



## William Leffler

April 10, 2022

William “Bill” Leffler, 90, passed away on April 10, 2022. He was the son of the late William and Annie Leffler. He loved sports and spending time with his wife, kids, grandkids, and great grandkids. He spent his life writing sports for the Virginian-Pilot. Even after he retired from the newspaper, he continued to write and take an interest in local sports. Bill was a devoted member of St. Andrew’s Methodist Church and served in the Air Force.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife, Pat. He is survived by his three children, Beth and husband, Richard, Wayne, and David; grandchildren, Jennifer, Kevin, Jason and wife, Becca; great grandchildren, Brooklyn, Evie and Jake; sister, Pat and husband, Bob; nieces, and nephews, Ashley, Meredith and Robb and their families.

A service will be held on Thursday, April 14th at 11:00 am at St. Andrew’s Methodist Church 5615 Portsmouth Blvd, Portsmouth, VA 23701. Loving Funeral Home is handling the arrangements and online condolences may be made at [www.LovingFuneralHome.com](http://www.LovingFuneralHome.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

APR **14**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Andrews United Methodist Church  
5615 Portsmouth Blvd.  
Portsmouth, VA

# Tribute Wall

RJ

“ *Our prayers go out to the family. Bill and Pat Leffler were our neighbors for more than thirty years. No one could ask for better neighbors. They were always so friendly to everyone. May God bless each and every one of the family members. Tommy & Rita Jones*

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**Rita Jones** - April 15, 2022 at 10:31 AM

WK

“ We have nothing but nice memories of Bill & his family. They were our neighbors over fifty years ago on Apache Road. I always looked forward to reading Bills columns in the newspaper. Bills columns were always interesting & favorable to the athletes & coaches. This area has lost a real gem.  
Sue & Bill Knowles

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**William Knowles** - April 14, 2022 at 05:05 PM

DM

“ *I worked in the Portsmouth office of The Virginian-Pilot and The Ledger-Star with Bill in the 70s and 80s. He was such a gentleman and always had a smile for everyone. I remember when his column included one of my better bowling scores. I also have a clipping of his story on Woodrow Wilson High School winning the statewide baseball championship in 1969. His readers always appreciated seeing their names in print. My prayers go out to the family. He will be fondly remembered by anyone who had the pleasure of working with him.*

*Debbie Ballentine Meads*

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**Debbie Ballentine Meads** - April 14, 2022 at 12:58 AM

PS

“ *During the many years we worked with Bill at The Virginian Pilot, he was always the ultimate journalist and a trusted friend. We relied on his stories as a trusted source for our book about the Portsmouth Invitational Tournament - if Bill wrote them, they were accurate!*

*We were honored when he agreed, two years ago, to write the foreword for the book. He had watched and covered the tournament from the very beginning, and with his knowledge of Portsmouth, he was an invaluable part of the PIT story.*

*Thank you, Bill, we will miss you but you will remain in our hearts as one of those people whose friendship has been an unforgettable treasure.*

*Phyllis Speidell, writer, & John H. Sheally, II, photographer*

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**Phyllis Speidell** - April 13, 2022 at 10:42 PM

BK

“ *I worked at the newspapers for many years and can never remember a time when my path crossed with Bill that he was not a kind and gentle soul. My prayers go out to his family and friends. Bill surely will be missed by everyone that worked with him and enjoyed reading his fine works. He was certainly a Portsmouth icon and loved by the community. May God wrap His loving arms around his family and those that loves him in the difficult days ahead. RIP Bill Leffler.*

*Barbara Kyte*



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**Barbara Kyte** - April 13, 2022 at 06:10 PM

MO

“ *What a career Bill had as a sports- writer with the Ledger-Star and The Virginia-Pilot.*

*He was a special person and friends to all of us.*

*Bill will be greatly missed by all of us.*

*RIP Bill.*



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**Martin Oliver** - April 13, 2022 at 05:06 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William Leffler.*



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April 13, 2022 at 03:01 PM

JL

“ *My mother Doris Leigh and I loved Bill (J. P. Leigh). He was such a friend and oh such wonderful memories. He was always so good to me and my Mom. He was one of a kind and will be truly missed by many.*

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**J. P. Leigh** - April 13, 2022 at 09:51 AM

JW

“ *Mr. Leffler was a P'town icon in sports media. He spotlighted bowling accomplishments that made many a bowlers day to see their name in his columns. RIP Mr. Leffler. Our Lord's Blessings for you and your family. You have left your mark in our world with your job well done sir.*

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**John Winn** - April 13, 2022 at 06:46 AM

BK

“ I was a fan of Bill for all the years he reported sports news in Hampton Roads...He was a good writer whose kindness showed through in most of his stories. Never did I read a line of Bill's writing where he took advantage of his subjects.

*I think he understood where his work fit into our lives and he stayed inside the margins that I liked.*

*My deepest condolences to his family and many friends who are grieving his death.*

*May he Rest In Peace.*

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**Bernie Kirsch** - April 12, 2022 at 09:33 PM

BM

“ Patsy,  
*So sorry to hear about Billy. Please accept our condolences. Dennis and Betty Jean McMurrin*

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**Betty mcMurrin** - April 12, 2022 at 08:57 PM

LH

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the family. Bill was true supporter of duckpins. He would do all the write-ups for the paper for duckpins and would acknowledging local bowlers achievements.*

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**Lynne Pack Harris** - April 12, 2022 at 07:43 PM