



## William "Bill" Diehl Wetzel

October 11, 1935 - March 21, 2025

William "Bill" Diehl Wetzel of Bonita Springs, FL, passed away peacefully on Friday, March 21, 2025 following a brief illness. He was born on October 11, 1935 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, son of the late Charles M. and Helen (Baird) Wetzel.

Bill graduated from Newark High School in Delaware, where he played football and famously drove his car "Black Beauty." He was an alternate for West Point and served in the U.S. Marine Corps at Camp Pendleton. Bill and his first wife, Violet Gray, moved to central Pennsylvania where he graduated from Penn State University and began a career with DuPont, eventually raising three children in Mansfield, Ohio. In the 1970's, Bill moved to southwest Florida, where he successfully owned and operated Burnett's Automotive Paint and Supplies. Bill married Maureen O'Hara Lally in 1997 and retired in Bonita Springs.

Formerly a trout fisherman, Bill spent many years fishing around Marco Island and the Ten Thousand Islands area as a skilled angler. He also enjoyed golfing, reading, watching baseball, riding his bike, and smoking cigars. Bill was a Freemason and Shriner and a frequent blood donor. He will be remembered as polite, handsome, generous and will be greatly missed.

Bill is survived by his wife of 28 years, Maureen Wetzel, and his beloved

daughters and granddaughter, Jane Wetzel Jako, Andrea Holmes (Jim), and Sarah V. Jako. His stepchildren include John Lally (Rebecca), Robert Lally (Sarah), Mary Beth Ryan (Phil), and Ann Brown. Bill's other grandchildren include Lauren Lally, Matthew Lally, Claire Lally, Patrick Ryan, Peter Ryan, Liam Brown, and Ryan Brown.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Charles "Skip" Wetzel, sister Mary Lou Wetzel, and dear son Dan Wetzel.

Services will be private.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned Since 1978.