



William Vernon Fitzsimmons

December 18, 1946 - November 8, 2020

William Vernon Fitzsimmons, 73 of Fraziers Bottom, WV, passed away November 8, 2020.

Born December 18, 1946 in Jacksonville, Florida, William was a son of the late Commander William Fitzsimmons USN and Helen E. Frazier, also grandson of the late Elwood and Pearl Frazier, His grandfather was his life-long Hero.

William served his country in the U.S. Navy as petty officer 2nd class and served on 3 different Ships mostly on the USS Orion AS18, After his service to his country, in 1969 he was employed by BBF as a store manager in 1972. He then was employed by KFC in Huntington as store manager. In 1973, he went to work for Jerrico/Long John's Silver as a store manager, then field franchise manager and later became area supervisor in WV, KY, IN, TN and AK. While area supervisor, he facilitated the opening of 25 stores. In 1988 William went to work for Hurricane Waste Water Treatment Plant as a lab manager. He was later promoted to Buffalo Waste Water Treatment Plant as plant manager, retiring in 2000.

He was a past active member of Bancroft Church of God Mission. William was also an active member and served as finance officer of James E. Marshall American Legion Post # 187, Winfield where he took part in over 500 Military

Funerals and also responsible for raising several thousand dollars for the Flag program. He enjoyed Basketball both as a player and coach.

He is survived by his children, Carla S. Fitzsimmons and her fiancée Shawn Crosby, their child Tristan, of Virginia, Sandra L. Fitzsimmons of St. Albans, WV, and William Scott Fitzsimmons of Knoxville TN., his only granddaughter, Mia Bella Christine Fitzsimmons; sister, Linda K. Sporrer of Pennsylvania; brother, Mark A. Sorsaia of Hurricane, WV,; and his ex-wives: Linda Atkins Wooddell of Charleston WV., Tammy Lilly of Ironton OH, and Patrina Fitzsimmons of Fraziers Bottom, WV,.

A Celebration of William's Life will be held at 3:00pm Monday November 16, 2020 at Fraziers Bottom United Methodist Church Cemetery, Fraziers Bottom. Burial will follow with Military Honors provided by the James E. Marshall American Legion Post #187, Winfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations are requested to be made in his name to: James E. Marshall, American Legion Post # 187, P.O. Box 31, Winfield, WV 25213

You can share memories of Mr. Fitzsimmons by visiting his tribute page at ChapmanFuneralHomes.com

Chapman Funeral Home, family-owned and located at 3941 Teays Valley Road, Hurricane is honored to serve the Fitzsimmons family.

Cemetery Details

Fraziers Bottom United Methodist Church Cemetery

1 Church Lane
Fraziers Bottom, WV 25082

Previous Events

Graveside Service

NOV 16. 3:00 PM (ET)

Fraziers Bottom United Methodist Church Cemetery
1 Church Lane
Fraziers Bottom, WV 25082

Tribute Wall



“ *William Vernon Fitzsimmons*

October 06, 2023 at 08:41 AM

RC

“ I was visiting family in Teays Valley. I decided to look up my friend and boss from the past. I googled William Fitzsimmons in Frazier's Bottom and discovered his passing. I looked him up one time before while visiting and we actually met up at a restaurant and spent about 2 hours laughing and reminiscing about some of the funny things that happened during our days of working together at Long John Silver's.

Bill was my area supervisor and I was a 22 year old manager at the LJS in Huntington while putting my wife through Marshall University. This was back in 1976.

He was the finest man, as well as the best boss, I ever worked for! I had a hard time accepting the fact that he had passed.

He loved to torment me at manager's meetings. Loved to quietly say funny things to me about the topic being discussed, then watch me struggle not to laugh and keep my composure!

One such example:

The district director was making sure everyone knew to shove a thermometer deep into a case of fish to insure the freezers were -10° F. Bill leaned over and told me that he just sent a cook into the freezer and had him stick his tongue on the steel rack. If it sticks to it, the freezer was cold enough. The vision of that about tore me up. I can still see that impish smile on his face as I struggled to keep my composure!

That's only one of many, many warm memories I have of this great man and his humor!

