



## Mr. William D. Barton

March 12, 1957 - October 14, 2020

William ('Bill' 'Bongo') Barton - age 63, of Silver Springs, NY, went home to be with his Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ on the morning of Wednesday, October 14, 2020. He was surrounded by his loving family at his home on Silver Lake, after a courageous 13-year long battle against multiple myeloma.

Bill was born in Batavia on March 12, 1957 to Charles and Nancy Barton. Bill was preceded in death by his parents, brother Bob, father-in-law Ralph Houseknecht, brother-in-law Edward Houseknecht, and nephew Michael Houseknecht. Bill is survived by his wife of 37 years, Mary Kay (Houseknecht) Barton; their children, Will (Catherine) Barton of Osprey, FL, and Paul (Jessica) Barton of Batavia, NY; his grandchildren: Luke, Connor and Cole; his siblings: Dave Barton of Las Vegas NV, Pam Barton of Coronado CA, and Sue Barton of Latrobe PA. Bill is also survived by his "2nd mother," Agnes Houseknecht of Stafford NY, and Mary Kay's siblings - Greg of Batavia NY, Buddy (Kate) of Bonita Springs FL, Tom (Lynn) of Batavia NY, Tim (Sue) of Interlaken NY, John (Kimberly) of Wyoming NY, and Katie Berger (Gary) of Stafford NY. He is also survived by many beloved nieces and nephews, as well as their spouses and children.

Bill graduated from Batavia High School in 1976. He loved sports, excelling in football and basketball in school. In his later years, he spent time at the YMCA, where he was passionate about weightlifting with his buddy, 'Moose' Pastore. Bill worked in the skilled trades until marrying Mary Kay in 1983 at St. Mary's Church in Batavia, after which he began his career at Pepsi-Cola and Loose Ends Vending.

Bill worked relentlessly. His belief that he could not ask people to do something he was not willing to do himself endeared him to his employees/co-workers during his years at Pepsi and Loose Ends. Bill always credited his success to all the dedicated employees at Pepsi and Loose Ends who were like family, especially his secretary Gail Hull. Any hard worker he met instantly became a friend. Even greater than Bill's love for a solid work ethic, Bill loved to help people. He was truly selfless. Even in his last days, Bill was most concerned about inconveniencing his family as they cared for him. He was also persistent about silly things like changing the lower unit oil in the boat engine and explaining the process of winterizing the plumbing in the house to his boys so 'Mom wouldn't have to worry about it.' Bill was unwavering in his strength of character. He was a rock.

Bill's pride and joy was always his family. Some of Bill's favorite memories included time spent watching hockey at the Batavia 'Royal Rink,' cheering on his boys and their friends on the Ramparts and Ice Devils. Bill also loved fishing and hunting with his sons and good friends – especially Mike McNally - teaching his sons how to water ski at Silver Lake, and sharing good times and laughs with all their family, friends and neighbors around a roaring campfire.

Bill's happiest moment was the day he and his wife, Mary Kay were baptized at East Shelby Community Bible Church – affirming their love and belief in Jesus Christ. Bill took every opportunity to share his faith in Jesus with all the people he met on his journey through cancer. He credited the Holy Spirit with divine intervention in removing all his fear as he was on the way to receiving his diagnosis in 2007. Bill shared that miraculous story with everyone he encountered. Bill's resolute faith allowed him to face his mortality entirely absent of fear, something he prayed will happen for everyone.

A Celebration of Life will be held Saturday, October 17th at 11:00 AM at East Shelby Community Bible Church, located at 5278 East Shelby Road, Medina, NY 14103.

Immediate family and close friends will be allowed inside the church. The service will also be broadcast in the church parking lot over the radio (as has been the practice through the coronavirus), and live streamed on East Shelby Bible Church's Facebook page for those who are unable to attend in person.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations in Bill's honor be made to any of the following organizations: Leukemia & Lymphoma Society ([lls.org](http://lls.org)), ARC of Genesee County (<http://www.arcgo.org/donate>), Samaritan's Purse (<http://www.samaritanspurse.org/>), Rick y Palermo Foundation (<http://www.rickypalermofoundation.org>). To leave a condolence, share a story, or light a candle, please visit <http://www.bataviafuneralhomes.com>.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the H.E. Turner & Co. Funeral Home of Batavia.

