



## William (Bill) Ludwig

June 14, 1935 - February 20, 2019

TRAVERSE CITY - William "Bill" Ludwig of Traverse City, died peacefully in his home on Wednesday, February 20th, surrounded by his loving family.

Bill was born June 14, 1935 to George & Evelyn Ludwig in Grand Rapids, MI - his home until his family moved to Muskegon where he attended St. Mary's High School. He graduated from Notre Dame University in 1958 with a B.A. in Business Administration.

He met Karen Choponis on his trips to a cabin (affectionately known as the "shack") in the Luther area. They were married Oct. 5, 1963 and moved to Columbus, Ohio where he was a sales rep for American Seating Company.

Motivated by a desire to live in Traverse City, he became a sales rep for Pella Windows and for a time shared ownership of Four Seasons Windows & Doors. Bill loved his job in sales and considered his customers his friends.

Bill enjoyed fly fishing and hunting and many years of membership at the Fin & Feather Camp in Baldwin, forming friendships and fond memories. He nurtured and maintained many friendships throughout his lifetime.

He was preceded in death by his infant daughter, Catherine Mary, Parents-George and Evelyn Ludwig, brother, George and sister Mary Beth Hayward.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; Children: George, Bill, Stephen, Greg (Deb), Suzy Govan (Dean), Kari Wooters (Brian), Mary Ferguson (Bob), Grandchildren: Kyle & Katie Ludwig, Bryce & Lauren Ludwig, Tyler Schrottenboer, Will, Audrey, Steven, Benjamin, Adam and Sawyer Govan; Cody, Aaron, Palyn and Connor Wooters; Samantha and Grace Ferguson.

A visitation for Bill will take place from 4:00 – 7:00 pm on Sunday, February 24, 2019 at the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home with a rosary recitation beginning at 7:00 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place at 11:00 am on Monday, February 25, 2019 at Immaculate Conception Church with a visitation held one hour prior to mass. Father James Hayden will officiate. A luncheon will be held immediately following mass in the church fellowship hall. Bill will be laid to rest at Oakwood Cemetery at a later date.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that memorial contributions be directed to; Grand Traverse Area Right to Life, 2240 W South Airport Road, Traverse City, MI 49684, Immaculate Conception School, 314 Vine Street, Traverse City, MI 49684, or In Loving Memory for Masses at Immaculate Conception Church, 308 N Cedar St, Traverse City, MI 49684.

# Cemetery

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## Oakwood Cemetery

1325 East Eighth Street  
Traverse City, MI, 49686

# Events

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**FEB** **Visitation** 04:00PM - 07:00PM

**24**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home  
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**FEB** **Rosary** 07:00PM

**24**

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Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home  
305 Sixth St, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**FEB** **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**25**

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Immaculate Conception Church  
308 N. Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

**FEB** **Mass of Christian Burial** 11:00AM

**25**

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Immaculate Conception Church  
308 N. Cedar Street, Traverse City, MI, US, 49684

# Comments

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“ Dear Karen and Family,  
My deepest sympathy to you and your family. It has been years since seeing you, but I knew you through the Choponis Family in Luther. Carla is my first cousin. We were all busy with the activities at St. Bernard's in Irons, MI. My Mom was Kate Korr. This a very painful time, but you have the pleasant memories and family. I also lost my husband in Nov. Stay strong.  
Antoinette Korr Woodward

**Antoinette Woodward** - March 02, 2019 at 11:58 AM

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“ Dear Karen and family, We were so sorry to hear of Bills passing. Stan did get to visit him while he was in Grand Rapids at the hospital. He will be greatly missed. Stan and Harriet Chase

**Stan Chase** - March 01, 2019 at 04:14 PM

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“ So sorry to hear of Uncle Bill's passing. Sending prayers and love to all of you.

**Tom Hayward** - February 25, 2019 at 11:25 AM

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“ So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Bill was on the nicest, kindest persons it was my privilege to know. I enjoyed our political discussions. Bill was so informed on a variety of subjects.  
Gary Gorman

**gary gorman** - February 24, 2019 at 10:28 AM



“ Although I have not seen Bill since graduating from ND I always considered him a dear friend. Had many special times with Bill and his sister Mary Beth. Memories never end, especially of those who we are most fond of.

God is good

Jim Howell

**James Howell** - February 25, 2019 at 08:59 PM

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“ I'll never forget the night I shared with Bill as he passed on his Fin & Feather membership to me. He so loved sharing that small piece of God's paradise with me. His spirit will live on in that special place, and me.

Bill Otten - February 23, 2019 at 07:03 PM

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“ Karen and family,, we send our sympathy to you about Bill. He was a great guy and a good friend to all of us in the 1953 class of St. Mary's High School. He will be missed by all, have sent news on to the class. He is with God now so he is in a far better place. May he R I P and love of the Lord. May you his family remember the good times that you all had together and the love that you shared.  
Pat Strobel, from me and also on behalf of the Class of 1953

Patricia Strobel - February 23, 2019 at 02:43 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



David R. Munroe - February 22, 2019 at 12:29 PM

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“ Rest in peace, Billy. We'll share a game of cribbage anon.

