



Mr. William "Bill" Tobin

April 25, 1948 - October 7, 2021

PITTSFIELD - William E. "Bill" Tobin, 73, artist and educator, passed away October 7, 2021 at the Gale Avenue home he built after a brave, eight-year fight with prostate cancer. Born April 25, 1948 to Francis J. and Mary Ida (Moore) Tobin, Bill was one of seven children to grace their raucous 92 Seymour Street home that was always loudly filled with generations of family and friends and the origins of his love for the July 4th holiday.

An avid mountain bike enthusiast, hiker and overall explorer, Bill was always quick to go off the beaten path and never missed a chance to take the more scenic route home. The husband of Eileen (Wolfe) Tobin, Bill was a fantastic dad, adored grandfather and wonderful brother and loving uncle who will be greatly missed by his family and countless friends that were lucky enough to cross his path.

A member of the St. Joseph's High School Class of 1966, Bill graduated from American International College with a BA in Chemistry in 1971 and received his Master of Education from Lesley University. Soon thereafter, Bill began his 35-year career in education, teaching chemistry and geology at North Jr. High and Pittsfield High School, where he was also the PHS head swim coach from 1975 -1982 and again in 1992-1993. Bill also served as the president of The United Educators of Pittsfield (UEP), the union that represents Pittsfield Public School teachers from 1996 - 1999. Upon his retirement for the Pittsfield School system in 2006, Bill taught part-time for three years at Lenox Memorial High School.

Having spent countless hours there as a kid, Bill also worked for over forty years at the Pittsfield Boys & Girls Club as a staff member and swim team coach on Melville Street and as the waterfront director at Camp Russell. At Camp, whether working or volunteering their time to help improve the place, he was fortunate to spend many summers on Richmond Pond along with a cast of characters who he adored and shared stories with that lasted a lifetime.

Whether a student or a camper, Bill never forgot a face or name. He could recite stories about kids he had in class and at camp at will, no matter if he had them in his first-year or his last. It was a truly remarkable trait.

After retiring from teaching, Bill found his true calling as an artist, dealing primarily in sculpture and metal work. A member of the confederation of comrades called Group W, an artist's collaborative who shared enthusiasm and workspace generously provided by the tolerant souls of the Melle family at East Coast Refinishing, Bill's works have been featured in exhibits and galleries across the Northeast with sculptures recently featured at The Mount in Lenox, Three Sisters Sanctuary in Goshen and Peconic Landing in Greenpoint, NY.

In addition to his wife, Eileen, who he married on November 11, 1972, Bill is survived by his three children, their spouses and his seven grandchildren, who absolutely treasured their grandpa. Joshua Tobin, wife Kari and their children, Molly and Cameron of Dedham, Nicole and her husband, Jacques Goupil and their children, Sebastian, Jonah and Caleb of Newton; Jonathan Tobin, wife Kristen and their children, Kensington and William (named after his grandfather) of Needham.

Besides nieces and nephews too numerous to mention, Bill also leaves behind his Seymour Street clan; his sister, Mary Downing and husband Jack of Pittsfield; his sister, Bernadette Clay and husband Mike of Cheshire; his brother, Jay Tobin and wife Lois of Pittsfield; his brother, Ben Tobin and wife Beth of Charlton; his brother, Chris Tobin and wife Nancy Carson of Culver City, CA; his brother, Roger Azar of Pittsfield and his sister-in-law, Lisa Tobin

of Tempe, AZ. Bill was pre-deceased in 2014 by his beloved, older brother, F.X. Tobin who he never stopped looking up to.

Funeral Notice:

Calling hours for Mr. William E. "Bill" Tobin will be Friday, November 19, 2021, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Dwyer-Wellington Funeral Home, 220 East Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201. To best ensure everybody's health, due to the recent rise in Covid cases, all who attend these service will be required to wear face makes. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Bill's memory to; Hospice Care in The Berkshires in honor of everyone who took such great care of Bill as well as the Berkshire Natural Resources Council to help preserve the natural beauty of the Berkshires, of which Bill thoroughly enjoyed, in care of the Dwyer Funeral Home.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **19**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Dwyer -Wellington Family Funeral Home - Pittsfield

220 East St.

Pittsfield, MA 01201

(413) 445-4064

info@dwyerfuneral.com

<https://www.dwyerfuneral.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. created a Webcast in memory of Mr. William "Bill" Tobin*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - November 15, 2021 at 01:44 PM

CS

We wish we could be there to share in this memory of Bills life. We send you all our love, our thoughts , n our prayers. Bob Claudia and Kids

claudia Smith - November 20, 2021 at 06:38 AM

RB

“ *Please accept my apologies for being unable to attend Bill's Memorial Service. I have been placed in quarantine as a close contact for Covid. Rick Backer*

