



William L. Sawyer

September 3, 2012

William L. Sawyer, "Bill", passed away peacefully on September 3, 2012 at the age of 71. Born on February 20, 1941 in Ransomville, NC to Oscar Lewis Sawyer and Margaret Rabey Smellie he moved to Nansemond County now Suffolk at the age of 6 months.

"Billy" graduated from Churchland High School and attended Old Dominion University. He spent many of his working years in the Heating Oil Business and at one point owned his own company, Southside Fuels of Tidewater. In his retirement, he practiced real estate until he became ill several years ago. He was a past president of the Chesapeake Chamber of Commerce and also of the Great Bridge Jaycees. He is a past Chairman of the Chesapeake Jubilee and a permanent member of the Board of Directors. He was the Midway Chairman with the Jubilee for over 30 years. He also served in the Marine Corps Reserves and was a member of the Marine Corp League. He was a longtime member of Nansemond Masonic Lodge #77 and the Khedive Temple.

He is survived by his wife, Juanita Sawyer of Suffolk; his uncle, Edward K. Rabey, III of Chesapeake; three daughters, Sherry Sawyer Andrews and husband, Steve of Chesapeake, Jennifer Sawyer Gilbert and husband, Skip of Moyock NC, Wendy Sawyer Alley and husband, Shane of Chesapeake; a step-daughter, Lisa Wilber and husband, Jay of Jupiter, FL; a step-son, Brian

Hammock of Oklahoma. He is survived by seven grandchildren and his beloved pets. He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Sawyer and a granddaughter, Elizabeth Andrews.

His funeral service will be held at Loving Funeral Home, Churchland Chapel on Friday, September 7th at 11 a.m. by Pastor, Thomas L. Mercer, Sr. Interment will be at Meadowbrook Memorial Garden in Suffolk. The family will receive friends at the funeral home on Thursday evening from 6 to 8 p.m. and online condolences may be made at www.lovingfuneralhome.com. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the charity of your choice.

Tribute Wall



“ haven't seen Bill for a while, but also having been in the heating oil business for some 40 years, Bill and i saw each other frequently. i consider Bill a good friend. he will be missed.##imported-begin##John w.##imported-end##

September 07, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Please accept Sam and my sincere condolences in your loss. I know Billy will be missed. Our hearts and thoughts are with you. Snookie##imported-begin##Snookie Smith##imported-end##

September 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I knew Billy from his days at Old Dominion University and afterwards as a community volunteer. There was no better volunteer leader than Billy. When he was in he was "all in".

The impression he left on me is indelible. I will carry him in my memory for the rest of my days. I was saddened to read of his death

Your family has my deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Bernie Kirsch##imported-end##

September 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I first met Billy in our 8th grade homeroom. I always valued his friendship and his friendly manner. During High School, Billy worked at Suburban Pharmacy in Portsmouth when I had a similar job at Sykes Confectionery near Simonsdale. My last and perhaps fondest memory of Billy was that we double dated at the senior class party. I have thought of Billy often over the years and spoke with him a couple of years ago prior to a Churchland HS class reunion. Billy was a superb individual. I know that he will be missed by family and friends to whom I extend my deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Robert Warren##imported-end##

September 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prays to Juanita and family. I knew Bill since his days at Pure oil co with my dad. He will be missed. Stan Pallett,##imported-begin##stan pallett##imported-end##

September 06, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Bill was a very nice man to work for. I wish to express my condolences to his family.##imported-begin##Linda Colp##imported-end##

September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Juanita & Family: Just want to send my sincere sympathy. I was a high school classmate of Bill's. He was a very special person. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with each of you.##imported-begin##Marty Walker Reese##imported-end##

September 05, 2012 at 12:00 AM