Prayers of comfort to you and the family, Karen.

Dave and Fran Munroe

David R. Munroe - February 22, 2019 at 12:24 PM

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“ My father had a special bond with Bill and when they would get together they would enjoy adult beverages. Always the quick wit, Bill referred to the classic martini as a mar-tony in deference to my dad, Anthony.  
He will be missed.

Rosemarie Clark(nee Preidis)

Rosemarie Clark - February 22, 2019 at 10:05 AM

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“ Mrs. Ludwig and family~

I am so sorry to hear about Mr. Ludwig's passing. I'd see him at the gym and we'd talk whenever he was there and share a laugh or two. What a wonderful man he was. May he rest in peace with our Lord.

The Bradshaw Family

Jackie - February 21, 2019 at 07:43 PM

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“ We've only been neighbors of the

Ludwig's for less than two years but Bill is one of the first new people we met after moving to our new home. He was kind, funny and made us feel like family. I loved walking by with the kids or driving and seeing him on his riding lawn mower....he would always smile and wave. We were very blessed to have known him, even for such a short time.

Our deepest condolences to Karen and all of his loving family. He will be missed !  
Kelly and Dean Stuhmueller

kelly stuhmueller - February 21, 2019 at 05:24 PM



“ Dear Karen and family,

We are saddened to learn of Bill's passing. We will forever remember our years as neighbors and friends. Bill was always ready with a helping hand and a wry quip. His sense of humor was boundless. We loved talking with him and enjoying countless laughs. Karen, please know that you are in our thoughts, and we share your grief. We'll miss our good friend.

Bill and Carol Thomas

**William Thomas** - February 21, 2019 at 05:55 PM



“ Our sincere sympathy, Karen and family, on the passing of Bill. He was truly a wonderful man, very special friend, and one of the best neighbors anyone could imagine. We will miss his constant humor as well as seeing him on his garden tractor. He was never too busy to stop and chat and share stories and jokes with us. He will be greatly missed. We are keeping you, Karen, and your family in our prayers.

Dave and Pam Larkin

**Dave and Pam Larkin** - February 22, 2019 at 05:16 PM



“ Karen and family:

You are very blessed to have had such a strong and kind man in you lives. Bill always showed kindness and support to me, and offered me lots of good life advice over the years. He could always make my son giggle with his goofy side and I will treasure that. He was an important part of our neighborhood and will be sorely missed.

Paul Jackson and family.

**Paul** - February 23, 2019 at 04:09 PM



“ Dear Karen and Family,

We are sincerely sorry for your loss. You and Bill welcomed us to the neighborhood 6 years ago and you have been kind and compassionate towards us ever since. We will miss Bill's

smiling face. You are in our prayers.

The Bolde Family

**Sue Bolde** - February 23, 2019 at 06:59 PM



“ Karen and Kids:

We are so saddened to learn of Bill's passing. Although we haven't been able to get together in a while, I will always remember his great smile and wonderful sense of humor. Mary and I are down in Florida with Ginny and Ray and Pete and Patty so will not be able to make the services. We will keep you all in our prayers. God Bless.

Mary and Fritz Gast

**Fritz Gast** - February 24, 2019 at 09:54 AM



“ Dear Karen & family

So sorry to hear of the passing of .Bill

Proud to have been a friend and classmate of his. Wonderful memories will remain We were always a close knit group.

Cecelia & Roger Rose

**cecelia rose** - February 24, 2019 at 12:40 PM



“ Karen and family: So sorry to hear about Bill's passing, So many fond memories of Howard City and the Fin and Feather Club outings. Happy memories of times past to fall back upon. May God bless you and give you comfort.

**David L. Germain** - February 24, 2019 at 01:33 PM



“ Karen and family- We really enjoyed Bill! He would wander over while I was working in the yard or pull up my drive to say hello and chat about the issues of the day. I have a big regret though. I promised I would come over and share a martini with him so we could sit and talk and solve the world's problems and never did. We will miss him and his great sense of humor. May you take comfort in your faith and the presence of God. Dave and Deb Schweitzer

**David and Deb Schweitzer** - February 25, 2019 at 09:46 AM



“ Over coffee, after Mass at Sacred Heart parish in Elk Rapids, Bill and I discovered that we had been classmates at Notre Dame. News to both of us. I was in the process of adding a family room to my residence. The room was designed around Bill's plan for an array of north facing windows. Every time I push back in my easy chair in that room I bless his talent in giving me a magnificent vista of Elk Lake. Now he enjoys the eternal view his Father provides in paradise. Rest in peace dear friend and classmate.

Tim and Barbara George

**Thomas George** - February 25, 2019 at 10:53 AM