



William Joseph Neary Jr.

April 3, 1938 - June 18, 2015

On June 18, 2015, William Joseph Neary, Jr, "Bill." decided he had battled cancer valiantly long enough, and gave up that good fight, with his beloved wife, Anne, holding his hand.

Bill was born April 3, 1938, to William J. Neary, Sr. and Helen Ternove Neary in Chester, PA. He went to Holy Savior School, was an altar boy and a budding athlete. He attended St. James Boys' High School where he played basketball, baseball, ran cross country and was elected to Boy State for Pennsylvania. He then went to the University of Scranton on an academic and athletic scholarship, where he played basketball for the Royals. Two of Bill's proudest moments were playing basketball in Madison Square Garden in NYC and at the Palestra in Philadelphia.

Graduating with a Bachelor's of Science in Psychology in 1960, Bill joined the Centers for Disease Control, assigned to New York City. Next Bill was transferred to the Michigan State Health Department in East Lansing, then on to Cincinnati, where he enrolled in the Masters of Public Administration at the University of Cincinnati in 1970, having received one of the first Graduate School Scholarships in the nation. Bill then was transferred to the Health and Human Services Regional Office in Philadelphia, where he worked with various governmental agencies, responsible for Program Planning for his Region, including Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia

and the District of Columbia. Bill served as Liaison to Governor Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia, and had a special assignment to the White House. Bill was selected as the first Regional Director of the Refugee Resettlement Program in the Mid-Atlantic Region. He frequently received Meritorious and Special Service awards throughout his career. He retired from the Department of Health and Human Services in 1984.

Bill began a second career in Northern Virginia, and became a licensed Realtor. His first company was Shannon & Luchs, Annandale/Arlington in 1984. He was Rookie of the Year for S&L that same year. In 1989, he and his wife, Anne Ryan Neary, whom he married April 22, 1984, relocated to the Eastern Shore of Maryland. In 1991, Bill was Realtor Associate of the Year for the Talbot Board of Realtors. Bill became President of the Talbot Board of Realtors in 1995, and was Realtor of the Year that same year. Bill was active with the Maryland Association of Realtors (MAR) as well, serving on several statewide committees, including the Legislative Policy Committee, President's Council, Finance Committee and Realtors Political Action Committee. Bill was the proud recipient of the Maryland House of Delegates Award for "Leadership in the Real Estate Industry" in 1998. He was Regional Vice President for the Eastern Shore. Continuing his involvement with MAR, Bill was elected President in 2001. During his tenure as President, Bill developed the CARE Award, "Community Award, Realtors' Excellence," recognizing the contributions Realtors make to their communities in so many meaningful ways. Every year at the MAR Conference, one or two Local Boards are recognized for their outstanding efforts to enhance their constituents' lives.

Bill was also active at the National Association of Realtors level, serving on several national committees, attending annual conferences around the country. In 2005, Bill was selected as Regional Vice President for the same states he had worked with at HHS. Bill's contributions to the Real Estate Profession were validated when Governor Martin O'Malley appointed him

Real Estate Commissioner for the Eastern Shore in 2013. He attended his last Commissioners' meeting in May, 2015.

Bill and Anne enjoyed traveling, and in 2007 went to England where Bill was Anne's "Guest" at the Oxford Round Table. Bill joined the other "Guests" on various tours and other fun activities while Anne and her colleagues from around the world were working at the Rhodes House during the day. Following that exciting week, they flew to Ireland where they hired a car and drove around the countryside, visiting Kilkenny and Tipperary, where they traced family trees and made new friends.

Bill was diagnosed with bladder cancer in June, 2013. He and Anne embarked upon a different journey, through the health care system with a daunting diagnosis. The physicians, nurses, radiographers and myriad other health care providers were steadfast and supportive in their attention to Bill's needs. Drs. Matthew Fischer, David H. Smith, John Knud-Hansen, Chris Runz, Richard Alexander, Christina Turner, Anish Hinduja, Adam Weinstein, Eva Smorzaniuk, Dale Johnson, Rosa Mateo, Dennis DeShields, John Botsis, Haider Sarraf, and Paul Reinbold were essential members of Bill's health team. Bill received compassionate care from many of Anne's former nursing and radiology students, which provided added comfort and confidence for both Bill and Anne. For the last eight weeks of Bill's life, he had two guardian angel caregivers, Betty Howard and Dante Wilson, who provided outstanding hands-on-care and gentle reassurance to both Bill and Anne.

