



## William Reed Ellarson

March 19, 2025

William Reed Ellarson, 71, of Jacksonville, Florida, went home to be with his Lord on March 19, 2025, in Woodbridge, Virginia, with family by his side.

Bill was born on March 3, 1954, in Sheboygan, Wisconsin and he grew up in the small town of Cedar Grove. After attending a year of college at UW Madison, Bill began his career as a sheet metal worker, traveling across the United States to insulate tanks. As a skilled craftsman, Bill ensured every job was completed with excellence, no matter how difficult the circumstance, he solved every obstacle with creative thinking and a positive attitude.

In 1981, Bill married Ann, the love of his life, and became a stepfather to Ann's three sons and later a father to Riann. They moved from Maryland to Florida and made Ormond Beach their home for 20 years and lived in Jacksonville together for 13 years. After Ann's passing, Bill moved next door to his daughter and family, treasuring the daily visits by his beloved granddaughters.

Bill enjoyed reading, listening to his favorite radio programs, and being outdoors to appreciate the beauty of God's creation. He was a man of great faith, which grew stronger every day as he spent more time with God in his Word, through prayer, and with other believers. Bill truly put his faith into action by the way he generously gave and selflessly served others. He could

build or repair anything and helping others brought him so much joy.

Bill will be remembered not only for his hardworking hands, but his tender spirit, unwavering support and humble heart. He was truly one of a kind and his absence will be greatly missed. May his legacy of a life well-lived encourage and inspire us all.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents John and Josephine (Voskuil) Ellarson, his dear sister Jennete Miller and his beloved wife Ann. Bill is survived by his daughter, Riann (Mike) Boyd of Jacksonville, FL; three sons, Justin Callicott of Dawsonville, GA; Jason Callicott of Jacksonville, FL; and John Callicott of Annapolis, MD; and his six cherished grandchildren, Katie and Emily Boyd; Matthan and Asher Callicott; Sophia Callicott; and Matthew Callicott.

A Celebration of Bill's Life will be held at Chets Creek Church, 4420 Hodges Blvd., Jacksonville, FL, 32224 on April 12, 2025 at 10:00AM. Bill loved his local church, his community and worldwide missions, so in lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his honor to Chets Creek Church, City Rescue Mission, or World Challenge.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

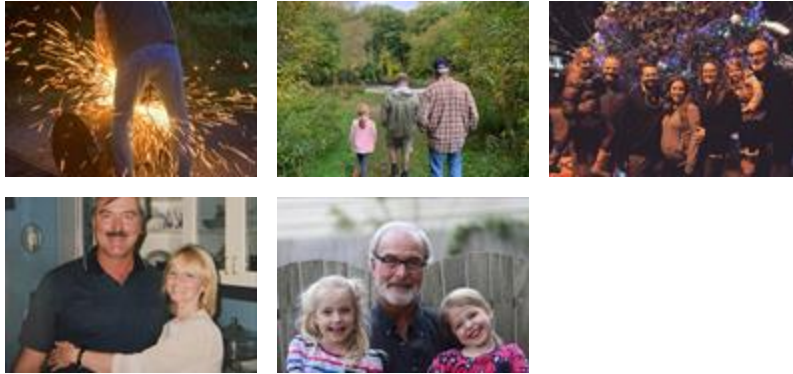
APR **12**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Chets Creek Church  
4420 Hodges Blvd  
Jacksonville, FL 32224

# Tribute Wall

RB

“ 40 files added to the album Memories



Riann Boyd - June 06, 2025 at 04:14 PM

DV

“ As my sister shared, Bill was my cousin and "running partner" when we were kids growing up in CG. Whether we were messing around in the brickyard at his Dad's (our Grandfather's) Block and Supply company, driving our bikes around the Canning factory, or smuggling a couple Camels to smoke in the gravel pit, we experimented many things growing up...Later in life, I enjoyed discussions that were reflective of both past and current experiences-keeping the bond we forged as kids...Bill leaves a lasting impression on so many, and I will dwell on the many positive experiences we shared, and those he has provided his family and friends.....Cousin Dave and Helle  
PS. Bill, say hi to Aunt Jo and Uncle Johnny for me...We miss them both to this day.....

David Jay Voskuil - April 12, 2025 at 02:13 PM

LD

“ Bill was my cousin . His mom (Aunt Jo) was my dad’s older sister . Lucky for me and my brother , my Dad and my Aunt Jo (and my Uncle Cap) decided to all raise their children in the same town ... Cedar Grove , Wisconsin .

We grew up together... and by together , I mean we spent LOTS of time together 😊😊 Our families were extremely close... my Aunt Jo was my “second “mom, and Bill was like a brother and cousin Jen an older sister . I guess at the time I took this for granted and figured that every family lived like this .

