



## Bill Shailor

March 18, 1956 - December 22, 2021

William David “Bill” Shailor, age 65, of Royal Oak, passed away on December 22, 2021.

Beloved husband of Michelle (née Parent). Loving father of Paul (Amanda) Shailor and John (Dayna) Shailor. Proud grandfather of Archibald Ernest Shailor. Also survived by many nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his parents, Ernest and Eunice Shailor; and his brother and best friend, Paul.

Bill attended St. Mary’s of Redford for High School, University of Detroit College, and earned a JD at University of Detroit Law School. He was the first Shailor in his family to graduate from college and earn a higher degree. He met Michelle in his third year of law school and they were married for over 37 years. He was a lawyer at Secrest Wardle and was well respected within the legal community.

Bill was a loving husband to Michelle and a devoted father to his sons, Paul and John. Bill worked hard to provide the best possible life for his family. This included being a loving and supportive father and putting his family above all else. He always made time for annual family vacations that ranged from trips out West in the motor home to trips up North in Michigan.

He was a lifelong member of the Detroit Balsa Bugs, a model airplane club.

When his father passed away when Bill was 10, the Balsa Bug members were instrumental in his upbringing. This included personal support as well as taking him and his brother, Paul, to model airplane contests all over the country.

Bill was a larger than life figure in the free flight community. He dedicated a large part of his free time to running and organizing contests and provided a level headed and rational approach on numerous important committees over his life. Bill was a National Champion in the Wakefield, Moffett, and Mulvihill events. He was always willing to give any support to newcomers to the hobby and did whatever he could to spread the joy of free flight. This also included introducing the hobby to both of his boys who were members of their respective Junior World Teams. Bill recently ran the United States Indoor Nationals contest this past August.

In addition to everything above, he was also a master craftsman. He put himself through law school by working full-time as a cabinet maker. When Bill needed something around the house, he would build it. His attention to detail and the precision of his work was something to be marveled at. This extended to the free flight community and all of the model airplanes he built over the years.

Throughout his illness, Bill remained positive and always saw the cup half full. He never complained and approached each day as a blessing. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and his Golden Retriever, Miller.

Visitation will take place on Tuesday, December 28, from 2 - 8 p.m. at Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Home, 705 W. 11 Mile Rd. (4 blocks east of Woodward), Royal Oak. Funeral Mass will take place on Wednesday, December 29, at 10:00 a.m. (9:30 visitation) at National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica, 2100 Twelve Mile Rd., Royal Oak.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to the PKD Foundation: <https://pkdcure.org/>.

Share a memory at [www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com](http://www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC **28**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak  
705 W. Eleven Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48067  
(248) 541-7000  
royal@sullivanfh.com  
<https://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com/>

## Funeral Mass

DEC **29**. 10:00 AM (ET)

National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica  
2100 W. 12 Mile Road  
Royal Oak, MI 48073

# Tribute Wall

TA

“ I am so very sorry to see Bill passed. I was just telling my neighbor when I worked with Bill at Kohl Secret. He stole me from plunkett cooney to work with him. I was just looking him up to call and see how things were and how he was doing. I am flabbergasted to be brought right to his obituary. Bill was a great gentleman who I have known since the 1980s. Again, sincere condolences!! Tracy

Tracy Amoroso - February 02, 2023 at 06:31 AM

AD

“ So very sorry to hear of this wonderful man's passing. Bill was a great co-worker at Secret Wardle and a terrific attorney and really nice man. Prayers to his family.

Anna DeGiusti - January 11, 2022 at 11:14 AM



“ To Bill's family, I was a classmate of Bill's at St. Mary's of Redford. He was a nice kid who for some reason was always nice to me even though I wasn't always a nice kid. When our class started reuniting on FB I formed a friendship with him and enjoyed his frequent retriever posts and posts of his wonderful, Miller. I admired all the work on his planes and shared in his joy when he had his first grandson. He had put up with looking at mine for several years. I know he must have been a great husband and father and I can't imagine the pain you are going through. Please accept my deepest condolences. I wish I had seen the post on his page sooner.

Mary (Spencer) Nimtzt

Mary Spencer Nimtzt - January 04, 2022 at 11:22 PM

MR

“ Our deepest sympathy to the family! Bill was one of the model airplane community's greats and will be fondly remembered for his talent and dedication. Always a gentleman! Rest in peace, Bill!

*Jim and Mariana Richmond*

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**Mariana Richmond** - December 29, 2021 at 11:52 AM

MA

“ I had the very insane privilege of working with Mr. Sailor. Started working with him at age 18. Everyday was filled with laughter. He often spoke about his family and how Miller beer was the best of all beers. He was always in a good mood and had the best sense of humor. I will miss you boss. Rest easy. To Michelle and his exted family I will pray for you to find peace and comfort during this time. Mel.

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**Melinda Allen** - December 28, 2021 at 01:17 PM

MM

“ Michelle and family - it was my privilege to know and work alongside Bill these many years. What a great and special man he was to all who knew him. My thoughts are with you.

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**Mark Morley** - December 28, 2021 at 08:25 AM

JB

“ Dear Michelle & Family:

*I worked with Bill for over 25 years at Secrest Wardle, and while Bill worked in the Detroit area and I worked from our Lansing office, each time we saw each other we renewed our friendship with stories of cases and experiences as if we saw each other every day in the office. Bill was a tremendous lawyer and an even better person. I will miss his wisdom and willingness to review, explore and strategize for pending cases, and his ability to assist young lawyers imparting his many years of trial experience.*

*I will also miss his easy smile, pleasant demeanor, and constant encouragement. May his memory always be a blessing to you and everyone who knew and loved him.*

*Jim Bradley*

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**Jim Bradley** - December 27, 2021 at 07:53 AM

SS

“ Dear Michelle, and family,

*What a great grief you have with the death of your dear husband, father, friend! I did not know Bill very well except I knew how devoted he was to his daily walks through the neighborhood with Miller, always being patient until Miller could get all the sniffs at every stop! We always greeted one another and then onward he went with Miller leading the way. That will be another "golden" memory.*

*My prayers for your peace and comfort for all the life and love you shared with such a wonderful man.*

*Sister Noreen Ellison*

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**S. Noreen Ellison, SC** - December 26, 2021 at 09:23 AM

MU

“ I worked with Bill at the Secrest Wardle law firm for more than 20 years and there was neither a better attorney nor friend than Bill. His cut-to-the-chase sense of humor was absolutely off the charts, as was his legal acumen. He was one of a kind--and the best kind.

--Mike Updike

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**Michael L. Updike** - December 24, 2021 at 03:07 PM

MV

“ Dear Michelle and Family, Charlie and I were so very sorry to read about Bill. He always had a fun quip or story to share as he walked through the neighborhood with Miller. We will truly miss seeing him walk by, waving and his fun smile. He truly was a positive man despite all of the challenges he faced. We enjoyed reading about his full life. God bless you all.

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**Michelle Villerot** - December 24, 2021 at 02:52 PM

AA

“ My deepest heartfelt condolences on Bill's passing. I was a law school classmate of Bill's and regretfully did not stay in touch with him. What a life Bill had and thank you to the family for sharing his story. May the lord Jesus Christ bring peace to the family as Bill enters into gods kingdom. Albert Atallah

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**Albert Atallah** - December 24, 2021 at 09:36 AM