



William Speed Price Jr.

May 14, 1944 - February 8, 2015

William Speed Price of Easton MD, died on Sunday February 8, 2015, at his home after a short fight with pancreatic cancer. He was 70.

Bill and his family were lifelong sailors on their sailboat Strider, which after 43 years in the family will now find a home in Boston with George. The boat helmed by Bill brought the family through the Chesapeake, Caribbean, Long Island Sound, and the rest of the East Coast.

Bill was an avid music fan and multi-instrumentalist musician, having great talents with the guitar (which he was never without), trumpet, tenor sax, and just about anything else that made music. He spent many long nights in Greenwich Village in the 60s listening to the Jazz greats with his dad.

His hobbies were intensely and thoroughly pursued. He spent five years actively perfecting his flight of large radio control helicopters, before they were cheap and easy to fly. Next, he spent five years actively involved in scale ship model building, going so far as to have a CNC automated carving machine donated and installed at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum's model guild in St. Michaels MD, where he programmed it to carve various ship model hulls and parts. Next, his passion for woodwork and music came together. He decided to build guitars. Not just a kit you bought and glued together, but from scratch. He started by making frames, jigs, and tools to become a full-fledged

luthier. He programmed the CNC to carve the necks and custom inlay he designed. He built a total of five "picker's dream" guitars, which sound just beautiful.

Bill spent his working years designing the first computer databases for banks that managed your money. He also wrote software that shipped with every new IBM PC, when the PC was first invented. In 1984, he had four computers in his home, back when no one had ever seen one before.

Bill is survived by his wife Leslie; sons, Bill and George; and his grandkids, Finn and Angela; sister, Peggy and her husband Dale; niece, Ashley; sister-in-law, Barbara; and her husband Matt; nephews Zach and Nich; and half-siblings, Carla and Frank.

A memorial service will be held March 14, 2015, at 2:00 pm at the Third Haven Friends Meeting House, 405 S. Washington St., Easton, MD 21601.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Talbot Hospice Foundation, 586 Cynwood Dr, Easton, MD 21601

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 14. 2:00 PM (ET)

Third Haven Friends Meeting
406 S. Washington St.
Easton, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *William Speed Price Jr.*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *William Speed Price Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *William Speed Price Jr.*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Matthew Reynolds was added to the Family Tree.*

Ashley Younkman-Reynolds - April 18, 2015 at 06:46 PM



“ *Ashley Reynolds was added to the Family Tree.*

Ashley Younkman-Reynolds - April 18, 2015 at 06:45 PM



“ *Dale E Younkman was added to the Family Tree.*

Ashley Younkman-Reynolds - April 18, 2015 at 06:45 PM



“ 6 files added to the album *Bill, Peggy, and Ashley*



Ashley Younkman-Reynolds - April 18, 2015 at 06:42 PM



“ 8 files added to the album *Bill always enjoyed his granddaughter, Angela and cooking and spending time with family.*



Ann Petti - February 27, 2015 at 07:13 PM



“ 17 files added to the tribute wall



Carole & Dan Curtis - February 25, 2015 at 04:33 PM

CA

Bill was a precious soul who taught us so much about how to enjoy life, enjoy the finer things, fine food & drink and above all else, how to be a loyal friend by his example. We became friends shortly after we moved to Easton in 2001. Leslie came knocking at our front door a few days after we moved in, with a smile and pumpkin bread in her hand to welcome us to the neighborhood. A few weeks later she and Bill invited Dan & I over for a delightful Christmas dinner party and we had our first of many, foodie experiences with Bill & Leslie, being the lucky recipients of their warm hospitality and delicious food creations.

Bill & Leslie together were a team, creating the best gourmet meals we ever had on this side of the Atlantic. They shared their recipes, cooking skills and their prized cooking tools, like the big iron skillet for crab cakes. Everything I know about cooking crab, I learned from Bill & Leslie. I made Bill's own crab cake recipe for my cousin and her husband and they enjoyed them so much that they submitted Bill's recipe to their Baptist church cookbook. I reported that back to Bill, with a copy of the cookbook and remember him being delighted that his recipe had been enjoyed and shared.

We miss Bill, his kind & gentle way, his fun loving spirit, his humor, his smile and his guitar serenades with his own incredible, handmade guitar.

Bon voyage Bill! May you rest peacefully in the presence of Eternal Love. Perhaps one day, in eternity, we will all meet again and pose a toast to our friendship and all the great times we shared.

Carole - February 25, 2015 at 06:03 PM

KH

“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



Kate Hickey - February 25, 2015 at 01:20 AM

KH

“ *Dear William-Speed,
I loved your cheer, your stories and the fact that you passed on so much creative flair & knowledge to your son, Bill Price. Who shares many of your wonderful traits.
There was nothing better than to see the mutual amusement on the faces of you and your grandson Finnegan Speed Price, amazed by the world & all it contained. I hope that you are in a sailing boat with jazz filtering through the salty seasand enoying good food and wine where you are now, knowing that you lived a great life with your partner in crime Leslie. Much love, Kate & Finn x*

Kate Hickey - February 25, 2015 at 01:19 AM

CH

“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Cindy Handler - February 22, 2015 at 03:18 PM

