



William D. "Bill" Mendler

August 16, 1942 - January 4, 2024

William D. "Bill" Mendler, 81, well-known former North Towanda businessman, of Towanda, PA passed away Thursday, January 4, 2024, at Guthrie Towanda Memorial Hospital. "Bill" as he was known by his family and friends was born in Williamsport, PA on August 16, 1942, the son of the late Christian Mendler and Grace Kahler Mendler. He was a graduate of Williamsport High School and continued his education in electronics in Philadelphia, PA. On June 20, 1964, Bill married the former Arlene Bender in Williamsport, and the couple later moved their family to Towanda to make their home in 1970. Bill served as manager of the Yoder Tire Service in North Towanda for several years and subsequently purchased the business which he operated for many years until his retirement.

Bill was a member of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus in Towanda.

In earlier years, Bill was active in the Towanda Little League program where he served as a team coach and was an active member of the Towanda Area Jaycees where he was instrumental in creating the Jaycees Tennis Tournament and the annual Halloween Haunted House event held in Towanda. Bill loved playing tennis and attending his children's and grandchildren's sports events. Bill's family includes his devoted wife of 59 years, Arlene Mendler, their children, Christine (William) Wilson of Harrisburg, PA, Rebecca "Becky" (Evan) Basse of Towanda, William Joseph "Billy" Mendler (Tracy Sladish) of Binghamton, NY, grandchildren, Allison Wilson,

Benjamin (Haylie) Wilson, Christian Basse, Tyler (Alexandra) Basse and Meghan Mendler, sister-in-law, Connie Mendler of North Carolina, as well as several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to his parents, Bill was predeceased by his brother, Roland "Ron" Mendler and sister and brother-in-law, Syndria "Cindy" and Roy Maines. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held Saturday, January 20th, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, Third St., Towanda, PA with Rev. Joseph Kuriappilly, pastor, as celebrant. The family suggests that bequests be directed to Saint Agnes School, 102 Third St. Towanda, PA 18848 in memory of William D. Mendler.

Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting www.bowenfuneralhomes.com.

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 20. 11:00 AM (ET)

Saints Peter & Paul's Church
106 3rd St
Towanda, PA 18848-1798
(570) 265-2113

Tribute Wall

PF

“ Patrick F. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William D. "Bill" Mendler.

Patrick F. - January 18, 2024 at 09:59 PM

DL

“ Just found out about Bill's passing yesterday from one of my children who saw the obituary online.
I am very sorry that Bill has gone to be in heaven, where he deserves to be in passing - for the great person he was and all the good he did in his life.
My condolences to Arlene and all his family.

I will always have great memories about Bill in the 40 years I knew him when I lived in Towanda. Most of those really good times were related to tennis, Jaycees and trips to the Outer banks. Too many to relate here but they were all great when he was involved. I have been missing him since we moved from Towanda and am sorry I was remiss in taking trips back to Towanda to see him and other common friends we both had.

Dick Landry

Dick Landry - January 14, 2024 at 02:32 PM

BE

“ Not only did Bill and Arlene lead the tennis community and organize the summer tournament, but Bill knew and understood tennis. I remember playing as his partner in doubles at the tournament a few times, and I would always learn more from him. There is a large community of players who still enjoy tennis, thanks to Bill and Arlene. We will all miss him.

Brooks Eldredge-Martin - January 11, 2024 at 09:12 AM



“ Sorry for your loss bill was a great guy And my family just loved him my mom worked with Becky so my ❤️ goes out to the entire family I know if my mom was alive she would give her condolences too so I am for the entire bull family

Amy Bull - January 10, 2024 at 09:47 AM

CA

“ I learned this morning of Bill's passing. It really stops me in my tracks.

Arlene--both of you--especially Bill, were such positive and encouraging parts of my youth, having moved to Towanda in 1976. I can recall the moment and conversation like it was yesterday. Lennie Lejedal and I were at SCI, batting flat tennis balls against the wall (courts were often full back then), and Bill drives up in the large station wagon, introduces himself and asks did we think there'd be any interest in a tennis tournament here. Len and I looked at each other and said yeah, definitely. I was a little cautious and asked Bill, "How much would it cost?" Smiling that smile, he replied, "It won't cost a cent." He then explained the new-can-of-balls entry fee.

Bill was such positive mentor for me and others back then. When a few of us were heading to Williamsport and districts, he and Ralph Martin took us to Troy courts (less busy) for some practice sessions. The years that followed saw us packing Bill's car and renting the indoor facility in Elmira. A gang of locals (including Foleys, Crawfords, Demongones, Blosses) played a few times long into the night, Bill having been given the keys so he could lock up. Arlene and family, you don't need this to tell you how great and impactful Bill was. I just hope it shows, all these years later, how much he touched us.

Chris Appleton

Christian Appleton - January 10, 2024 at 09:19 AM

BU

“ Arlene and family-- I am so sorry for your loss of Bill, and have you in my prayers as you deal with the reality of now living without him. Sincerely, Barbara Ulatowski, Kissimmee, FL



Barbara Ulatowski - January 09, 2024 at 10:25 AM

CH

“ *Dear Arlene and family,
I am so sorry to hear that Bill is gone. My
deepest sympathy to al of you. Bill was such
a sweet / mellow guy and loved his Arlene.
(((hugs)))*



Claire Holton-Lizon - January 09, 2024 at 10:19 AM