



William James Ritchie Sr.

JUN 7, 1933 - JUN 30, 2024



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William James Ritchie Sr.

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William J. Ritchie Sr. loving husband, father, Big Papa, and great friend to many, passed on Sunday June 30th, 2024. He was born in Berea, Ohio June 7th, 1933, to Rusha (Kline) and Leroy Ritchie. Bill grew up in Brunswick where he was involved in sports, riding motorcycles, and playing the saxophone. He married Dorothy, the love of his life, and they were inseparable for 72 years. Hard working and active in the community, he was the owner of Cleveland Tool and Cutter and a life time member of Strongsville City Club, (President for 15 years). He loved helping others and really enjoyed supporting the Special Olympics. You couldn't ask for a better husband, father, and grandfather. Always willing to help, listen, and give good advice. He loved to joke, tease, and squeeze his grandkids knees. Dad was a father figure to many of our friends, known as Smiley, Big Bill and Mr. Bill. He leaves behind his wife Dorothy, children: Gina (Chris), Lisa (Brian), Bill Jr. (Lynn), Sharon, grandchildren: Sarah (John), Dylan (Lindsey), Emily, Bill, Chelsey (Jeremy), Bob (Kayla), Morgan, great grandchildren: Colin, Carter, Noah, Cael, Bailey, Gavin, Donovan, Theo and Tate. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother Harvey. Always willing to lend a helping hand, his warm smile and generous spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew him. With broken hearts we say goodbye, grateful for having him in our lives for 91 years.

Funeral Services will be private for the family.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests for donations to be made in Bills name to Strongsville Special Olympics.

C/O Tonya Farran
14465 Oakland Park Dr.
Strongsville, OH 44136



Tribute Wall

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Carson Loveless lit a candle in honor of William.

Condolences to his family

August 30 at 5:00 AM



George And Lori Love sent an Enduring Grace to the Ritchie family.

July 10 at 1:39 PM



George And Lori Love planted a Memorial Tree in honor of William.

July 10 at 1:39 PM



Kevin Willbond posted:

It was a real pleasure to work with Bill and Dorathy at Cleveland Tool and Cutter right out of college and I learned so much about the business and trade. I will always be grateful for that opportunity he gave me. The workplace had a real family atmosphere, and we shared some really great moments. Mention the name of Bill Ritchie to me, and it will always bring a smile to my face. Job well done Bill.

July 10 at 1:36 PM



Terry Kaminski posted:

Memories of Smiles started in high school hanging in the Ritchie basement. So many funny moments with this man and his beautiful family. Love to you all and we are thinking Bill may have a fast track to Heaven.Love - David and Terry Kaminski

July 9 at 5:54 AM



Sheila Janiak posted:

So many fond memories of a true gentleman.Our condolences Dorothy and family.Rob and Sheila Janiak

July 5 at 5:50 PM



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Pam And Ken Leonard posted:

One of our funniest memories are from isles of Capri when a frog jumped from the door of the building right on to his forehead. We still laugh about that. So so many wonderful memories. Bill you will be so missed. I'm sure you're sitting with my mom and dad, Glen and Joyce Moenich, Annie and Wally Ehrnfelt, Dale and Lee Finley, and Ruby Perau toasting to all the good times. RIP sweet Bill. You were so loved! Pam and Ken Leonard and family

July 4 at 6:40 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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