The greatest treasures in Bill's life have been his daughter, Kathleen Neary Blumberg; her husband, Steven, and their three sons, Steven, Daniel and Nathan. "Camp Granddad" was an annual summer tradition when each grandson would spend a week to play golf, attend Y camp, fish, and be spoiled by Granddad and GranAnne.

Bill is also survived by his brother, Ed Neary his wife Gina, daughter Megan; her husband, Tony, and three sons; an aunt, Helen Ternove; his sister-in-law, Nancy Wooten in North Carolina; many cousins in both his and Anne's family. He also leaves his Realtor family, his Chesapeake College family, his Eastern Shore Hospital Center family, and his William Hill Manor family.

Bill and Anne have been blessed with many wonderful friends and neighbors in their lives. Mary Antoun, Kathie Connelly, Mary Dobson, Crystel and Ken Farina, Joyce and Gary Fairbank, Joan and Alex Fountain, Barbara and Joe Healey, Eileen and Dave Heistand, Kathy Jones, Barbara and Duane Lundahl, Judy and Colin Macindoe, Ann Marie and Frank Piecuch, Robin Seal-Whitlock and Barbara Viniar have been especially dear and constant friends. His dear cat "Jonesey" misses Bill every day.

The family will receive friends at Fellows, Helfenbein and Newnam Funeral Home, 200 S. Harrison Street, Easton, MD, on Friday, June 26, from 6 till 8 PM. Because Bill loved a good party, a Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, July 18, from 2 till 4 PM, at the William Hill Auditorium, 501 Dutchman's Lane, Easton.

Later this summer, Bill will make his final trip to North Carolina to be buried near Anne's parents.

To honor Bill's dedication to education, athletics and Chesapeake College, the family requests donations be made to the Chesapeake College Foundation to support the new Health Professions and Athletics Center (HPAC) that will be opened later this year. Please send contributions to Chesapeake College Foundation, PO Box 8, Wye Mills, MD 21679, "In memory of Bill."

Cemetery Details

Private

Previous Events

Calling Hours

JUN **26**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Easton Location
200 S Harrison St
Easton, MD 21601
(410) 822-3131
info@fhfuneralhome.com

celebration of life

JUL **18**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

William Hill Auditorium
501 Dutchmans Lane
Easton, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *William Joseph Neary Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *William Joseph Neary Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Phil Foster lit a candle in memory of William Joseph Neary Jr.*



Phil Foster - July 04, 2015 at 02:57 AM



“ *DIANE BLAZEJAK lit a candle in memory of William Joseph Neary Jr.*



DIANE BLAZEJAK - July 03, 2015 at 01:51 PM



thinking of you and the family

DIANE BLAZEJAK - July 03, 2015 at 01:51 PM

PH

Anne - so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. It's been a long, hard-fought battle for him (and you). My prayers are with you. Love, Pam Haddaway

Pam Haddaway - July 06, 2015 at 01:34 PM

AL

“*Anne, I am so very sorry to hear of Bill;'s death and want you to know you are in my thoughts and prayers. I know you had a wonderful life together and hopefully great memories will sustain you in the coming times. Although i did not know Bill personally, just reading about him lets me know what a wonderful man he must have been. Again, please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. Alice Loper*

Alice Loper - June 30, 2015 at 09:41 AM

AN

Thanks so much, Alice, it is lovely to hear from you. We did indeed have a wonderful life, we were most blessed. Take care, please keep us in your prayers. Anne

Anne Ryan Neary - June 30, 2015 at 06:04 PM

AP

“*Dear Anne,*

Our thoughts are with you and with all of your family on this sad day. Frank so wants to make the trip to Easton but really is not able. Bill and Frank....What a team!! May God watch over you now and keep you in the palm of His hands, gently easing you through this most difficult time. Our love to you and everyone, Anne Marie and Frank.

