



Mr. William T. Starr

January 10, 1958 - October 1, 2023

William (Bill) Thomas Starr, 65, of Cortland, went to be with our Lord on October 1, 2023, after a 4-year battle with Kidney Cancer. Born January 10, 1958 in Cortland, Bill was the son of Floyd W. Starr Jr. and Rosemary Kohlman Starr. Bill attended Cortland Schools, graduating from Cortland High School in 1976. Bill went on to Franklin Pierce College in NH to study business. After two years, Bill transferred to Northern Arizona University at Flagstaff where he graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering and a minor in Solar Energy. After college, Bill worked in the petroleum industry for several years while living in Cody, WY and Grand Junction, CO. Bill moved back to the Cortland area in 1984 to be closer to family and to take a job at ETL (Intertek). Bill held several positions in his 29 years at ETL, culminating as the Director of Follow Up Services. In this position, Bill established regional certification centers in Hong Kong and Stockholm to support ETL certification globally. When Bill's division moved to Chicago, he opted to stay in Cortland in order to care for his parents, which he did faithfully. Bill was lucky enough to start working for McNeil and Company as a Data Analytics Specialist and did so for the past ten years. Bill thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of a new career and considered himself blessed to have had the opportunity to work with such a dedicated, supportive, and caring group of people.

Bill always had a love for the outdoors and was an avid skier, hiker, and golfer. It was through skiing where Bill met his wife, Liz, where they both taught skiing at Greek Peak. A few years later, Bill proposed to Liz while on a gondola boat in Venice, Italy, and they were married for almost 31 years. Bill and Liz raised two beautiful girls, Kathleen and Margaret, with Bill attending almost every one of their concerts, dance recitals, hooleys, sporting events and activities. Bill's children were his greatest pride and joy.

Bill was a humble man with a great sense of humor, and an easy-going demeanor. Bill was caring, kind and a trusted friend. Bill's friendships were very important to him. Every year, for over 40 years, Bill and his childhood friends would go on a camping trip to the Adirondack's, fondly known as, "The Man Trip." This unique experience held a very special place in Bill's heart and kept a strong bond among his friends.

Bill volunteered his time as a current longtime Commissioner with the City Wastewater Treatment Board and as a current City of Cortland Fire Commissioner; roles he was honored to serve in. Bill was a Level II certified ski instructor and member of the Professional Ski Instructors of America, having taught skiing for almost 30 years. Bill was a past member of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and was a communicant of St. Mary's Church. Bill was dedicated to his faith, which strengthened all aspects of his life.

Bill was predeceased by his parents, Floyd (2022) and Rosemary (2015). Bill is survived by his wife, Liz, daughters, Kathleen of Denver, CO and Margaret of Cortland. Siblings, Richard (Suzanna) Starr of Williamsburg, VA, Janet Starr of Cortland, and Karen Starr of Richmond, VA. Mother-in-law, Barbara Eberst, brother in-law, James Eberst, both of Freeport, NY, sister and brother-in-law, Kathleen and Michael Galano, of Asbury Park, NJ, several nieces, nephews, and close friends.

The family will be present to receive friends on Friday, October 6th from 5-8 PM, in the chapel of Riccardi Funeral Home 69 N. Main Street. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, October 7th at 11:00 AM at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church. Prayers of committal will follow at St. Mary's Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to honor Bill's memory are asked to please consider St. Mary's Parochial School, 61 N. Main Street, Cortland, NY.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery

4101 West Rd
Cortland, NY 13045

Previous Events

A Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 7. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church
46 N Main St
Cortland, NY 13045
(607) 756-9967

Tribute Wall

MF

“ Dear Liz and family,
I am so sad to hear of Bill's passing. I remember getting to know both of you as part of the family of St. Mary's church. We were at various celebrations over a few years and I specifically remember the story he told of you two being on the "5 year plan" of marriage!!!!
I ran into Bill again a few years ago when I moved back to Cortland, he came up to me and said hello at a networking function at McNeil's. He was just as comical and thoughtful as I remembered him. I am so sorry for your loss.
Mary Lee Faucher

Mary Lee Faucher - October 10, 2023 at 10:21 AM

DN

“ Liz, girls and extended family. So very sorry for your loss. I knew Bill from my time working at Intertek. I didn't work directly for him but had interactions with him as our departments worked closely together. He was a very nice man who always had a smile on his face and his staff loved working for him. May God Bless you all. Debbie Nadge

Debbie Nadge - October 09, 2023 at 06:46 PM

LS

“ My deepest condolences to Bill's family. We grew up across the street from the Starrs. They are all such great people. I was so sad to hear off Bill's passing.

Lori (Carsello) Schlenker - October 06, 2023 at 09:02 PM

MW

“ Liz, Kathleen and Margaret. Please accept our most sincere and heartfelt condolences on Bill's passing. May the many memories made help you through this very difficult time. God Bless.

Kate and Mike Wheeler

Mike Wheeler - October 06, 2023 at 07:49 PM

TC

“ Liz and girls,
So sorry for your loss. Bill was one of the nicest guys I ever met, great sense of humor!...I never worked directly with him, but always made sure I stopped by for a chat and a laugh. I also played tennis with him quite often, and he said while we were playing he would say you shouldn't drink that it has high fructose syrup in it. And I thought hmmm maybe that's why he beats me every match.