Years later I came to realize that maybe this wasn’t always the “norm “, and I discovered how incredibly blessed I was to grow up surrounded by so much love , so much comfort and safety .

Over the years we grew up and traveled paths that took us in different directions , but luckily that strong bond of love that we forged early on kept us together and connected ..

My memories of Bill are many ... birthday celebrations ,being on homecoming court in high school with him , road trips in his van , brat fries , laughter... LOTS of laughter ... supporting each other in good times and the hard times . Always with so much love and respect and support for each other .

My children called him Uncle Bill , and his children call me Aunt Lori . This is an honor that I don’t take lightly .

Though I am sad that he is no longer physically with us , I am at peace knowing he is with his beautiful wife Ann, my Aunt Jo, my Uncle Johnny and my cousin , Jen . I will carry your spirit with me always, my beautiful cousin Bill...until we meet again ❤️❤️

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Lori Dutter - April 11, 2025 at 08:00 PM

PD

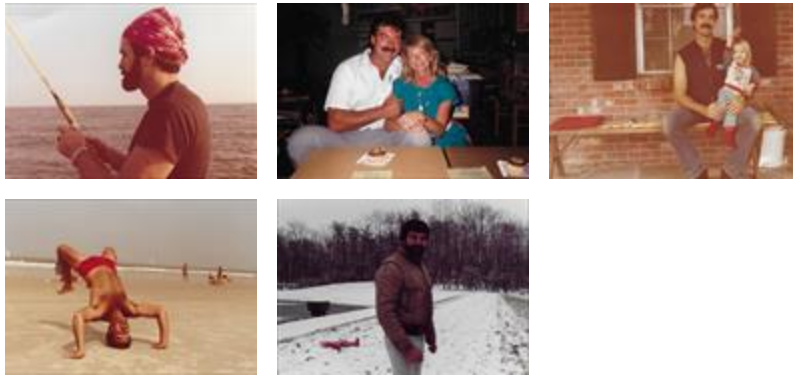
“ Words can't even begin to describe the role that Bill and his family played in my life. Bills sister Jen and I were married while I was in the Coast Guard. Their Dad had passed away months before- Bill was 14and it of course devastated the family. We worked on our hot rods together,went hunting and camping. When Jen and I and son Chris moved to Washington state, Bill would hitch hike out to see us without a dollar in his pocket. He loved any adventure! over the years after Bill started his family we seldom saw each other except on working trips out west or my family going to Wisconsin or Florida. I just wish we would have made more of an effort to see each other more often. Its too important not to! I believe in the promise that we'll all see each other again in a much,much better place-not empty words but very true and real! Goodbye for now Bill,brother,mentor,Exceptional Man. Pat Doolin

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Pat Doolin - April 06, 2025 at 06:23 PM

RB

“ 9 files added to the album Memories



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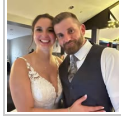
Riann Boyd - April 04, 2025 at 10:12 PM



“ I met Bill when we were both 5 years old, in kindergarten. I remember in sixth grade, we went on a field trip down to lake Michigan to identify birds. Bill was so excited. He knew every bird we saw. I'll never forget the look on his face, smiling from ear to ear. He was a bird nerd for sure. When we were in high-school, we banged our knuckles up working on our cars together. Bill had a 57 Chevy 327 with a 4 speed. It was a nice car. After HS we worked for a company out of NJ insulating storage tanks throughout the country. Bill was always there with just the right thing to make our day like having champagne on ice in the trunk of his car to knowing where to rent canoes and camp on the barrier islands in the everglades. Bill loved life and knew how to live it. I never worked so hard and had fun doing it as I did with Bill and he was a hard worker. Sometimes I couldn't keep up. Quality was front and center with Bill. I saw him stay after work on his own time just to make some details on the job a little better. He wasn't happy until it was just right. Traveling with work, our paths often crisscrossed. If I ran into an old classmate or someone who worked with Bill in the past, Bill's name always came up and I was asked how he was doing or have I talked to him. The reason everyone asked about him was because of the person he was. He always had something good to say and always made whatever you were doing fun. He was always there to lend a hand and he cared about what you were doing or going through. He truly cared about people and was a joy to be with. After I retired, Becky and I spend our summers in Indiana. Bill would stop by for a couple days on his way to Wisconsin. A few years ago, Becky's cousin Dodi and her husband Paul met Bill and last year I told Bill they were hoping he would stop in and he said "me? Why?" I told him it was because he was a great guy and people enjoy being around him. That was Bill. I'm going to miss my best friend very much. I'm looking forward to the day we meet again.

