



## William Earl "Bill" Ashe

February 5, 1947 - September 7, 2023

William Earl "Bill" Ashe, age 76, of Surfside Beach, SC, passed away Thursday, September 7, 2023 at Waccamaw Hospital in Murrells Inlet following a short battle with lymphoma.

He is survived by his daughter Lauren Ashe of Lexington, KY, and his sister Linda Ashe of Hampton, VA.

Along with his parents, he was predeceased by his son, Alan Gardner Ashe, age 9 months (died 1982). Bill's father Gardner Ashe was a B-17 gunner during WWII with the "Mighty 8th" Air Force and his mother Laurie Ashe was a sergeant in the Royal Air Force Intelligence Branch.

Bill was born February 5, 1947 in Wilson, NC. He graduated from Ralph L. Fike High School in 1965.

Bill achieved the rank of sergeant in the United States Air Force, serving from 1966 to 1970. During that time he was stationed at Hof Air Station, Germany with the 606th Aircraft Control & Warning squadron, working as a communications center specialist. He received the Air Force Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

After discharge, he completed his bachelors degree in accounting at Atlantic

Christian College (now Barton College) and then received his master's degree in business from Central Michigan University.

His career took him to Raleigh, NC where worked for Carolina Power & Light, later named Progress Energy, for 29 years as a purchasing agent. In 2006 he achieved his dream of relocating to the beach where he joined the staff of the City of North Myrtle Beach and later worked for Horry County, both in procurement.

Bill's life was rich with hobbies and interests. In his younger years he was an avid sportsman enjoying fishing and hunting waterfowl. He was enthusiastic and knowledgeable about firearms of all kinds. He enjoyed periodic golf trips around the southeast with friends. He loved cars, specifically hot rods and dirt track racing. And if there was any kind of ballgame on, he was tuning in. He particularly loved watching the Atlanta Braves.

One of his biggest passions was music. Over the years many of his friends received copies of his homemade beach music compilations. He volunteered to promote up-and-coming beach music bands by sending their demos to DJs around the country and many credit him with their success.

As an outgoing, engaging, and gifted storyteller and current events commentator, Bill touched the lives of countless people, displaying a gift for wit and wry humor throughout all the years of his life, even in the days of his final illness.

A memorial service for Bill will be held on Saturday, September 23rd at 2pm at Goldfinch Funeral Homes Beach Chapel, 11528 Frontage Rd. Murrells Inlet, SC. The service will be followed by a reception. Further details may be requested from Lauren Ashe by email ([laurenashe@icloud.com](mailto:laurenashe@icloud.com))



# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

SEP **23**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Beach Chapel  
11528 Highway 17 Bypass  
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576  
<http://www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Goldfinch Funeral Services created a Webcast in memory of William Earl "Bill" Ashe



Goldfinch Funeral Home - September 23, 2023 at 11:51 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.



September 23, 2023 at 08:05 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.

September 23, 2023 at 08:05 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.



September 21, 2023 at 10:16 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.



---

September 19, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.



---

September 19, 2023 at 04:27 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.

---

September 19, 2023 at 04:27 PM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.



---

September 19, 2023 at 03:55 PM

AA

“ William, you brightened so many days for so many people with your smile and humor. Your kindness, thoughtfulness and selflessness goes beyond words. You made this world a better place just by being you. You will forever hold a special place in our hearts.



Aaronda - September 19, 2023 at 12:54 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.



September 19, 2023 at 12:06 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.

September 19, 2023 at 12:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William Earl "Bill" Ashe.



September 19, 2023 at 10:43 AM

CZ

“ Lauren, I am sorry to hear about your Dad. He sounds like a wonderful person. Remember he is in your heart always.

Chris Zachritz - September 17, 2023 at 07:49 PM

BA

“ Met Bill at a class reunion. One for class of 65 , I was class of 66. He was very social. Sent me several cd's which I still play. He was a really nice guy. Prayers for family and friends!



Barbara - September 17, 2023 at 05:45 PM

RB

“ Rhonda Butler lit a candle in memory of William Earl "Bill" Ashe



Rhonda Butler - September 15, 2023 at 10:23 AM

JM

“ I am sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I will always cherish the times he was willing to share his thoughts and opinions with me. My sympathies are extended to the family during this difficult time. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Joey Martin

JOEY MARTIN - September 15, 2023 at 09:10 AM

CH

“ *Bill, you were a wonderful chapter in our lives: me and my two daughters. The fun times we had with Lauren still resonate with my girls to this day. Thanks for the memories....*

---

**charlene hein** - September 14, 2023 at 09:55 PM

NA

“ *I had the great fortune of knowing you for a few years but they were more than enough for you to become part of my family and to see you like a dad, thank you for such beautiful moments, it was an honor that God placed you in my life!! I know that from heaven you see us and send us blessings we will miss you here on earth I will always remember you with love and remembering your great humor and with a big smile enjoy paradise until we meet again with love speedy*

---

**Nancy** - September 14, 2023 at 07:18 PM

DC

“ *I knew you for 12 short years. We came to be best friends over those years. I will never forget the laughter we shared. I know you are in a much better place now. I will miss the daily news and weather updates you sent me! Until we see each other again just know we think of you every day! Hopefully there are no bridges in heaven !*

*Love , David Lee*

---

**David Clevenger** - September 14, 2023 at 04:22 PM

Janice  
Clevenger

“ For over 20 years you have been my friend . I know you are in a better place, no suffering, no sorrow. Our hearts are broken . We will miss you forever. Until that Day 🙏  
We will see you again.  
Love J  
Janice Clevenger



Love J

---

**Janice Clevenger** - September 14, 2023 at 04:10 PM

BN

*One of the best guys I ever worked with We'll miss you, Bill.*

---

**Bud Norwood** - September 14, 2023 at 04:54 PM

RM

*Never met you only through the music you shared with me through Janice, Bill play them beautiful tunes in heaven because you were a Awesome person and hope that you're dancing with the Angels, Always 🙏🕊️  
Ruthie Michalak*

---

**Ruth Michalak** - September 14, 2023 at 06:58 PM

LW

*I remember Mr. Bill when I first came to work at the City of Wilson, NC, where he was the purchasing manager at that time in the early 1980's. Just a teenager at that time and what an impression he made on us all. Such a jokester and full of life! Rest in Peace Mr. Bill.*

---

**Lynn Wilson** - September 25, 2023 at 01:16 PM