# Events

---

**OCT**   **Celebration of Life**   11:00AM  
**17**   

---

  
East Shelby Community Bible Church  
US

# Comments

---



“ I will never forget what your family did for our brother Eddie. Especially Bill! He was the perfect boss for Ed with his kindness and humor. Working at the Pepsi plant was life changing for Eddie. Bill never held him back. Eddie believed he could because Bill believed he could. We are all very fortunate to have had Bill in our lives even if it was too short of a time. Sending much love and prayers to Mary Kay and her family.  
Mary Michienzi

**Mary Michienzi** - November 04, 2020 at 04:42 PM

---



“ Dear Mary Kay and family, I just saw this and I'm so sorry about your loss and being so late getting to you. Bill was a great guy that I had many encounters with over the years, especially through Pepsi. Hope that you find comfort in the many years of joy that you had together and the family that you shared.  
Peace & Blessings,  
Jim March  
Englewood, FL

**James M March** - November 03, 2020 at 12:26 PM

---



“ I did not know Bill but his face caught my attention (and that beautiful smile) . No surprise when I read the obituary that he knew and loved the Lord, I look forward to meeting this brother in Christ when I get there. My condolences to your family for your loss and heavens gain. What a beautiful testimony to unwavering faith.

**Ruth Magin** - November 03, 2020 at 08:12 AM

---



“ Mary Kay and family , so sorry to hear of Bills passing.  
I have such fond memories of high school and the motorcycle trip across country with Bill My thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult time.

Gary Spadacino

**Gary Spadacino** - October 31, 2020 at 01:42 AM

---



“ Mary Kay , " Our deepest condolences for your loss. Our prayers for you and your family. "  
Steve & Colleen Moultrup

---

Steven & Colleen - October 29, 2020 at 10:55 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Thoughts and prayers for you and your family.

---

Silver Lake Marine - October 20, 2020 at 09:23 AM



“ May Kay, So sorry to hear of your loss. May God bless you and your family in these difficult days. Matt Rajk

---

Matt Rajk - October 20, 2020 at 08:30 AM



“ Mary Kay and family, we are sorry to hear of Bill's passing. You're in our prayers and thoughts.

---

David Bromsted - October 18, 2020 at 05:40 PM



“ RIP

---

Robert Ball - October 18, 2020 at 10:02 AM



“ so sad to hear of Bill's passing. Such a great guy. I don't think he had a mean bone in his body. He was everyone's friend in high school. I know how much he loved watching the boys play hockey. He supported all the boys on the team. They all looked up to him. He was just one of those people everyone was happy to see. He will be missed. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Dan and Kathy (DiSalvo) Reuter

---

Kathy Reuter - October 17, 2020 at 10:11 PM



“ Mary kay and Family

So sorry to hear about Bill's passing. Certainly a class act guy. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers

Sincerely

Chuck Brumsted

**chuck brumsted** - October 17, 2020 at 08:48 PM

---



“ Mary Kay - I'm so sorry to here about your great loss. I remember your wedding, and, Bill taking us out on the boat to see the fireworks in the middle of the lake.

Bill was a great guy, kind, and, I have many memories of parties when we were young. Prayers to you and your family at this most difficult time. Love,

Deb Davis Briggs Walker

**Debbie Walker** - October 17, 2020 at 08:29 PM

---



“ Bill maley

Mary Kay and family:so many memories to even share but a true,caring,hard working gentleman that treated everybody the same and who showed his great work ethic and was a perfect example to all employees and. To anybody he met.

**Bill maley** - October 17, 2020 at 07:00 PM

---



“ Dear MaryKay and family; the Barton extended family, Bill’s bright smile will stay with all of us. It’s how I remember him all through the years growing up in the neighborhood together, and as a classmate in school. He was always a friend you could count on, who had your back and treated you with tremendous respect. A true gentleman in all regards. Our prayers and condolences to all of you. He was a gift to everyone who knew him. God bless you. Hugs and love always. Kim (Mathern) Capobianco



**Kim Capobianco** - October 17, 2020 at 03:51 PM

---



“ Dear Mary Kay and family  
I was so saddened to hear of Bill's passing. My heart dropped when i saw his obituary. I have keep Bill on my prayer list ever since I left John and Sarah's and moved to Webster. He and I had many great conversations and I will always remember him as a kind and generous man who loved his family fiercely. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers and I know he is having a wonderful conversation with the Lord

**Kelly Leitten** - October 17, 2020 at 10:35 AM

---



“ Dear Mary Kay and Family-

Words cannot express how deeply sorry I am for your loss. With his warm smile and kind eyes, he (and Gail) were always a welcomed sight coming into work. It was almost like coming home to a second family.

