



## Mr. William F. Jones

July 5, 1926 - August 4, 2023

On August 4, 2023, William Francis Jones, 97, died peacefully at home surrounded by family.

Bill was born July 5, 1926, in Newton, Massachusetts to Francis Perry and Esther Hayden Jones. While attending Newton High School, he enlisted in the United States Navy, and began active service on April 12, 1944. Bill served as a rear gunner and radioman on naval aircraft until his honorable discharge on June 24, 1947. He always spoke proudly and humbly of his service during World War II. Newton High School issued his diploma, in absentia, in June of 1944.

After the war, Bill attended Syracuse University in New York State. On May 12, 1947, Bill met his beloved wife Mary Elizabeth (Betty) Cocker on a blind date with mutual friends. Their friends never dated again, but Bill and Betty fell in love. Betty was attending nursing school at Newton Wellesley Hospital School of Nursing at the time.

The couple married in Waban, MA on September 9, 1950, and Betty joined Bill in Syracuse. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in finance in 1951. He went to work for Capital Finance Company, in Gloversville N.Y., and the couple moved to Gloversville. Living just ten miles south of the Adirondack Park and Great Sacandaga Lake, they spent much time camping, boating, hiking, and gardening. Bill was an avid tennis player, skier and golfer. Bill also

proudly championed Betty's many achievements as an artist.

Bill soon joined NA Taylor Co., a small business in Gloversville, which manufactured awnings, and later boat windshields and accessories. Bill rose to become CEO and President, and under his leadership the business grew to international recognition. His care and respect for his employees were paramount to his management style. He retired from NA Taylor, Inc. in 1992.

Bill and Betty raised their family in Gloversville, and remained there until 2005 when they moved to Kimball Farms, a life care community, in Lenox, MA. Bill was active in both the Congregational Church in Gloversville and The Church on the Hill in Lenox. He also served as Chairman of the Board of the Gloversville Federal Savings and Loan.

Bill and Betty's 74½ -year love affair is a model for all. Their dedication to each other and family impacted everyone they encountered. They said the secret to their marriage revolved around respect and honoring the good in each other, even when times got tough. They never let a day go by without a show of affection and saying "I love you".

Bill's sense of humor and boisterous laugh will be greatly missed. He was admired for his compassion and humility. He openly expressed gratitude for his fortunate life and the love of his extended family.

Bill is predeceased by his parents Francis Perry and Esther Hayden Jones; son-in-law Jake Kachel; siblings Robert (Lorraine), Richard, and Polly Jones, and Phyllis (Charlie) Blake. He is survived by his wife, Betty; brother, Arthur (Jean); sisters-in-law, Shirley Craighead and Lorraine Jones; and his four children Peter (Jean) Jones, Nancy (Rich) Dolge, Cynthia Jones, and Susan (Tom) Moses. His grandchildren include Rebecca Jones, Michael Jones, Joshua Jones, Latisha Jones, Kenny (Krystal) Joseph, Christopher (Sabrina) Dolge, Trevor (Julie) Dolge, Leeanne Moses, and Brady Moses. He is also

survived by his great-grandchildren: Annabelle and Tyler Jones; Gianna and Isabella Lopez; Zachary Joseph; Roman, Niko, Nolan, Avery and Ari Dolge; and Makayla Jones.

A memorial service in celebration of Bill's life will be held on August 16, 2023 at 2 pm at The Church on the Hill (Congregational) in Lenox. To share a memory of Bill, please visit [www.dwyerfuneral.com](http://www.dwyerfuneral.com)

In lieu of flowers, donations in Bill's memory can be made to Soldier On, 290 Merrill Hill Road, Pittsfield, MA, 01201. Website: [info@wesoldieron.org](mailto:info@wesoldieron.org)

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

AUG **16**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Church on the Hill UCC  
169 Main St  
Lenox, MA 01240

# Tribute Wall

TP

“ Dear Betty and Family. I was very saddened to hear of Bill's passing and my heart goes out to you in this time of mourning. I first met Bill when he was closing in on his last decade with a dynamic N.A, Taylor Co. Having made it to the top position as President, he lived and breathed the company. His dedication was immense. I only really got to know him when we both headed to Ireland to re-start up a glass factory after he and Jim T. did the deal to buy the company. We were all blessed to have his leadership, trust, and determination to make it all work. He was incredibly supportive to everyone involved in the business. We and the staff had some great times and a full plate of laughter with him after all the serious stuff was done for the day. His kindness and good spirit reigned throughout as I'm sure was forever the case in his career.  
Sincerely Yours,  
Tom Peters

---

**Tom Peters** - August 14, 2023 at 10:59 AM

MA

“ Sending condolences to you and your family. I also want to wish you the best in your new home Sue. FPC will miss you. Sincerely  
Martha Morrison

---

**Martha** - August 13, 2023 at 03:15 PM

AP

“ Dear Betty and family. I am so sorry to hear that Bill has left us. He was a force of nature. I worked with him in Taylor Made Templemore, when he and Tom arrived in Ireland to start up the Irish business. Betty bravely came along and both she and Bill lived in a (not so warm!) Irish cottage for a long time in Puckane. My fondest memories are of the fun we had in the factory. Every evening at 4pm, (despite the fact that this was a start up business and we were pretty busy!), the office staff would have to meet in the canteen so Bill and Betty would teach us how to square dance! Unheard of in rural Ireland at the time. We reciprocated by teaching Irish dances such as the Siege of Ennis and The Walls of Limerick.. To be honest, I don't think either side learned anything but we certainly did laugh.  
Ar dheis Dé, go raibh a anam Dilís.  
Sincerely, Anne Peters

---

**Anne Peters** - August 13, 2023 at 02:38 PM

LS

“ Nancy, Rich, Chris, Trevor and family,  
We are saddened to hear of your loss. All these years knowing you, the love and devotion to family that your dad exemplified was clearly powerful. May your memories of having a wonderful loving father/grandfather in your lives provide some comfort. You have our deepest condolences and love. May he rest in peace. In sympathy,  
Leslie Strong and Jim Sutter

---

**Leslie Strong** - August 12, 2023 at 05:31 AM

EP

“ Cindy and Family, I am saddened to hear of the loss of your father. In my eyes he was a great man. I worked with him at N.A. Taylor for 11 years and he always made me feel special and valued. He was a person whom you could talk to, he had a great sense of humor and was a kind man. I wrote him a letter when I moved from Gloversville to Massachusetts telling him what a wonderful experience I had working for him and knowing him and he wrote me back telling me what a pleasure it was knowing me and having me as a member of his "family" at Taylors. I still have that hand written letter and I have treasured it all these years. Your family is in my heart and my prayers at this time. *Ericia*

---

**Ericia Prentice-Mercer** - August 09, 2023 at 07:08 PM

RM

“ I remember Bill and his wife from growing up in Gloversville at the UCC Congregational Church, and my Dad Bob Mills worked with Bill for 40 years at NA Taylor in Gloversville. I drive by his old home on E state street extension yearly if not more often and think of him. Wonderful memories. Jim Taylor and I are still close friends. *Robert Curtis Mills, MD*

---

**robert mills** - August 08, 2023 at 06:21 PM

MK

“ Betty and Family: I was very saddened to hear of Bill's passing. I worked for Bill and Taylor Made for over 30 years and he was so thoughtful to me and my entire family. I loved his sense of humor and admired his brilliance in growing the company. I have wonderful memories of him and I extend my sincerest sympathy to all his loved ones.

*Sincerely,  
Mary Knapik*

---

**Mary Knapik** - August 07, 2023 at 11:17 PM