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Becky Campbell Voigt - April 04, 2025 at 01:21 PM



*This was from my husband Kevin*

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**Becky Campbell Voigt** - April 04, 2025 at 01:23 PM

DS

“ *At one of the camp fundraisers at Chets, sat with Bill and Emily while her sister served and we started talking about college days. There was a cookie that he used to get at his favorite stopping point, and I found the recipe. It must've had 25 ingredients, but he made some and brought me one to church. Bill was sincere, family oriented and will be missed by all.*

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**Dale Smith** - April 03, 2025 at 08:51 AM

WP

“ *I knew Bill when I was little growing up in Belgium Wisconsin! He was such a kind person and I remember his handsome smile. I always thought about home and wished him well. Looks like he had a great life! He will always hold a special place in my heart. Hugs and prayers to the family.*

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**Wendy Pierron** - March 31, 2025 at 07:42 PM

CM

“ I became friends with Bill about 27 years ago. He gave my Husband and I a ride to Wisconsin for a job it was a fun ride . I have had the honour of working with Bill on a few jobs and learned some of his Great knowledge and wisdom on how to do the work on Tanks. Bill was always so Happy and so full of Love for his Family and Friends. The one time we were at a job and making a little Snowman granddaughters and took a picture to send them. His face Light up so bright every time he spoke of his granddaughters or his daughter, they were love of his life in In the days we had the pleasure of working with him. My husband and I were travel Ing to a job when we heard the news of this heart wrenching news. Bill we truly love you and will miss you every day. Sending love ,peace , strength and healing prayers for you and your family in this trying time . God must have a really big job up there for you Buddy save some panels for us we will see you again one day Rest Easy Bill we love you.

Crystal Murray - March 29, 2025 at 07:01 AM

RB

Oh Crystal, thank you for your kind and sweet words. I just saw the snowman pictures again two nights ago. My girls loved getting pictures like that when Papa was away. Now they mean even more to us. Thanks again and your “save some panels for us” line really got me. 💕

Riann Boyd - March 30, 2025 at 01:46 PM

JD

“ Bill was a humble and kind man. He was thoughtful and generous with his time. Bill loved the wide open spaces and on one of his visits to England, he would take himself off into the Yorkshire moors and countryside to watch the wild life, and to be with nature. He had time for everyone and would listen to you. All though you lived far away you will be greatly missed and remembered. Janis Donnelly

Janis Donnelly - March 29, 2025 at 03:43 AM

RB

*Aww, Janis. Thank you. Yes, he had a great appreciation for nature. I had forgotten about his trips to the countryside there and yes— he always made time and was the best listener. Had to be since he married Mom. :)*

Riann Boyd - March 30, 2025 at 01:38 PM

MB

*“ Bill was my very handsome brother-in-law and when he came to England I told all my friends my sister Ann married a movie star (Magnum) my mam said our Ann had hit the jackpot when she married Bill he was such a good kind and hard working man and we all loved him.  
RIP Bill you will always be loved and remembered here in England love marie*

Marie Briggs - March 29, 2025 at 03:06 AM

RB

*Auntie Marie, thank you for making me smile. Dad sure enjoyed all his visits to Norton and you all meant so much to him. ❤️ Love you.*

Riann Boyd - March 30, 2025 at 01:36 PM

BC

*“ I was with bill on his last day I'm still trying to make sense of it which I doubt I ever will but I can honestly say he was one of a kind. A man I truly admired and respected He taught me so much about work and doing your best in life He was truly a joy to be around. I know I'm never gonna forget him. RIP. My friend it was a fun ride Bill Clay*

bill clay - March 28, 2025 at 07:48 PM

PL

*Bill was married to my wonderful friend Ann .My husband (who passed away in December ) and I visited Ann and Bill three times in America ,He was a wonderful guide and loved his country ,so proud of it .He was kind clever and nothing was ever too much trouble ,my heart goes out to the family ,he will be so missed,I hope he's catching up with Ann and all his friends, they were truly blessed having each other .Rest in peace Bill you have truly earned your wings,Pat Lee and family .x*

**Patricia Lee** - March 30, 2025 at 01:07 PM

RB

*Oh Pat, I've just been looking through pictures. Saw a few of you and Walt here. So many good memories. Dad and I had been thinking of you and praying for you often this New Year. Loss is unbearable at times, but thank God for his faithful comfort. Sending you much love. - Riann*

**Riann Boyd** - March 30, 2025 at 01:27 PM

RB

*Bill, thank you so much for your kind words. I agree, I don't think we'll ever understand this side of Heaven, but God has been giving me some hopeful glimpses, even in the midst of such intense grief.*

**Riann Boyd** - March 30, 2025 at 01:33 PM