Tom Carpenter

Tom Carpenter - October 06, 2023 at 04:56 PM

GM

“ I worked with Bill at Intertek for around 17 years. He was a wonderful man, great boss and true family man. My condolences to Liz his precious girls and the family. I was truly blessed to know this man.



GAIL MCFALL - October 06, 2023 at 02:30 PM

MJ

“ Liz, Kathleen and Margret, We are thinking of you and praying for your family. Rest in Peace Good and Faithful Friend. Lucy&Jim Murphy

Murphy Jim - October 06, 2023 at 01:58 PM

LB

“ We are so sorry to hear of Bills
Passing . May your happy memories of Bill bring you comfort today and always .
Love Lorraine and Dave Best

Lorraine Best - October 06, 2023 at 10:10 AM

RP

“ Very sorry to hear of the passing of Bill ! A high school buddy and a friend for life
!! God bless Bill and God bless his family !!

Rick Partigianoni - October 05, 2023 at 07:48 PM

PS

“ Bill Starr was my supervisor at Intertek for 12 years and was the best boss I've ever had. My condolences to his family which he loved so much.

Patricia Shaver - October 05, 2023 at 05:46 PM

WJ

“ To Liz and Family,
Bill was a friend of mine since 4th grade. We would ride mini bikes together through Cortland. He would stay with us at our cottage on Skaneateles Lake and I would drive him to Lourdes Camp by boat for mass on Sunday. Very special childhood friend who will be missed dearly.
Winthrop Ross Wickwire Jr.

Winthrop Ross Wickwire Jr - October 05, 2023 at 02:57 PM

BM

Mini bikes in the back streets from your house to Atkins Ave down George Street along the waterworks. That's when I met Bill.

brian K mcginley - October 07, 2023 at 01:28 AM

RS

“ Our sincere condolences to the Starr family. We are truly sorry for your loss.



Rob & Mary Spaulding - October 05, 2023 at 01:12 PM

TM

“ The Quinn's, Ricky, David, Sue and Marty purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Mr. William T. Starr.



The Quinn's, Ricky, David, Sue and Marty - October 05, 2023 at 10:35 AM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. William T. Starr.



October 05, 2023 at 09:39 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Mr. William T. Starr.*



October 05, 2023 at 07:23 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. William T. Starr.*



October 05, 2023 at 07:07 AM

TB

“ *Liz and girls, Karen, Janet, and Rick, I am so very sorry to hear of Bill's passing. As a neighbor of his parents for over 30 years, Bill would always be there helping them out, he was surely a blessing to them. My last conversation with Bill was about life goals, my selling my home, and his parents. We joked about his dad and my conversations over the years! How we laughed. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. May your wonderful memories with him help you through this difficult time. God Bless.*
Tammy Beardsley



Tamara Beardsley - October 04, 2023 at 10:29 PM

BM

“ *I was very shocked to hear of Bill's illness and passing. Bill was a great friend who I met when I was about 11 years old, many years ago, appropriately in the snow near where he lived. We skied together long ago when we were teens and came back together on a canoe trip to ever new places in the Adirondacks once a year. He was a gentle fellow with a unique sense of humor and I can hear his understated laugh as I write herein. He will be sorely missed but his memory will remain strong in the multitude of convolutions of other people's minds forever. I wish peace for Liz, Margaret and Kathleen and all his friends who grieve in the days and years ahead. Love from Brian and Judy McGinley.*

Brian and Judy McGinley - October 04, 2023 at 09:11 PM

KQ

“ I am so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I enjoyed working with him and his fellow Hibernians on the St. Mary's Irish Festivals in years past. It was nice to catch up with him once in awhile with his daughters at St. Mary's or once or twice at the Cortland Golf Driving Range. Always friendly. Condolences to his family. Katie Q

Katie Quinlan - October 04, 2023 at 08:44 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mr. William T. Starr.

October 04, 2023 at 08:31 PM



“ Your Light Shines was purchased for the family of Mr. William T. Starr.



October 04, 2023 at 08:31 PM

PG

“ It has been my honor and privilege to have known Bill. He left the utmost impression of a kind and decent person to be friends with. Bill, your presence will still permeate all friends and family who gather to celebrate your life with us. Always in our memory. Paul.

paul gier - October 04, 2023 at 07:37 PM

SG

“ Bill was in the cast of The Music Man with me and many others. What a kind soul and always was nice to me. Condolences to Karen and the family. Bill was a gem.

Scott Goodrich - October 04, 2023 at 06:28 PM

AB

“ Liz and girls,
I am so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. What a wonderful man with one of the biggest hearts. His smile lit up any space he walked through. I will pray for you all in the coming days and months.
We are away an unable to attend the services, but know we would be there if we were in town! Much love to you all!!

Amy Buggs - October 04, 2023 at 06:01 PM

KR

“ My most treasured memory of Bill? Too many to count. We love you Liz & Kathleen & Margaret. And we thank God for the friendship of Bill. May Perpetual Light shine upon our dear friend.

Kate Reagan - October 04, 2023 at 05:03 PM