I wish his family comfort as it comes up on the one year anniversary of his passing.

Rib Carrico - September 15, 2021 at 05:35 PM

DW

“ Vernon was a really great classmate at Winfield High school, class 1965.. I attended our 2015 class reunion and enjoyed speaking to him again. We shared high school stories and had a great time seeing him and our classmates. My brother Ronnie just told me that Veron has passed.
I pray for Veron, family and may he rest in peace.
Dan Wilmoth

Dan Wilmoth - November 18, 2020 at 11:18 PM

GM

“ The Moodys are so sorry to hear of Bills passing.. we have wonderful football memories of him.. thoughts and prayers

GERRIANN MOODY - November 17, 2020 at 08:28 PM

SM

“ Bill was always very polite to our family and a very nice person. He will be missed. Prayers to the family for comfort and love during this difficult time. Sue , Elwood, Chris, Eddie and Archie Meadows.

Sue Meadows - November 15, 2020 at 08:40 AM

TF

“ My cousin, I wish I could have known better! Only spent 1 day with him when I was in WV in 2007!
My impression was that he was a great guy!
I send condolences to his entire family and I pray that God's peace and comfort strongly be upon you!

Thomas W Fitzsimmons - November 14, 2020 at 01:29 PM

GA

My Cousin that I always loved but didn't get to see very much was always smiling. Our sympathy to all the family. Geneva Stiff Asbury and Mike

Geneva Stiff Asbury - November 16, 2020 at 10:23 AM



“ *Delightful Dieffenbachia was purchased for the family of William Vernon Fitzsimmons.*



November 13, 2020 at 09:26 PM

PF

“ *64 files added to the tribute wall*



Patrina Fitzsimmons - November 13, 2020 at 01:20 PM

FJ

“ *Frances L Johnson lit a candle in memory of William Vernon Fitzsimmons*



Frances L Johnson - November 13, 2020 at 08:56 AM



“ *May the love of God surround you and your family during this difficult time,
May you come to know that the love of God is with you always,*

May your memories of William Vernon Fitzsimmons, give you peace, comfort and strength...

*Rest now in the arms of our Lord your mission on earth is complete.
I thank you for your service to our Country and my Freedom. You will not be forgotten.*

*My thoughts
and prayers to the family of*

US Navy Veteran, William Vernon Fitzsimmons, is “A True American Hero” God Bless†

† Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. John 15:13 †

Cheryl Skinner, Tri-state Military Museum - November 12, 2020 at 03:39 AM

DG

“ *Vernon was a good friend to our family. I have a lot of memories of seeing him on his tractor, raising sugar cane tobacco, hay and field corn. No matter where I saw him, he always asked me how all my family was. Rest In Peace sweet friend.*



Dana Gillispie - November 11, 2020 at 07:48 PM

TF

“ *Teresa Frazier lit a candle in memory of William Vernon Fitzsimmons*



Teresa Frazier - November 11, 2020 at 05:03 PM

BS

“ *Vernon was always a good friend and classmate. Sincere sympathy to his family.*

Buck Sargent - November 10, 2020 at 11:33 PM



“ *Mary Payne lit a candle in memory of William Vernon Fitzsimmons*



Mary Payne - November 10, 2020 at 06:23 PM

BF

“Vernon was my cousin and a person with whom I have shared countless hours of conversation. He was a capable farmer and it seemed he knew how to do most anything, but mostly I will always remember him just sitting on the porch or standing in the barn telling stories of days gone by. He was very good at it. He didn't talk much about his time in the Navy or about job-related things. He preferred to reminisce and tell stories about our Grandma and Grandad Frazier and about the comings and goings on the farm from his younger years ...and he was very good at sharing the great stories that had been told to him of events that pre-dated his own life. His eyes would light up and a smile would become a chuckle as he would wrap up a tale. They often say when someone passes much is lost to the ages. I have been thinking about that over the past couple of days and that is so true of Vernon as he held a vast treasure of knowledge and memories. I was fortunate to be the recipient on many occasions when he would share some with me.

Brad Frazier - November 10, 2020 at 06:11 PM