



## Gary W. Bird

August 1, 2020

### Obituary of Gary W. Bird

BATAVIA - Gary W. Bird, 66, of Batavia, passed away Saturday, (August 1, 2020), at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester.

Mr. Bird was born March 9, 1954, in Batavia, a son of the late William and Jacqueline (Finco) Bird.

Gary was an a man who liked to be active. He participated with West Coast Swing in Macedon and Game Night in Buffalo. For many years, he owned and operated Solid Gold Productions, a wedding DJ service. Mr. Bird could play most any instrument, but played percussion with Batavia Concert Band. He also enjoyed attending jazz concernts and drum corps. shows. Gary was proud to have had the longest running karaoke show in Western New York which ran for over 30 years.

Survivors include his daughter Amy Potrzebowski of Tonawanda, son Lucas Potrzebowski of Batavia; a grandson Nikolai Candino; a brother John (Jacqueline) Bird of Florida; a sister Kathleen (late Morris) Stewart of Florida; cousins Stefan (Judy) Stockton and Sedra (Fred) Hyde both of Batavia; a step-sister Linda (Jerry) Shafer of Michigan; his companion, Debbie Rivers of Niagara Falls, Canada. Several nieces and nephews also survive.

There will be no visitation. A private graveside service will be held in Elmwood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Gary's memory may be made to Batavia Concert Band, P.O. Box 1705, Batavia, New York 14021.

Arrangements were entrusted to the H.E. Turner & Co. Funeral Home, Batavia.

# Comments

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“ Tiffany Turner lit a candle  
So many fond memories of my uncle, I will miss him tremendously!&#10084

**Tiffany Turner** - August 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ T

Tiffany Turner lit a candle

Thursday, August 13, 2020

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**Tiffany Turner** - August 13, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ My condolences to all of Gary's friends and family. He will be greatly missed. He was one of the only people that could get me to sing karaoke with my anxiety being as bad as it is.  
R.I.P. My Friend

Sarla Bellacosa-Sanford - August 11, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ s

Sarla Bellacosa-Sanford posted a condolence

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

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R.I.P. My Friend

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“ So sad to hear about Gary passing...I will miss his hugs and huge grin...he will be greatly missed!

jean smith - August 10, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ j

jean smith posted a condolence

Monday, August 10, 2020

So sad to hear about Gary passing...I will miss his hugs and huge grin...he will be greatly missed!

jean smith - August 10, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ Laurette Milward posted a condolence

I worked with Gary and his Dad at Bird's Music store for 13 years. Even though I was a music/piano teacher, they taught me so much about piano, organs, instrument supplies, etc. I still use some of that knowledge today as a church musician and pianist. The retail business was a challenging one for me, but Gary & his Dad always could lighten the load simply by sitting down to a piano/organ to play a song. Gary also was the DJ at my daughter's wedding and, needless to say, a fun time was had by all!

My blessings to his family and friends.

Laurie Milward

Laurette Milward - August 09, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ James Strollo lit a candle  
Rest in peace.

James Strollo - August 09, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ Laurette Milward posted a condolence

Sunday, August 9, 2020

I worked with Gary and his Dad at Bird's Music store for 13 years. Even though I was a music/piano teacher, they taught me so much about piano, organs, instrument supplies, etc. I still use some of that knowledge today as a church musician and pianist. The retail business was a challenging one for me, but Gary & his Dad always could lighten the load simply by sitting down to a piano/organ to play a song. Gary also was the DJ at my daughter's wedding and, needless to say, a fun time was had by all!

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Laurie Milward

**Laurette Milward** - August 09, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ J

James Strollo lit a candle

Sunday, August 9, 2020

Rest in peace..

**James Strollo** - August 09, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ Every time I here a band playing I often pull the car over and roll down my windows. I have supported several bands over the years. And thou my children do not play Marching Band Instruments, I have attended several competitions since...by myself. Simply for the love of it. I remember going to a theater he worked at and we saw the projector room. I remember eating our Christmas stockings of chocolate candy, Uncle Gary checking on us and when he flipped the light on our sheets and everything were covered in chocolate. We all got up and stripped the bedding. Oh boy! So many childhood memories.

**Teresa Nash** - August 08, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ B

Blane Howland uploaded photo(s)

Saturday, August 8, 2020

We enjoyed Gary's company, especially at our daughters violin concerts.  
He was a kind, caring, happy person to be around. He will be remembered, always in  
our prayers and thoughts. God bless  
June & Blane Howland

**Blane Howland** - August 08, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ L

Lucas Potrzebowski uploaded photo(s)

Saturday, August 8, 2020

My dad coming to my girlfriend's many concerts.

**Lucas Potrzebowski** - August 08, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ T

Teresa Nash posted a condolence

Saturday, August 8, 2020

Probably the biggest thing I took from Uncle Gary was a Great Love for Marching Bands. He took Debbie, Ken and I one evening to watch a competition. Every time I here a band playing I often pull the car over and roll down my windows. I have supported several bands over the years. And though my children do not play Marching Band Instruments, I have attended several competitions since...by myself. Simply for the love of it. I remember going to a theater he worked at and we saw the projector room. I remember eating our Christmas stockings of chocolate candy, Uncle Gary checking on us and when he flipped the light on our sheets and everything were covered in chocolate. We all got up and stripped the bedding. Oh boy! So many childhood memories.

**Teresa Nash** - August 08, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ I have a memory to share and I would also like to express my condolences to family. Gary had a wonderful sense of humor and God knows we certainly had our share of laughs... both tearing so badly from the laughter and bellyaches that hurt from it as well. I remember singing a song on his watch and then throwing up confetti and of course like a good non litterbug that I am, I got on my hands and knees to pick it all up... and while I was doing so Gary announced on the PA to the public that I provided cleaning services.... and that I was fast and accurate with my cleaning which I was that night in picking up the litter so the next singer could sing. It was great! The timing was amazing;-)

**Lisa** - August 06, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ Thursday, August 6, 2020

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**Ken Berl** - August 06, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ Gary was my Cousin. We did not see each other often, but it was always good to sit with him on Christmas Eve at St. James.  
He always had a Smile, and a witty comment!  
So sad. None of us (cousins) had any Idea he was ill.  
Rest in peace.  
Sincerely  
Timothy Mark

**Timothy Mark** - August 06, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ L

Lisa uploaded photo(s)

Thursday, August 6, 2020

**Lisa** - August 06, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ H

Hellen mendoza toledo uploaded photo(s)

Thursday, August 6, 2020

Hellen mendoza toledo - August 06, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ Ken Berl uploaded photo(s)

Thursday, August 6, 2020

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**Ken Berl** - August 06, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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Sincerely

Timothy Mark

**Timothy Mark** - August 06, 2020 at 12:00 AM

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“ B

The family of Gary W. Bird uploaded a photo

Wednesday, August 5, 2020

August 05, 2020 at 12:00 AM