Anne Marie Piecuch - June 26, 2015 at 07:14 AM

AN

Bless you, Anne Marie, indeed they were a great team! Please know that we fully understand, and appreciate your care and support these many years. please do continue to keep us in your prayers. Love, Anne

Anne Ryan Neary - June 26, 2015 at 07:19 AM

SB

“ To the Neary Family, Not that this should come as a surprise to you, but I wanted to tell you how highly regarded Bill was to his Realtor family. I had the pleasure of being an NAR Regional Vice President with Bill in 2005. Not only did he do a great job for NAR, but he did his work in the most professional, competent manner - and frankly, in short, he was just one of the nicest guys you could ever be around. My sincere sympathies to you in his passing. Please know he will always be remembered with highest regards. Sincerely, Steve Brown, 2014 President, National Association of Realtors

Steve Brown - June 25, 2015 at 07:45 PM

AN

Thank you so much, Steve. Bill enjoyed his year as RVP immensely, and was so proud that so many of his RVP mates went on to become NAR Presidents. Bless you for your kind words. Anne

Anne Ryan Neary - June 26, 2015 at 05:25 AM

PT

*“ Anne,
My condolences on the loss of your beloved Bill. I will always rememeber your warm friendship to me and your devotion to Bill and the grands. It was too cute to see you and Bill signal to each other when you took the podium to speak. Your friends and family will bouy you through the difficult days and your memories of love and laughter will sustain you. My thoughts and prayers are with you, PJ. Townsend*

PJ Townsend - June 25, 2015 at 12:01 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of William Joseph Neary Jr..*



June 25, 2015 at 11:20 AM



“ *My sympathy to the entire family. Anne, may your memories help you during this difficult time. Bill was a wonderful man with a great smile and he will be missed.*

Cecilia Hoevenaars - June 25, 2015 at 07:31 AM



“ *My condolences to the Neary Family. I will always remember working with Bill in Cincinnati in the Public Health Service - his sense of humor, his incessant teasing and the vivid stories he would tell while at a former position.. He enjoyed "junking." He would buy an item in one antique shop and try to sell it at another one citing it was an heirloom left to him. It never worked. May he rest in peace. Anne Pavlich, RN*

Anne Pavlich - June 24, 2015 at 07:31 PM



“ *David Jones lit a candle in memory of William Joseph Neary Jr.*



David Jones - June 24, 2015 at 04:10 PM

WM

“ Dear Ms. Ryan,
I'm so sorry to hear about Mr. Neary. He fought long and hard with you by his side.
I hope some day in the not too distant future you will be able to celebrate the wonderful life you shared; and your memories will become more cherished as time passes. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Wilma Miller

Wilma Miller - June 24, 2015 at 02:16 PM

MP

“ MARCELL PRITCHETT lit a candle in memory of William Joseph Neary Jr.



MARCELL PRITCHETT - June 24, 2015 at 06:38 AM

RA

“ When he was President of MAR, he invited me and my leadership mentor to visit him at his home and play a round of golf....wanted to ride with me....I got an earful....he encouraged my to seek leadership positions at the state level...take my passions for my industry to help structure our future and continued growth. His advice was "spot on" and we enjoyed a productive friendship laced with biting truth and positive encouragement. Bill kept his eye on me and always sidled up to offer advice and support when needed. He was one of a kind and will be sorely missed.

Ronald Anderson - June 23, 2015 at 01:55 PM

SB

“ *Sherri Brown lit a candle in memory of William Joseph Neary Jr.*



Sherri Brown - June 23, 2015 at 10:39 AM



“ *Bill's insight and wisdom will be sorely missed by all who knew and worked with him over the years. He is now at peace at the right hand of GOD. Rest in peace dear friend.*

Harold Huggins - June 22, 2015 at 01:59 PM



“ *Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of William Joseph Neary Jr..*



June 22, 2015 at 01:56 PM

AB

“ *ANN AND GENE BUTLER lit a candle in memory of William Joseph Neary Jr.*



ANN AND GENE BUTLER - June 22, 2015 at 07:48 AM

PC

“ *Blessed is his peace now in glory; an angel to watch over us forever. Bless you, Ann, for the wonderful care you gave him always and the decades of friendship and love. Exactly 28 months to the day that Don became an angel....they are talking about those Carpenter Street Saloon breakfasts, to be sure!*
Pat Campbell-White, REALTOR/friend
Rehoboth Beach, DE

Pat Campbell-White - June 21, 2015 at 08:43 PM