He was quick with a joke or comment to make you laugh and was always there if you needed help. I remember being very pregnant in the winter of '96 and he would walk us out to our cars at night if the parking lot was icy. I couldn't begin to count how many doors he held open or cases of soda he carried out to our vehicles! He always looked out for others around him.

He was a genuinely kindhearted, caring man and the world was a better place for having him in it!

I am very thankful for the times and the memories I got to share with him and the Pepsi/Loose Ends Family!

Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. I know he is with you, too.

Sincerely, Jen Ruhlman

Jennifer Ruhlman - October 17, 2020 at 09:37 AM

---



“ So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family  
Barb Mazurkiewicz



Barbara Mazurkiewicz - October 16, 2020 at 08:33 PM

---



“ I was saddened to hear about the passing of Bill. As a coach at Batavia High School I found Bill to be an athlete of high quality, character, determination and desire. It was a pleasure to be involved with this fine young man.

Pep Johnson - October 16, 2020 at 07:29 PM



“ Dear Mary Kay and Family - I am deeply saddened on hearing of Bongo's passing....I met him when hired at Pepsi as a young woman....I have many memories of Bongo that I will cherish. He always had a smile on his face - a kind word to say - or just there to brighten your day. I will cherish the memories I have and think of him fondly....sending you hugs and kisses.

**Patti Nicosia** - October 16, 2020 at 02:47 PM

---



“ Dear Mary Kay and Family,  
I can't thank you enough for being mentioned in Bill's obituary. You know those times at the Y were very special to me. What came out of those times was a friendship that I will cherish the rest of my days. Our friendship grew through love and respect. I found out what a truly special individual Bill is. My thoughts and prayers go out to you and your family. Stay strong. I will see you at the church on Saturday. Please let me know if you need anything.  
Moose Pastore

**Rick Pastore** - October 16, 2020 at 02:30 PM

---



“ I'm so sad to hear of Bongo's passing. My memories are so many from high school days. From house parties, post football games, Pontillo's to parties in the "Luplow woods" at my house. His bright smile, blue eyes and big heart won't be forgotten. Deepest condolences to Mary Kay and the entire family from Lory (Luplow) & Steve Roth

**Lory Luplow Roth** - October 16, 2020 at 08:12 AM

---



“ Dear Mary Kay & family, my heart just broke in half reading about Bill's passing. One of the most special person I have ever met in my life. So down to earth, authentic, friendly, personable ...i could go on & on about what a great person he was. Please accept our sincerest sympathy to all of you. Gary & I are on Florida now, just north of Osprey so we will not be able to attend Bill's celebration of life but will be sure to watch on line. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you all and we send so much love your way.  
Sue & Gary Wadams

**Sue Wadams** - October 15, 2020 at 09:54 PM



“ Such a wonderful person. So sorry for your loss. Bill and Shari Sheron. God Bless

**Bill and Shari Sheron** - October 15, 2020 at 09:52 PM

---



“ Mary Kay and Family, We are sooo sorry to hear about Bill. He was a super guy, husband and father. He fought this disease for years and everyone was there cheering for him. We want to tell you that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your whole family. He will be missed. Please remember all the memories and know that her is not suffering anymore and is in a better place and will watch over all of you everyday. We love ya! Mickey and Roxie

**Roxanne Schulte** - October 15, 2020 at 07:50 PM

---



“ Saddened to hear of "Bongo's passing!! He was a great person and even greater friend to so many. What I will remember the most about Bongo was his participation on the Batavia Blue Devils football team. He was a superb athlete and always gave his all. God Bless you and the rest of your family in the coming days and weeks. You were loved by so many people!! We will all be reunited one day and what a joyous day that will be for all of us. Joe Perkowski.

**Joe Perkowski** - October 15, 2020 at 06:38 PM