



## William Stevenson

April 25, 1944 - June 27, 2012

WILLIAM P "Bill" STEVENSON, age 68 of Springfield, VA, loving husband of Thalia Stevenson for 38 wonderful years, died on Wednesday June 27, 2012, in Centreville, VA. Bill was born on April 25, 1944, in Roanoke, VA, and is the son of the late William R. and Anna Stevenson. Bill grew up in University Park, MD, and graduated from Northwestern Senior High School in 1962. After graduating high school, Bill worked in the construction industry. He entered the United States Navy in 1964 and participated in operation Deep Freeze in Antarctica. After his naval service, he attended Spartan College of Aeronautics and Technology, Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was subsequently employed by Petroleum Helicopters Inc., Lafayette, LA, as a helicopter mechanic servicing oil rig platforms in the Gulf of Mexico. Later, he returned to Maryland where he continued his career in the aviation industry. Bill worked in the Marine Corps Museum for a short period of time before he joined the National Air and Space Museum (NASM). At the NASM Bill worked in the Collections Division, as a welder and fabricator in the restoration shop. He joined the staff in 1977, just after the museum opened. As such, his contributions remain in nearly every major artifact that has been restored at NASM since that time. He was a master at his craft, a diligent worker, and a great colleague to all who worked with him over five decades at NASM. Bill will be missed, but we can take some solace in the knowledge that his service to the Smithsonian contributed greatly to the preservation of the world's greatest collection of aerospace artifacts that will continue to teach and inspire

many future generations. That is a legacy of which anyone can be proud. Bill was known throughout the museum and loved and respected by his co-workers. Survivors include his wife Thalia Stevenson, brother and sister in law Pandor and Deborah Hadjy and nephew Paul Clifford, sister in law Anthea Hadjy, brothers in law John and Paul Hadjy; cousin Steve Krzysko and his wife, Barbara; cousins Elizabeth Jane Humphrey and her husband, Steve; Ross Steven Krzysko, and Joanna Keith.

The family will receive friends from 10AM to Noon on Saturday July 7th, at Epworth United Methodist Church in Gaithersburg, MD. Funeral Services will immediately follow at the church with Reverend Jennifer Fenner officiating. Interment will follow at George Washington National Cemetery on Riggs Road in Adelphi, Maryland. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the "NASM-Collections Care Fund" c/o Finance Division at the National Air and Space Museum, Independence Avenue at Sixth Street SW, MRC 310, Washington, DC 20013-7012 in memory of Bill Stevenson.

# Tribute Wall

RG

“ *Bill was a true 'diamond-in-the-rough'. A good and caring friend. Thank you for your friendship Bill, it meant a lot to me. We all will miss you greatly.*

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**Roger Guest** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

KB

“ *Very friendly and incredibly honest Friend, You will be missed. Still shocked knowing You are gone.*

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**Ken Byrd** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

CS

“ *I would like to express my condolences to the family of Bill. All the best in this difficult time.*

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**Chris van Schaardenburgh** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

KH

“ *Thalia- my deepest condolences on your loss- Bill was truly "the man of steel" , in many ways the heart and soul of our group at Garber. I will never be able to look at a cake with a big frosting flower without thinking of him or when an unsolvable problem is a soup sandwich. He was the best...tailwinds Bill,till we meet again.  
Karl*

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**karl heinzel** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

DR

“ *To the family : Your family are in our prayers. Donnetta Rigney and Family*

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**Donnetta Rigney** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

BM

“ To Thalia, and family, thanks for sharing Bill with us these many years, I am sorry for your loss.

*Bill was a one of a kind technician and artist that could solve any problem that we could throw at him, and grin broadly when he delivered the answer, often in the form of a hand-made tool, piece of equipment, or material that we hadn't quite considered. He lives on in nearly every restoration and project that passed through the workshop at the Garber Facility, the place where the aircraft and spacecraft of the National Air and Space Museum were restored. The world isn't the same place without his knowledge, and his mischief.*

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**Bob McLean** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

LS

“ *Thalia*  
*I am so sorry over your loss. Your pain is so overwhelming. Lean on your friends*

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**Lisa Shea** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

SW

“ *With deepest feelings of a loss of a good friend and a great craftsman, he helped throw many challenges, and good conversations.*

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**scott wood** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

BH

“ *My heart and thoughts are with you Thalia in this difficult time. As the days go by memories of him will give you comfort. He was a unique individual and I have many fond memories spending time with the two of you in my childhood and as I got older. Bless Bill.*

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**Beth Humphrey** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM

ES

“ *Elizabeth and I extend to you our condolences and best wishes. We know words can't replace your great loss but our thoughts are with you.*

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**Erroll Sult** - March 29, 2013 at 01:59 PM