HV

“ *Bill,
My friend, my captain and my partner in crime!
I love you and respect you like no one else.
I wish you a great journey and as you sail to your new destinations
may you have fair winds and a wonderful boat stocked with the
finest of memories, love and new friends who will welcome your
presence.
Athena and I will miss you even though we had not crossed paths
recently. She always kept me straight when sailing by reminding me
that I was supposed to smile even when she dropped the anchor
without tying down the bitter end! She just said Bill always smiled
and everything was fine...
You made my life richer and healthier because of who you were and
how you treated your friends.
We send you love and lots of hugs!
Your friends,
Harry and Athena Vardis*

Harry Vardis - February 20, 2015 at 04:46 PM

GE

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



George - February 12, 2015 at 09:52 AM

PT

“ *What a Fabulous gentleman !!!!! He will be missed!!! I know he and David are together organizing sing alongs up in Heaven !!!!! I will miss our fabulous dinner parties !!!! Prayers and Love to the family !!!! Pat Tremain*

Patricia Tremain - February 11, 2015 at 08:14 PM



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



Tracey Johns - February 11, 2015 at 09:00 AM

RM

Bill was a major contributor to the success of the Model Guild of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. He developed the very popular and highly professional model kit of the draketail "Martha," of which hundreds were sold through the Museum store and others. In addition, he was instrumental in bringing the CNC milling machine to the Museum, which has enabled the Guild to provide many hundreds of children with the enjoyment of toy models. Bill's past contributions will continue, but his continuing support and creativity will be sorely missed.

R P Mason - February 19, 2015 at 10:04 AM

DH

William Price; I gave Bill the name Mr. "B" right after I meet him; my next door neighbor. I remember when Mr. B and Leslie moved into Paper Mill Crossing; my wife said, come to the window; I believe Santa Claus has moved into the neighborhood. I looked out and there Santa was, standing right in his drive way! The Bill I came to know was not only interesting to talk to, he was amazingly smart!

Most people have a certain knowledge about their field of work. Mr. B knew a lot about many things and if he didn't, well he would teach himself.

I believe he was a natural computer genius, when it came to writing programs, a person who could do anything with his hands! Mr. B could fix anything and when he told me he was going to make a few guitars; well I thought he had lost his mind. Mr. B labored in that garage many a day and night and the finished product was something to behold and the sound was amazing; that was just Mr. B.

Bill never bragged about any of his abilities, he just got the job done with little fan fare.

He would help anyone and many times he would assist and wasn't even asked. I remember I had purchased a storm door for the front entry of my house. I believe it sat in my garage for over two years and I always said; I need to get that door up and out of the garage. I was traveling in Florida on one of my birthdays and when I got home, I walked up to the front door and like a gift from Santa Claus, my storm door was in place after all those years in the box in the garage. What a wonderful surprise!

I had to ask around and finally, my wife said; Bill and Leslie wanted to put up your door for you, while you were away.

I'm sure Mr. B labored long and hard over that door, as a few parts had been bent, when I moved the door from place to place in the garage. What a wonderful neighbor and a great person. I will miss Mr. "B", just like each of you, but most of all I will miss sitting with him on the back deck of talking with him on the front bench about just about anything and oh yes; having a beer or drink with Santa. It doesn't get any better!

My thoughts and prayers go out to Leslie, the boys, the grand children and each of you!

Some people are brighter than we may ever know; we just need to reach out and say hello. Mr. B was one of those people; never tooted his own horn, but he was there if you needed him!

*Go with God my friend and do your magic and make some good Harps
for the Angels in Heaven!*

Your neighbor DAN

Dan Hollingsworth - February 21, 2015 at 08:10 AM

KB

*Leslie's kindred spirit, Bill was a gentle soul
and now His early passing leaves our lives with a hole.*

*He loved his sails to bellow- the wind to slap his face
and in everything he did, he sailed to win the race.*

*His friends - there were so many and yet each one his best
whether sharing a bottle of red that had passed his every test*

*Or sitting at his table - a gourmet delight
We'd be regaled by tales well into the night.*

*He'd sit and listen to a long lost artist croon
Strum his guitar and play along with the tune.*

*Loved his self made helicopter - his choice of toys
And loved all the special times he shared with his boys.*

*A man that was filled with so much love from within
But no one felt that more than his Angela and Finn.*

*Now my dear friend there's a new journey you must start
But you will live forever in the corner of each heart.*

Love Kathryn

Kathryn Besarany - February 21, 2015 at 10:28 AM

WL

We will miss you, Bill. Your music, your laugh, your delight in creating something new. As the miles have grown between us, we have already missed the sailing together and the wonderful Christmas days with our families together. Your legacy in our family is your exquisite cooking ability in the kitchen. You have shared your skills with friends in the lessons you taught (albeit unwittingly sometimes) for serving the perfectly cooked meal, worthy of the finest restaurant. We will never forget some of your sauces that take two days to prepare. That legacy will live on as I have already share some of your lessons with our children.

We hope to some day hear some of the harps you will make for the angels in heaven!

Love, Grace & Werner

Werner & Grace Lohmann - February 22, 2015 at 01:27 PM

ST

Good bye Mr. Price. Even though I am older, you will always be Mr. Price. So many memories. Sailing, singing, great food, laughing. Thank you for them.

Sharon Tiziker

Sharon Tizker - February 22, 2015 at 05:57 PM