



William Robert "Bill" Harris

August 13, 1952 - September 26, 2015

William (Bill) R. Harris passed away at his home in Orlando, Fl. on September 26th 2015 following a 6 year battle with esophageal cancer. He was born August 13, 1952 in Franklin, Pa, son of the late Michael and Wladzia (Sitkoski) Harris. He was preceded in death by brothers Carl (Joan), George (Willie-surviving), Michael and sisters Maryann Buck (Ronald) and Sally Marshall (Lewis). He is survived by his wife of 23 years, Christine (Tina) Quinn, brother, John (Sonnie-deceased) and sisters Helen Sharp (William) and Diana Boal (Robert-deceased) as well as many nieces, nephews and great-nieces and nephews.

A 1970 graduate of Franklin High School, Bill excelled in football and track. He was an outstanding student and served as both Class President and Vice President throughout his high school years. He was awarded an academic/athletic scholarship and attended the University of Pennsylvania, 1970-1974. An avid bicyclist, he traveled the lower 48 states and participated in the 1976 Bikecentennial.

In 1983 he moved to Orlando and shortly thereafter started work at WestRock, formerly RockTenn/Stone Container Corp where he was employed for 32 years until his passing.

Bill's favorite hobbies were reading, football and golf. He was a founding member of the Glayva Cup Golf Tournament and for years golfed weekly with

JABOG (Just a Bunch of Guys) and HCPGA (Healthcare Professionals Golf Association). True to his western PA roots, Bill was an avid Pittsburgh Steeler and Pirate fan.

In his younger days he was well known for organizing and overseeing the Great American Tug of War. The event became so successful it grew too large to be continued. "Uncle Bill" also organized back-yard Jart tournaments that are fondly remembered to this day by many nieces and nephews.

A mass of Christian Burial will be held October 6th 2015 at 11 am, St. Patrick's Church, 949 Liberty Street, Franklin, Pa. Lunch to follow at Cenedella Hall located in St. Patrick's School.

Internment will be October 7th 2015 at 10 am, Calvary Cemetery & Mausoleum, 3325 West Lake Rd. Erie, Pa, brunch to follow at The Elks Club at 2409 Peninsula Drive. Erie, Pa.

A Celebration of Life will be held in Orlando at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his name to the Second Harvest Food Bank, 411 Mercy Dr. Orlando, FL 32805 or Hospice of the Comforter 480 W Central Pkwy, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714.

Previous Events

Mass

OCT 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Patrick's Church
949 Liberty St.
Franklin, PA 16323
(814) 437-5763

Tribute Wall

DM

“ Bill was one of a KIND! We will miss him so -His smile & laughter lit up a room. Our hearts are broken -yet he will live on forever in our memories -all good ones. He was a wonderful husband to our sister Tina -until we meet again -much love Dianne & Paul

Dianne & Paul Matters - October 04, 2015 at 09:41 AM

JK

“ For 30 years our family was blessed to have Bill in our lives. He could light up a room like no other and had a heart of gold. He left us with so many wonderful memories that we will always treasure. Bill was an inspiration. Bill had a way of just making you a better person for knowing him. Deepest sympathies to Tina and family. See ya on the other side my friend. You will live in our hearts always.

Love Mike and Joy Kleiman and family

Joy Kleiman - October 03, 2015 at 07:32 AM



“ Blue & White Sympathy Standing Spray was purchased for the family of William Robert "Bill" Harris.



October 02, 2015 at 02:47 PM

VM

“ My deepest sympathies Tina~& to all the Harris family. Keeping you all in my thoughts & prayers. I am truly blessed that my sister married John, Bill's brother. I know what a close & caring family you all are~Bill will live on in hearts & memories forever. I pray that you find peace & comfort in your memories & your love for one another. Vicki Welshans-Meadows



Vicki Meadows - September 30, 2015 at 03:19 PM

GM

“ Bill & Tina were also great friends and co-workers of mine and my wife Mary Helen and Bill I will miss dearly, & Tina: if she needs anything at all she can call me, Bill was there for me when I needed him when in training in the Application Engineering Department, He was there for me and helped me through many projects when i was traveling in the field, I Know he was an asset to the Stone & Smurfit-Stone, and I'm sure he was also too the Rocktenn, and West-Rock merger, during my employment, and was a true friend even after I retired, So long Bill, you was also my Brother in Christ's Name , Amen..we will meet each other again..

