



## William E. Sheehan

May 20, 1925 - October 3, 2019

William E. Sheehan, a former President of ABC NEWS, international news correspondent and government official, died Thursday, October 3, 2019.

Mr. Sheehan was born May 20, 1925, in Boston MA, the son of the late William E. Sheehan, Sr. and Mary Rose Crimmins Sheehan.

In World War Two, Mr. Sheehan, a Second Lieutenant, served as a navigator/bombardier in the United States Air Forces in the European Theater from 1943-1945.

Mr. Sheehan began his broadcasting career in Detroit, MI, with WJR, a 50,000-watt Clear Channel radio station. He was honored by the Overseas Press Club in 1964, receiving its award for the best interpretation of international news reporting. Mr. Sheehan was deeply involved in public broadcasting, serving first on the board of directors of public station WTVS in Detroit from 1980 to 1987 and later, as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Public Broadcasting Service. He also served on the Board of Directors of WETA television in the Washington area. In recent years, Mr. Sheehan devoted his time to government service as a public affairs official with NASA as well as his work as Senior Counselor with the International Media Fund.

He was a member of the Cosmos Club in Washington, DC, and a private pilot

and member of AOPA. His passion was flying his Beechcraft Sierra.

Mr. Sheehan is survived by his children, Kathleen Sheehan Umemoto of Parker, CO, Joanne Sheehan (Richard Cann) of Lambertville, NJ, Linda Sheehan (George Krevet) of Wharton, NJ, and David Sheehan of Littleton, CO; nephew, Christopher Sheehan; nine grandchildren; and sixteen great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Rosemary Mansworth Sheehan, his son, Mark W. Sheehan, and brother, John Francis Sheehan.

All services will be private.

# Tribute Wall



“ *William E. Sheehan*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *William E. Sheehan*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *William E. Sheehan*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM

“ To Bill Sheehan’s Family,

*I was very sad to hear of Bill’s passing, although it did evoke many fond memories of him. Not long after I came to work for NASA in 1987 as a media relations officer, Bill made me his special assistant. He became my mentor and a very positive influence in my life, and it was a huge disappointment when he eventually left the agency. He was a true gentleman and consummate news and public relations professional.*

*I hope you won’t mind just a couple of memories :*

*- I would try to beat Bill into the office each day, but it seemed like he’d always get there ahead of me. He’d always be at his conference table, working his way through a substantial stack of morning newspapers, thriving on the latest developments in a wide range of subjects. No matter what challenges the upcoming day would hold, he’d always offer a smile and a cheerful “Good Morning, Jeff!”*

*- I also had the opportunity to fly with Bill a couple of times in the Beech Sierra he’d bought years earlier with Jules Bergman. Bill was really in his element when he was in the air. One time, we flew from DCA to Langley AFB. Due to his high civil service rank, Bill got the same treatment accorded to a senior general as we approached the airfield. He was grinning from ear-to-ear as the tower held up other traffic for his arrival. When we departed for home at the end of the day, the Beech had barely gotten off the runway when two fighter jets came screaming by us — one in each side of Bill’s plane. I was half-terrified, but Bill whooped with joy.*

*Please accept my condolences on your loss. I know you will miss Bill, but know that he positively touched my life and the lives of many others.*

*Sincerely,*

*Geoffrey (Jeff) Vincent*

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**Jeff Vincent** - October 31, 2019 at 04:38 PM

DS

*Thank you Jeff, that was very nice. Great memories.*

*David Sheehan*

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**David sheehan** - November 26, 2019 at 11:10 PM

SS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**susan sheehan** - October 10, 2019 at 06:12 PM

SS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**susan sheehan** - October 08, 2019 at 10:47 PM

DS

*Conor's first crab catch !*

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**David E Sheehan** - October 10, 2019 at 01:01 PM

LS

*I just became aware of Bill's passing and send my condolences to the family. He and I were high school classmates, and we kept in touch over the years. Great memories, and a great friend.  
Lew Shaw, Scottsdale, AZ (Classical HS, Class of 43.)*

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**Lew Shaw** - January 10, 2021 at 09:59 PM