



William N. Davis

January 12, 1947 - March 4, 2026

William Neil Davis, age 79, passed away on March 4, 2026. He was born on January 12, 1947, in Detroit to the late William S. Davis and Annis Virginia (Cotter) Davis.

Bill was a 1966 graduate of Hazel Park High School. After working briefly following graduation, he proudly enlisted in the United States Air Force, serving his country stateside with honor during the Vietnam War from 1966 to 1970. A proud veteran, Bill carried that sense of service and camaraderie throughout his life.

In 1973, he met Mary Ann Rehe on a blind date-a meeting that would change both of their lives. They were married September 27, 1974, at the National Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak. Together, they built a loving home in Ferndale for 26 years before moving to Auburn Hills in 2000.

Bill began his career in 1970 at Consumers Power (later Consumers Energy) He became a member of the Utility Workers Union of America. After his transfer to Pontiac in 1986, he was a member of the Michigan State Utility Workers Union Local 105. After 32 years of dedicated service, Bill retired. Never one to sit still, he later worked with Performance Driven Workforce, where he participated in new vehicle testing and test driving-a perfect fit for someone who truly loved cars, especially classic cars. While he enjoyed

golfing and fishing, his passion for automobiles always came first. He also loved being outdoors, riding his John Deere mower, tending to his yard, and simply enjoying the fresh air.

Bill was a longtime member of the American Legion, first with the Berkley Post and, since 2000, with American Legion Post #143 Hill-Gazette in Auburn Hills, where he previously served as Sergeant of Arms.

Above all, Bill treasured his family.

He was the beloved husband of Mary Ann Davis; loving father of Virginia "Ginny" (Wayne) Pennington; cherished grandfather of Lydia (Joe) Percy, Sabrina Pennington, and Will Pennington; proud great-grandfather of Freya and Ronin Percy; and dear brother of Dennis "Denny" (Bernadette) Davis and Valinda (Bob) Rocheleau.

The family will receive friends on Friday, April 24 from 12 noon until the time of the memorial service, 1:30 pm at the Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blks E. of Woodward), Royal Oak. Following the 3 pm committal at Roseland Park Cemetery, the family will receive friends for dinner and celebration of Bill's life at American Legion Post #143 Hill-Gazette, 96 Churchill Road, Auburn Hills 48326, beginning at 4 pm.

Memorial contributions in Bill's memory may be made to American Legion Post #143 Hill-Gazette, 96 Churchill Rd., Auburn Hills, 48326.

To share a memory or offer condolences, please visit www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR 24. 1:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Inurnment

APR 24. 3:00 PM (ET)

Roseland Park Cemetery
29001 Woodward Avenue
Berkley, MI 48072

A Celebration of Life Service

APR 24. 4:00 PM (e)

American Legion Post #143 Hill-Gazette
96 Churchill Rd.
Auburn Hills, MI 48326

Friday, April 24 a Celebration of Life will be held, 4 pm at American Legion Post #143 Hill-Gazette, 96 Churchill Rd., Auburn Hills 48326, with dinner provided.

Tribute Wall

RF

“ Ross Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of William N. Davis.



Ross Family - April 23 at 11:44 AM

RF

“ Ross Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William N. Davis.

Ross Family - April 23 at 11:44 AM

JP

“ Judy Pennington purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William N. Davis.



Judy Pennington - April 23 at 07:44 AM

HJ

“ Harold & Joan purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of William N. Davis.



Harold & Joan - April 21 at 05:10 PM

DH

“ David W. Hayden purchased the Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray for the family of William N. Davis.



David W. Hayden - April 21 at 03:21 PM

DH

“ David W. Hayden planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William N. Davis.

David W. Hayden - April 21 at 03:21 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William N. Davis.



April 18 at 03:09 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William N. Davis.

April 14 at 01:23 PM

JP

“ Having the Davis family across the street from us was the best thing ever. Just like having more brothers and sisters. Living on Almont street was awesome. We all loved each other. One big family. I miss it every day. Love you all.

Jeanne Poland - April 13 at 09:13 AM

DH

“ Growing up on Almont St., was the best street with all the kids growing up together and where the Hayden Family lived across the street from the Davis Family.. Our Moms and Dads were best of friends. Every Christmas Morning was about exchanging gifts hanging out, it was always a joyous time.. Great Memories!

David Hayden - March 11 at 06:12 PM

SJ

I too grew up on Almont where the Davis boys and their little sister Valinda, lived a few houses down from us. The family was always so nice to me and my parents.. we made great memories together.. Neil and Denny always teased me and made me blush but I loved it.. they said I was like a little sister. Neil will be greatly missed.. we reconnected during some of our high school reunions! So glad we did.
😊

Susie (Burden) Jacobs - March 11 at 07:32 PM

VL

“ Bill was my other dad. Ginny my best friend forever. Loved his humor and absolute kindness. My love to the whole family. Love Vicki , Jeff, Lizzie and Henry.

vicki lindholm - March 11 at 05:06 PM

KF

“ William (Neil) was my favorite cousin. He was so kind. He truly loved family and I will miss him very much.

Karen Filarski - March 08 at 04:56 PM

DS

Bill Davis or Old Bill as I affectionately called him was a great friend of mine. I first met him at Consumers in the early 70s. What a wonderful true friend to have over all those years. I was saddened to hear of his passing this past week. My condolences to Mary Ann and family. Rest in Peace Old Bill. Your friend Dave Smith

Dave Smith - March 09 at 11:37 PM

TI

Bill Davis...what a great guy, and good neighbor. Whenever we would see each other in town, he would say, "Is that you, Tim?" I would respond with "Is that you, Bill?" Who couldn't love the guy! My deep condolences for the family! RIP

Tim - March 11 at 04:42 PM

JP

Neil was another brother . He lived across the street from my family. Tobagganing was our thing to do as a family. So fun. He and his date and I with mine went to the 1966 Prom. What a great time. Love this guy.

Jeanne Hayden Poland - March 11 at 05:54 PM

JP

Neil was always so nice to talk to. He will be missed. Our condolences to Mary Ann and his family

Jeff and Darlene Perry - April 23 at 09:44 PM