



William "Bill" Dwight Sparks

May 13, 1957 - February 10, 2018

William "Bill" Dwight Sparks, age 60, of Fredericksburg, VA died late Saturday, February 10, 2018 at Carriage Hill Health and Rehab Center.

He was born May 13, 1957 in Fort Belvoir, VA, the son of the late Dwight Roger Sparks and Shirley Rae (Jenkins) Sparks. Graduated Stonewall High School in Manassas, VA and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education from Old Dominion University.

Prior to suffering disabling strokes, Bill worked for the Social Security Administration and enjoyed music, arts, and enjoying televised sports. Bill's interests included golf, photography and followed in his family's tradition of enjoying arts and crafts and woodworking.

He is survived by his brother: Kevin Sparks and wife Peggy, nieces: Lauren Jenkins and Rachel Sparks and nephew: Michael Sparks

The family would like to thank the directors and staff at the Carriage Hill Health and Rehab Center in Fredericksburg, VA for their years of nurturing care for Bill.

A private family service will be held at Stonewall Memory Gardens on February 14, 2018.

In lieu of flowers, the family ask that donations be made to the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Cemetery Details

Stonewall Memory Gardens

12004 Lee Highway
Manassas, VA 20109
<http://www.stonewallmemorygardens.com>

Tribute Wall

“ I Remember When....

We met on a personal ad. We met at Applebee's on our first date and we were both so nervous. We tied up that poor waitress's table until closing and left her a hefty tip.

A week later I arrived home from work and you had tied balloons to the tree at my townhouse, left a box roses, and a simple small brown paper bag on my doorstep. When I opened it there was little black box and inside an exquisite bracelet inside.

Coming home from work and you had turned my living room into a beach! A baby pool with sand and bowls of water with floating candles adorned it. You found these beautiful tropical platters and filled them with tropical fresh fruits. Sand chairs, flip flops, lei's and Jimmy playing on the cassette player. So much fun.

I remember you taking me to my first Buffet concert. You decked out your Trooper with fins and lei's. We partied in the parking lot after the concert because the traffic was so bad we couldn't leave! You and my son in law dancing together in your grass skirts and shell bra's. I laughed until I cried. My daughter laughed until she peed herself.

The day we moved into our new home! We were like little kids on Christmas Eve! You couldn't wait to put that key in the door. We broke open a bottle of bubbly and had to share the bottle since we didn't have anything to drink it from!

Our after dusk walks. The neighbor's Basset Hounds always barked at us as we would pass their house. You named them the bastard hounds!

Our wedding at Freestone Beach on the Potomac. Holding hands walking down the dirt path, giggling like teenagers when we arrived at our pavilion filled with family members and friends.

*Our camping honeymoon when you backed your Trooper into a tree
when we arrived at our campsite, knocking what little brains I had
out!*

*We had joy, we had fun
We had seasons in the sun
But the wine and the song
Like the seasons have all gone.*

*The heart never forgets what it once had.
Farewell Bill
Xoxo
Donna*

Donna Heflin Sparks - February 15, 2018 at 04:49 PM

DS

“ 6 files added to the album *New Album Name*



Donna Heflin Sparks - February 15, 2018 at 04:19 PM

“ On Saturday night, February 10, at 60 years and 9 months, my brother lost his fight for life following a relentless years long series of attacks on his body, mind, and spirit.

Bill had a gentle spirit and was generous to a fault. He was very giving, even when he had little to spare. Sometimes his desire to give got the best of him, but he always had good intentions. Bill enjoyed simple things in life: music, crafts, taking photographs, and simply sitting to watch sports or entertainment on television.

When he was physically able, he enjoyed playing golf and tennis. Among my fondest memories were on his college breaks playing tennis every night and our annual Thanksgiving golf events and trips to Myrtle Beach.

Whenever he had an extra dollar to spend he would go out and buy a record, or later a CD, and he always enthusiastically shared his latest purchased. He listened to all types of music from Broadway show tunes, to Rock, Country Among his long-time favorites were Jimmy Buffet, Neil Diamond, Alabama, and John Denver. When he was able, we always tried to make their shows when in town. We spent many summer evenings in the lawn section at Meriwether Post and Nissan Pavilion with other parrot Heads.

Like all of us, Bill worked to make a living, but career was never a primary motivation for him. He was diligent when he worked, but he would never be accused of being a workaholic or overly focused on career. Bill had a varied career from being a High School teacher in Culpeper to working in a number of restaurants. His happiest job was when he worked at “Piece of Pie” in Pittsburg. During this job, he had a chance to travel and see a lot of the US. As a regional manager, he had lived in Omaha, NE, Orlando, FL, and Charleston, SC. Bill’s final job was working for the Government in the Social Security Administration in Culpeper, VA.

A constant theme in Bill’s life was his love of the ocean and his

affinity toward a "Pirates Life"; I think that is why he enjoyed Jimmy Buffet so much. Thankfully, he did have opportunities to visit the islands and to feel those sensations during his lifetime.

After our father's death in 1992, Bill helped our mom while she helped him cope with his diagnosis with Muscular Dystrophy and Diabetes. Mom helped Bill with his diet and lifestyle, while he helped her with grief and loneliness. Through this, Bill found a confidence that he hadn't had in many years. He discovered his gift of crafting which sparked a passion for creating floral arrangements, wreaths, paintings, and many other art and craft products.

Bill met and married his first wife, Donna in 1997. During this time, I saw her encourage Bill to places of happiness I had never witnessed during his life. Unfortunately, that chapter ended. Bill remarried Janet, whom he loved very much and would do anything for, but that chapter also ended.

Bill's medical conditions haunted him through his life gradually degrading his ability to do things he loved. He suffered a major stroke in 2007 that left him disabled, and then he suffered a second severe stroke in the spring of 2008, which left him in need of constant nursing attention and impaired most of his motor skills and speech. Bill spent his last ten years in nursing homes with the last nine at Carriage Hill Health and Rehab in Fredericksburg, VA.

Bill didn't complain and quietly enjoyed watching TV. As much of his life, he preferred to be alone. He lost his ability to converse and communications was limited to short yes no responses. Even then none of us were quite sure how accurate the response was.

Last summer Bill was diagnosed with cancer and it was through this cancer and complications from the treatment that Bill eventually passed.

Bill was my only sibling and though we were different in many ways, I loved him deeply. I didn't always agree with his decisions, but was

always there for him. Somehow, he always was able to find humor in s

Kevin Sparks - February 13, 2018 at 02:19 PM

RH

thoughts and prayers be with the family form the himelrights sorry for the late condance but just found out

roy himelright - October 16, 2018 at 06:49 PM