Rick Backer - November 19, 2021 at 09:01 AM

RC

“ *Sorry to hear of Bill's passing. My condolences to hi family.*

Ron Charbonneau - November 17, 2021 at 04:54 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - November 17, 2021 at 11:44 AM

DF

“ To Eileen and Bill's children,
Please accept my sincere condolences on Bill's passing. He
obviously made a significant impact on the lives of many people.
Always cherish the many happy memories shared together. Dave
Fiedler

David Fiedler - November 17, 2021 at 11:26 AM

LF

“ Love The Harrington and Cronin families
purchased the Bountiful Rose Basket for the
family of Mr. William "Bill" Tobin.



Love The Harrington and Cronin families - November 16,
2021 at 08:33 PM



“ 331 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Dwyer Funeral Home Inc. - November 15, 2021 at 04:50 PM

YC

“ Your GTC friends & colleagues purchased the [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) for the family of Mr. William "Bill" Tobin.

Your GTC friends & colleagues - November 15, 2021 at 04:49 PM



“ Mr Tobin was an awesome man, he was my Chemistry teacher in the early 90's. I always enjoyed attending his class, his personality, his smile would light up the room, I never saw him angry, he was an outstanding teacher and will be missed. My condolences to his family and friends.
Tamnika Gaulden



Tamnika Gaulden-Cole - November 12, 2021 at 03:12 PM

PA

“ Dear Eileen and family,
My sincere condolences to all the family. A beautiful obituary which spoke of a life well lived and a person admired by many. Fortunate that our paths crossed.
May the fondest memories bring you comfort.
With Heartfelt Sympathy,
Pat Andersen

Pat Andersen - October 31, 2021 at 12:52 PM

DH

“ Dear Jim,
My deepest sympathies to you and your family.
Dave Hinkell

David E Hinkell - October 24, 2021 at 09:20 AM

MC

“ I've known Bill forever, and from first until always, he had a great smile, tremendous talent in science, art and community building, and brought it all to every day and situation. His presence, good cheer, eagerness to see and learn will endure, and all the great laughs will never pass. All best and love to his great family.

Mike Clary - October 22, 2021 at 07:32 PM

JG

A great human being who gave his soul to his community! My sincere condolences to his family and friends, he will always be remembered as a great mentor and leader to those who knew him.

John F Griffin - November 03, 2021 at 11:45 AM

BC

“ I went to school with Bill for twelve years at St. Joseph's in Pittsfield, Ma. Besides his artistic talents, he always had a good temperament, always seemed to be smiling and was always fun to be with. The world lost a wonderful man and my condolences to all his family.
Bob Connors,
Class of 1966 St. Joe

bob connors - October 19, 2021 at 02:45 PM

BM

“ We are so sorry to hear of Bill's passing.
I always enjoyed speaking with Bill and was fortunate to have him as a colleague. He did so much for the kids in the Pittsfield Public Schools and of course Camp Russell. His contributions and tireless work for the Pittsfield teachers was always appreciated and may have gone unnoticed by many, but my conversations with Bill revealed how much he fought for our betterment. His hard work dedication are a testament to the man he is.

Again our sincere condolences to all the Tobin family.

Bob and Eileen Moynihan

Bob Moynihan - October 19, 2021 at 10:59 AM

EM

“ Mr. Tobin was one of my favorite people to be around. He had a way of making me feel special and appreciated. He was so fun to talk and listen to. I am so lucky to have known him. My thoughts are with his family and friends.

-Erin Maloy (Lang)

Erin Maloy - October 18, 2021 at 11:21 AM

RB

“ *May you rest in peace! Classmate and friend, Bob Betters*

Robert Betters - October 18, 2021 at 08:19 AM

KM

“ *Was a classmate of Bill at St. Joes. Always had a smile on his face and a kind word. Anytime I ran into him he was the “same Bill” friendly, happy, and with a kind word.*

Kathryn Marcinczyk - October 18, 2021 at 01:32 AM

RH

“ *I cannot think of a single time when I did not see Bill without his warm, inviting smile. He was a strong protector of teachers, but his true passion lay in the classroom. When I first arrived at PHS, Bill was one of the first to welcome me and was a great role model for students and teachers alike. Just having him in the building made one feel that all would be well. My sincere condolences to his loved ones.*

— *Ralph Hammann*

Ralph Hammann - October 17, 2021 at 11:59 PM

BA

“ *Eileen, Josh, Nikki, Jonathan, Gerry, Bern, Jay, Ben, Chris and families,*

Such great memories of Seymour St, the parade floats, waterfront picnics and the many laughs shared over the years. Bill was a great friend and will be missed by many. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Bet Azar - October 17, 2021 at 07:43 AM

MH

“ My condolences are to the family and all friends who loved him. May you find confort in God during this time.

michelle hedges - October 17, 2021 at 02:56 AM

WF

“ I am so saddened to read of Bill's passing. He was a wonderful teacher and colleague. My deepest sympathy to all of you as you mourn. May good memories sustain you.

