



## Edward Clark Willis

April 3, 1938 - March 31, 2018

Edward Clark Willis of Queenstown, MD, passed on Saturday, March 31, 2018, at Compass Regional Hospice in Chestertown from congestive heart failure complicated with pneumonia. He was 79.

Born on April 3, 1938, in Maryland, he was the son of the late William Dorsey and Adeline Hayden Willis. He graduated from Centreville High School, Class of 1956. A few years after graduation, he married Martha “Marty” Shawn, and they moved to Florida in 1961. Their daughter, Rayne, was born later that year. In Florida, Mr. Willis started as a sailing instructor, then went on to become a cruising captain sailing in the Bahamas on his own sailboat that he and Marty eventually lived on with their daughter. In 1968, he relocated to Wilmington, NC, where his love of the water and engineering led him to build his own marine construction business. In 1979, he moved to Manteo, NC, with a new business, designing and installing hydraulic systems on fishing trawlers. Mr. Willis moved back to Maryland in the late 1980s to Marty’s family farm, Bloomingdale (circa 1685), where he managed the farm and did extensive restoration work on the historic home.

Mr. Willis believed in lifelong learning. He obtained his pilot’s license which enabled him travel to various ports with his hydraulics business. He and Marty also flew for pleasure, taking many trips around the country. With his prowess for engineering, Mr. Willis continually dabbled in inventing and finding new

ways to do things in all areas of his life. He dreamed of an organic farming system that was self-sustaining on Bloomingdale Farm.

He is best remembered as being a “mentor.” He inspired and encouraged everyone in his world to embrace lifelong learning through education, reading, research, and “hands on” experiences. Through his enduring “one on one” lessons and his generosity, he helped many people.

In addition to his wife, Martha “Marty” Shawn Willis of Queenstown, MD, he is survived by a daughter, Rayne Lea Willis of Centreville, MD; a sister, Susan Willis Johnson of Chincoteague, VA; and a granddaughter, Adeline Marian Perry. He was predeceased by a brother, William Willis.

A celebration of life will be held at Bloomingdale Farm on a later date for close friends and family due to Marty’s delicate medical condition. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Parkinson’s Foundation or cards can be mailed to 122 Willis Road, Centreville, MD.

# Cemetery Details

**Private**

# Tribute Wall



“ *Edward Clark Willis*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Edward Clark Willis*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Edward Clark Willis*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Marty and family. Very sorry to hear of Ed's passing. I haven't seen Ed in several years but I pass by the farm several times a week and always wonder what he was up to. As former airport manager at BB Airport I would see Ed every week. would would share stories with all the guys that hung out in the pilots lounge. I was a little younger than Ed and I always wondered how he could have accomplished all he did. After getting to know him, I came to understand that he was always thinking of new things to do. That's what kept him going. He was always willing to help out anyone who needed anything. He will be missed.*

*John Pepe*

John Pepe - April 23, 2018 at 07:58 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear about Uncle Eddie! I have so many fond memories of him. I rented his home on Willis rd for a year and during that time we had many long conversations. He was a very intelligent and motivational person. He taught me how to operate the old tractor and how to beat a hangover with his tomato juice mixer. I was very fond of him and my dog is buried in the yard which he approved. I'm sure he was welcomed into heaven with loving arms from my Mom and all our relatives. My Mother loves him so too.

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**Dani Woodhurst** - April 20, 2018 at 09:38 PM

DN

“ So sorry to hear of Cousin Eddie's passing.. My condolences to Marty, Rayne and other friends and family. Sincerely, Diana Disharoon Notigan



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**diana notigan** - April 19, 2018 at 12:44 PM

DC

“ David And June Clark lit a candle in memory of Edward Clark Willis



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**David And June Clark** - April 17, 2018 at 08:51 AM