



Bill Tate Sr.

October 25, 1946 - March 12, 2018

PRINCETON – William Hisel “Bill” Tate, Sr., 71, of Princeton, died Monday, March 12, 2018. Born October 25, 1946 in Providence, RI, he was the son of the late Joseph Edward Tate and Antonietta Terino Tate.

His middle name was said to be a tribute to the doctor who delivered him. Everyone called him Bill. He grew up in Riply, West Virginia as one of seven children living and working on the family farm. He attended Riply High School and volunteered to join the US Army on August 10, 1966 during the Vietnam conflict. Fate did not have combat in store for Bill. Instead he served in West Germany where he met the love of his life, Gertrud. Bill and Gerti were married on August 1, 1969 and settled in Germany where Bill worked for the US Government. They traveled extensively and Bill learned to speak the German language. He loved German food and beer, and he was proud that he could communicate in a second language.

Bill and Gerti had two children while still in Germany: Christina in 1970 and William Jr. in 1972. Bill brought his growing family back to West Virginia in 1974, and in 1975 their final child, Elisabeth, completed the family. Bill worked in construction as a truck driver and was a proud member of the Teamsters Union Local 175. He would often say he built things that would remain long after his death. During visits up north, he would point out sections of the WV Turnpike that he helped to build.

Bill loved fishing and hunting in his youth. He had a brilliant mechanical mind and could repair almost any motor with ease. He was an excellent chess player and loved traveling. He loved going to new places and learning new things. He loved his family and was kind to everyone he met. He loved music, especially the man in black, and was known for making a joyful noise while singing "Long Black Veil." He loved animals of all types and often spoke of riding on the backs of pigs and milking the cow on the farm where he grew up. At the time of his passing, he was feeding as many as six stray cats and loved to watch them play outside. He fed birds, too, much to the dismay of neighbors with cars parked beneath power lines. He was known by all area crows as a source of food, as well. He did the best he could with what he was given in life, and bravely faced his daily challenges. He was a loving and faithful husband and father. He tried to see the best in everyone and accepted people for who they were. He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and found them to be amazing bundles of energy.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his mother-in-law, Maria E. Barth; a brother-in-law, Ray Casto; and a sister-in-law, Marie-Luise Barth.

Survivors include his wife of 48 years, Gertrud Hilda Tate; daughter, Christina Tate-Noecker and husband Joerg of Princeton, son, William H. Tate, Jr. and wife Alicia of Princeton and daughter, Elisabeth Tate-Collin and husband Edward of Columbus, OH; four grandchildren, Adia Hayes, Quinlan McKenzie, Nicholas Noecker and Zan Collin. Additional chosen family, Stephen Hayes and Ryan McKenzie; siblings, Joe Tate, Cheche Casto, Bob Tate, Charlotte Tellez, Muesetta Holbert and Dillard Tate; brother-in-law, Fritz Barth; special friend, Glen Angelle; and countless nieces and nephews.

Rite of Christian Burial will be officiated by Father Greg Lyttle at 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 17, 2018 at the Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. Interment will follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Princeton where military honors will be conducted by the Mercer County Veterans Honor Guard.

The family will receive friends Saturday, March 17, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. until service hour at the Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home in Princeton. To view a video tribute to Mr. Tate, or share condolences with the family, please visit www.bailey-kirk.com.

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

1917 West Main St.
Princeton, WV 24740

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 17. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home
1612 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740
(304) 425-8176
info@bailey-kirk.com
<https://www.bailey-kirk.com>

Funeral Service

MAR 17. 12:00 PM (ET)

Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home
1612 Honaker Avenue
Princeton, WV 24740
(304) 425-8176
info@bailey-kirk.com
<https://www.bailey-kirk.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Bill Tate Sr.*



Bailey-Kirk Funeral Home - March 17, 2018 at 10:21 AM



“ *Bill Tate Sr.*

December 27, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Bill Tate Sr..*



March 16, 2018 at 10:40 AM



“ *Dear Che Che, Moogie, Dillard and Charlotte and family, Rick and I are so very sorry for the loss of your brother. Wanted each of you to know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Love you all very much!*

Rick and Jan Dodson - March 15, 2018 at 09:24 PM

JN

“ JC and Nancy purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of *Bill Tate Sr.*



JC and Nancy - March 15, 2018 at 12:22 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of *Bill Tate Sr.*



March 15, 2018 at 09:30 AM

 Billy
Tate Jr

“ *My dad was a great man. He taught me many of life's lessons, some he let me learn on my own. But through it all, he always stood by me. He was my teacher, my rock, my best friend, but most of all, he is my dad. My love for him will last forever.*

Billy Tate Jr - March 15, 2018 at 08:24 AM

EB

“ *Rest in peace Bill. I enjoyed visiting with you and Gertie. You will be missed. Blessings to the family. Cherish the memories. So sorry for your lost.*

Ellen Bowman - March 14, 2018 at 10:57 PM

MF

“ *Our sincere sympathies to you and family. Uncle Tony, Scott, Vanessa and Evelyn Palumbo.....*

M/Mrs. Anthony Palumbo & Family - March 14, 2018 at 09:26 PM

M.

“ A memory of growing up..Bill and my other two brothers would cut mine props along with dad or when dad wasn't there,they were to b cutting props. Bill being the one to try anything..found a tree with a huge grapevine on it..needless to say he had to try it.. swinging out high and far. The grapevine broke..the landing was not a gentle one..he came to rest a straddle a big rock .the worst place to land. His only words as he fell was...Who greased the grape vine? He walked in pain for several wèeks afterward. Dont think he tried another grapevine.

My brother Bill was the cow milker...always squirting us or the cats with milk. Sometimes in the evening he would have to go round up the milk cow..on one onry whim he decided to ride the cow to the barn..vroom..here t hey come straight for the barn and the barn door.

Well..needless to say...Bill didn't duck .wham the door got him.. Bill loved animals growing up..it was nothing to see him with a pet crow..dog or even a duck. He didn't have to find trouble..It found him

I had a loving caring brother..one of the best.you could ask for..when I came to visit I would bring him anything...he never asked for anything but I knew he loved bananas and tuna fish..the simple things in life was what he loved most..

His wife Gertrude was his inspiration to do anything..he always wanted to be by her side..after the three children were on their own...he never left her except for the times he was hospitalized..She was his reason f or living. He was always worried something would happen to her..and had to be reassured if something happened to him..she would b taken care of.

Rest in peace my loving brother..you gained your angel wings and in no pain in Gods kingdom..if people would have been as content with what little you had..the world would be a better place. I remember you with love and my heart breaks in losing you.





Muesetta holbertsister - March 14, 2018 at 08:23 PM

MP

So Sorry Muesetta & Family, Uncle Tony, Aunt Evelyn Scott & Vanessa.....

M/Mrs. Anthony Palumbo - March 14, 2018 at 09:28 PM



Janyce
Watkins

I am so sorry for your loss. Bill sounds like a wonderful man. Love and prayers to all his brothers and sisters, wife and children. Janyce Watkins

Janyce Watkins - March 15, 2018 at 12:24 PM

JS

so sorry for your family and want to say this page and your story was very well written and shows your love for your brother and family...hugs to you Muesetta

JACKIE STEWART - March 15, 2018 at 09:07 PM

CO

“ Prayers for the family. I'm so sorry.

courtneyhodge - March 14, 2018 at 06:57 PM