William Frazier - October 16, 2021 at 04:51 PM

JC

“ Heartbreaking to hear about Bill's passing. Over 45 years ago I had the FUN of working with him as a co-lifeguard for the Pittsfield Boy's Club summer program. Everyday, working with Bill, was guaranteed to be one continuous laugh. I also had the FUN of participating in a few of the Tobin 4 th of July floats and celebrations. Bill was a talent. Sounds like he continued to live life to the fullest. My condolences to all the Tobins, may you find comfort in knowing the joy Bill brought to everyone he met.
RIP Bill.

Judy (Gleason) Collins - October 16, 2021 at 10:58 AM



“ Mrs. Fields Signature Heritage Pail was purchased for the family of Mr. William "Bill" Tobin.



October 16, 2021 at 08:42 AM

KR

“ Nicole, Amy and I are thinking of you and Jacques at this time. We were "lucky enough to cross his path" many years ago. He was affable then, as always.

--Kevin and Amy Rosteing

Kevin Rosteing - October 16, 2021 at 08:32 AM

SM

“ So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. A wonderful man who cared so much about family and friends. My personal joy was talking blues music with him. His art was amazing. Sue and I know he will be sadly missed but lovingly remembered. Thoughts and prayers go out to all of you.

Sue & Michael Murphy - October 16, 2021 at 08:02 AM

BA

“ Eileen, Josh, Niki, Jonathan, Jerry, Bern, Jay, Ben, Chris and families,

Such great memories of the Parade Floats , Camp Russell, Parties on Seymour Street and so many laughs. Bill will be missed. He was a great friend to so many. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Bet Azar - October 16, 2021 at 07:22 AM

MH

“ William Bill E Tobin passed away with family surrounding him. After a eight year Epic battle with prostate cancer. Bill was many things to many people. Before he became an Educator he was a student of the All Star Clubhouse school of Hard Knocks located at 92 Seymour street Pittsfield. From which he graduated Magna Cum Laude. He continued his higher education At the Pittsfield boys club in Pittsfield where he was a reknowned lightweight pugalist as he served as the supervisor of the second floor poolroom. Bill did not tolerate misbehavior in the pool room. Bill went on to become a Teacher ,a Swim coach, A waterfront director a parent, grandfather and a devoted husband to a Saint named Eileen. While still being a loyal and helpfull Brother,Uncle, cousin and friend always willing to help anyone anytime in need to fix anything broken, right any wrong,comfort any friends and partake in any adventure or any project. In retirement his artistic side burst forth He loved sculpture he created a bronze casting of a rail worker with his brother Jay two sculptures reside in The offices of Jays CB veterans business outside of New York city. Bill learned to channel fire and molten metal throuh his hand in the form of welding which he used to create countless wonderful pieces of metal sculpture . As I said before Bill was many things to many people. But to me he was my friend and confidant on our trips to Lake Powell he was my Captain I was his first mate.His passing has left a huge hole and emptyness in countless lives.He will be sorely missed .Bill Tobin a truly inspiring individual who touched so many in so many ways. I Miss you now and forever Billy Love you Mark H.

Mark Hanford - October 15, 2021 at 08:04 PM

RB

“ Bill was a fellow colleague at Pittsfield High School but more importantly a fellow devotee of the Boys' & Girls' Club and Camp Russell. His devotion and committment help inspire many youth and young adults to the values and mission of the Boys' & Girls' Club inspiring them to become compassionate members of their community. Thankfully my children were privileged to have worked with Bill. My memories of Camp Russell will always be cherished for having known Bill.

Rick Backer - October 15, 2021 at 04:07 PM

TC

“ Bill was a stand-up guy with a Hugh heart and great sense of humor. Many ice hockey hours spent at Boy's Club and other hockey venues around New England. Condolences to Eileen and the kids. May he rest in Peace.
Sue and Tom,Brendan and Can also,

Tom Collins - October 15, 2021 at 03:51 PM

LT

“ Forth of July picnics with the whole Tobin family at Camp Russell.
Fun, food & family

Lisa C Tobin - October 15, 2021 at 03:01 PM