



William Michael Gillespie

May 15, 1953 - February 7, 2024

William Michael Gillespie, age 70, husband of Jean A. (Koch) Gillespie of Royersford, Pennsylvania, passed away on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at Parkhouse Nursing & Rehabilitation. Born on May 15, 1953, in Pottsville, he was a son of the late Therese (Muldowney) and Francis William Gillespie.

William began his working career at Autocar Trucks in Exton and eventually retired as a yardmaster for Norfolk Southern, ending his career doing what he loved the most, working with the railroad. His favorite pastime was trains, and he enjoyed trips across the country to enjoy his hobby.

Serving for many years as President of the Roboda Homeowner's Association, William was proud of the association's accomplishments. Because of his greenthumb, he handled much of their gardening and planted many of the community's daffodils, which bloom beautifully each spring.

William loved spending time with his friends and family, enjoying going out to meet friends for breakfast and family for dinner, but most importantly, he loved the time spent with his granddaughter. He loved to cook and especially enjoyed Thanksgiving and Christmas, when everyone raved about his famous potato stuffing, which no one can match and will be deeply missed. Despite his burley appearance, William was a gentle soul, who had a heart of gold and enjoyed making people smile.

In addition to his loving wife, William is survived by his children, Laura A., wife of Chris Geyer and Michael F. Gillespie; granddaughter: Genevieve Geyer; and siblings: Robert Gillespie and Therese, wife of James Squadrito.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend his memorial service on Friday, February 16, 2024, at 11:00 am at the Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc., Main Street at Fifth Avenue, Phoenixville. Officiating will be Deacon David Kubczak. Interment will follow in the Limerick Garden of Memories. Friends will be received from 10:00 -11:00 am at the funeral home.

Memorial contributions may be made in William's name to National Railway Historical Society, 505 South Lenola Road, Suite 226, Moorestown, N.J. 08057, <https://secure.nrhs.com/forms/giving>.

Arrangements are being handled by the Campbell - Ennis - Klotzbach Funeral Home, Inc. Condolences may be offered online at www.PhoenixvilleFuneralHome.com.

Cemetery Details

Limerick Garden of Memories

44 East Arcadia Drive
Limerick, PA 19468

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 16. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home
610 South Main St
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Memorial Service

FEB 16. 11:00 AM (ET)

Campbell-Ennis-Klotzbach Funeral Home
610 South Main St
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Tribute Wall

LK

“ As a fellow graduate of Upper Merion High School, Class of 1971, I offer my sincere condolences to Bill's loving family. If I am correct, I knew Billy in elementary school when we both went to Mother of Divine Providence Church in King of Prussia. In any case, I have nothing but the best memories of him as a caring, happy person. I promise to remember Bill and all of you in my prayers. Linda Stiles Korpel

Linda Stiles Korpel - February 14, 2024 at 09:05 AM

JF

My apologies for just writing now. I am walking in Roboda and just now seeing the plaque on the bench. We are away in the winter and I wasn't aware he had passed. The last time we spoke, he was sitting on this very bench. I am a 30 year resident of Roboda and I know how dedicated Bill was to it's continued beauty and to the Biard of Directors. Rest in peace Bill. Remembered fondly.

*Jeanne Ferry
#24*

Jeanne Ferry - June 26, 2024 at 09:26 AM

GG

We lived in Roboda starting in late 1975. Was on the Board for many years under the leadership of Bill. Bill was available to discuss any issue. He always had Roboda in his best interest and proponent for investing in capital projects every year to keep Roboda as a quality place to live. I will miss our conversations. May Bill Rest In Peace!

George A Gola - September 16, 2024 at 06:58 PM



“Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Michael Gillespie.



February 13, 2024 at 09:58 PM



“Despite his burley appearance, William was a gentle soul, who had a heart of gold and enjoyed making people smile.” No truer words were ever spoken. Bill was all of that. He knew trains and railroad operations like no one else. I was part of a group of rail fans that met regularly at the Phoenixville and Royersford train stations. Bill was a fixture there. A straight shooter like no other. He definitely made me smile, and laugh! He called me one night to let me know of a brand new BNSF engine that was part of the consist of a westbound train. My young son and I pulled into the Royersford station just ten minutes ahead of that train. When that new engine went by, you could distinctly smell the new paint! Thanks Bill for the great railroad stories and your knowledge. My thoughts and prayers are with Bill’s family. I hope all of you find peace and comfort in the coming days.

John Romer
Schwenksville

John Romer - February 10, 2024 at 07:52 PM