 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

May 11 2011 Julie: I am sorry to lose a childhood and young adult friend I grew up with and had much fun fishing, hunting, camping and screwing off. I enjoyed seeing him annually at Ben's farm. Bill was one of five of us who grew up in the Nim's neighborhood. Sonny Storms, Jim Basset, Ben Loeth, Bill and I all lived within two blocks of one another and we had a fun time in our youth, except for my fishing accident with Bill. His stories to me at Ben's farm tell me you two had a wonderful life together. And 40 years of work at one place. Wow! I couldn't take more than 15 years at one place during my career. I wish I could have made it to Muskegon, but I have comfort talking to you this way. My sincere condolences. I loved my friend Killer. Ray (Highway) Niemi

May 11 at 6:45 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Julie, I'm so sorry. Please accept my sincere condolences. My prayers are with you and your family. Ann

May 11 at 4:57 AM



**Anonymous** posted:

Julie, I am sorry to hear of Bill's passing. You have my deepest sympathy. It was certainly a pleasure to be associated with Bill at American Coil Spring. He was always pleasant to be around. I enjoyed our association on the American Coil Spring Soft Ball Team. Joe Goryl

May 11 at 3:57 AM



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**Anonymous** posted:

I didn't know Bill that well, but Marie is my sister and I know he will be missed.##imported-begin##Patricia Pothoff##imported-end##

May 10 at 3:58 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

hello to joanne and sandy. i am sorry for the loss of your dad. i slightly remember and he was a really nice person. my mom passed away 7 years ago and i still feeling it but it slowly goes away, the same will be for you. i will talk to you or see you whenever. goodbye##imported-begin##frank edlund##imported-end##

May 10 at 2:27 PM



**Anonymous** posted:

Dad,Love you and Miss you already. . ##imported-begin##Sandy##imported-end##

May 10 at 6:46 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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