Gary & Mary Moore

Gary Moore - September 30, 2015 at 12:20 PM



“ Bill and Tina became important folks to the Madara family when we made Florida our home. Bill filled the room with joy and hope with his smile and kind words. We wont forget him and he leaves a legacy of love and dedication to those around him. Thank you my friend and RIP. Eric and Andrea

Eric Madara - September 30, 2015 at 08:54 AM

Frank Skerl

“ *My life was better for having met and worked with Bill. He was such a friendly man that made strangers feel like you had known him forever.*
An infectious personality that will be missed. RIP Bill. Thanks for the great memories.

Frank Skerl - September 29, 2015 at 09:54 PM

DA

“ *We will miss Bill's laughter, sense of humor and words of wisdom. Truly one of a kind, wonderful man.*

Love you - Don & Vickie



Don & Vickie Abbott - September 29, 2015 at 09:04 PM

AS

“ *My deepest sympathy to the Harris family. A great person.*

Al Shilling - September 29, 2015 at 06:54 PM

TW

“ *Our good friend Bill went to heaven. today The only thing bigger than his smile was his heart. When you talked to Bill, he listened. He wanted to understand what you needed and was always there for you. Tina and Bill have been our friends for many years. We will miss him dearly.*

Tom and Carol Wright

Tom and Carol Wright - September 29, 2015 at 11:20 AM

LO

“ Lori lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bill" Harris



Lori - September 29, 2015 at 09:26 AM



“ Peaceful Wishes was purchased for the family of William Robert "Bill" Harris.



September 28, 2015 at 11:23 PM

SA

“ Bill was a kind and caring man that had a smile that was contagious. He will be missed by everyone that knew him. My deepest sympathy to Tina and his family. Sue Allen

Sue Allen - September 28, 2015 at 08:32 PM

LK

“ My brother-law Bill Harris was such a good man..I will miss him so..Loved his "hugs"..So glad to have spent Christmas with him and got to bowl with him on his visit to Erie, Pa. in June.. You were so brave..Heaven is lucky to have you..Miss you already,
Love Lana Chuck and Alex.



Lana Quinn Kownacki - September 28, 2015 at 06:03 PM

TO

“ *Bill was a true gentlemen; caring; articulate; warm. I am a better man for having met him, he had that effect on everyone he came in contact with.*

Todd - September 28, 2015 at 03:40 PM



“ *Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of William Robert "Bill" Harris.*



September 28, 2015 at 03:37 PM

TH

“ *Bill was kind enough to take me under his wing and share his experience, courage, and humor when I was diagnosed with laryngeal cancer 3 years ago !*

He never complained-just pushed on during his journey and served as a source of personal strength and courage-he will be greatly missed !

Terry Hammond

Terry Hammond - September 28, 2015 at 02:44 PM

PK

“ I first got to know Bill during lunch, whatever topic was brought up; Bill had read something on the subject and was able to contribute to the conversation. Because of that, I thought he was a “know-it-all”, and as I got to know Bill, I realized he WAS a “know-it-all!”



His knowledge of this company (Westrock) is something no one will ever replace. Bill was my “GO-TO-GUY”. When I needed to know when a machine was leaving, Bill could get me the answer! If the sales team was looking for a video where we packaged paper plates, bacon, or cartons of milk, Bill could tell me the machine and customer. When Rock, Paper, Service was doing a project that required donations; Bill was usually the FIRST to donate. He was always pleasant, understanding and quick witted. He loved to laugh, and he loved life. He spoke often of his family members coming to visit and enjoyed traveling to visit them.

There is a huge void here at WestRock. Bill you are a good man and I will remember you always in my heart.

Pam Rose Kanner

Pam Kanner - September 28, 2015 at 01:44 PM

TE

“ you will be deeply missed...Teddyooch.

ted - September 28, 2015 at 01:37 PM

CR

“ Cheryl Rekitt lit a candle in memory of William Robert "Bill" Harris



Cheryl Rekitt - September 28, 2015 at 01:10 PM