



## William P. Guisto Sr.

February 2, 1945 - January 5, 2020

William P. "Bill" Guisto, Sr.74, of Bonita Springs died unexpectedly on Sunday, January 5, 2020 at his residence. Bill was born on February 2, 1945 in New York City a son of the late Peter and Irene (Wiggan) Guisto. He had been a resident of Bonita Springs for the past 40 years moving here from Long Island, NY.

After graduating high school Bill joined the U.S. Navy and served his country from 1963 to 1967 during the Vietnam War. He married the love of his life, Kathy A. Demetriades on April 12, 1969. They just celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past year.

He was a mechanic by trade and worked for automotive repair shops in New York before moving to Florida. From 1980 to 1990 he worked for Bob Taylor Chevrolet and DeVoe Cadillac in Naples. In 1990, Bill decided to open BG Automotive in Bonita Springs and operated his company until 2005.

From 2005 until his untimely death on Sunday, Bill worked as a school bus driver for the Collier County School Systems Department of Transportation. He truly loved his job and working with the children. The students knew him as Commander Bill.

He was a member of the River of Life Assembly of God Church in Estero, FL.

He was a former member of the Golden Gate Assembly of God and the Bonita Springs First Assembly of God Church. For 25 years beginning in 1981, Bill oversaw the Boys Ministries known as the Royal Rangers at both churches. This is where he got his nickname, Commander Bill.

He is survived by his loving wife, Kathy A. Guisto of Bonita Springs, FL; one son, William P. Guisto, Jr. and his wife, Andrea of St. Petersburg, FL; one daughter, Patricia M. Heisler and her husband, John of St. Petersburg, FL; and two grandchildren, Nicolette Heisler and Austin Heisler. He is also survived by his brothers, Jeffery Guisto and his wife, Laura of Mastic Beach, NY and Thomas Guisto of Georgia.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Peter T. Guisto who died on July 26, 1987 and his sister, Patricia Demetrius who died in 1967.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, January 9, 2020 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home 28300 So. Tamiami Tr., Bonita Springs.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, January 10, 2020 at 11:00 AM at River of Life Assembly of God Church 21580 River Ranch Rd. Estero, FL. A reception for family and friends will follow at the church.

Burial will follow after the luncheon at Naples Memorial Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, it is suggested that donations in memory of Bill be made to the Vision of Hope 5652 Mercy Way, Lafayette, IN 47905 or online at [www.faitlafayette.org/voh](http://www.faitlafayette.org/voh). In the memo on your check please include In Memory of Bill.

To sign his guest register or to leave online condolences please visit [www.Shi](http://www.Shi)

[kanyFuneralHome.com](http://kanyFuneralHome.com).

Arrangements have been entrusted to Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home Family  
Owned and Operated Since 1978.

# Cemetery Details

## Naples Memorial Gardens

525 111th Ave. No.  
Naples, FL 34108

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN **9**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home  
28300 Tamiami Trail So.  
Bonita Springs, FL 34134  
(239) 992-4982  
bonitafhbill@comcast.net

## Funeral Service

JAN **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

River of Life Assembly of God Church  
21580 River Ranch Rd.  
Estero, FL 33928

# Tribute Wall



“ *William P. Guisto Sr.*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *My daughters Paige and Jillian had the privilege of having Commander Bill as their bus driver for the past 7 1/2 years. He definitely loved the kids and his job. The one thing I remember about him is his love for Almond Joy Candy Bars!! Always asking, where's my Almond Joy? I started buying the bag with the snack size bars so they could give him one or two every day! He will truly be missed by my girls and the Almond Joy Candy Bar Industry!*

**Paige and Jillian Strmensky** - January 09, 2020 at 01:57 PM



“ *This picture of BG says it all: The man, the myth, the legend. BG had a way of creating an environment of fun, I loved ribbing him and laughing with him. BG's fan club is keeping him alive with their outpouring of love and support. I will always remember Papa fondly and I will miss him dearly.*



**Andrea Linquanti-Guisto** - January 09, 2020 at 09:57 AM

AN

“ This picture of BG says it all: The man, the myth, the legend. BG had a way of creating an environment of fun, I loved ribbing him and laughing with him. BG’s fan club is keeping him alive with their outpouring of love and support. I will always remember Papa fondly and I will miss him dearly.



andrea - January 09, 2020 at 09:49 AM

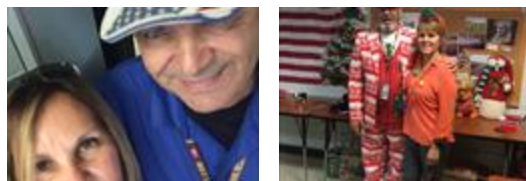
YC

“ Una excelente persona y compañero de trabajo, te recordaré siempre, gracias Dios por permitir conocer personas tan especiales 🙏

Yutzy chirinos - January 09, 2020 at 05:40 AM

CA

“ Nice person, Bill teaches me to play cards, now he is not there to play with us.



candy - January 08, 2020 at 07:40 PM

CB

“ Bill, I will always remember your warm smile at CCPS bus terminal. You will forever be missed. Love Cindy

Cindy Balmat - January 08, 2020 at 06:51 PM

BB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Beth Buckingham** - January 08, 2020 at 11:12 AM

LF

“ Never had a better Neighbor, Kid/Animal Lover, liked to restore his old Vintage Car & help whoever needed

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**LORCH Family** - January 07, 2020 at 08:52 PM

KK

“ *Commander Bill, you will be dearly missed!  
Your dedication to children’s ministry, bus ministry, and your family  
has left an everlasting footprint 🙏!*

*You always brought a smile to those around you with your  
contagious humor. The VBS’ days will not be forgotten, along with  
all those huge dinners you volunteered to cook for, camping days  
with the Royal Rangers, and the wonderful fellowship that meant so  
much.*

*I still see that smirk on your face when Kathy would share how  
proud she was of you and your way with the kids. Your humble  
heart and love of service to others shined brightly.*

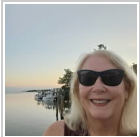
*Please know that your family is in our prayers, because I know they  
will miss you so much.*

*My heart is rejoicing, because you are reunited with your little Peter  
and so many that have gone on before you.*

*You’ve left a legacy...*

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**Karen Karterouliotis** - January 07, 2020 at 08:45 PM



“ *Chris Whitaker lit a candle in memory of  
William P. Guisto Sr.*



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**Chris Whitaker** - January 07, 2020 at 04:39 PM

JG

“ Our last time spent with Bill and Kathy only 2 nights prior was one of laughter and sharing wonderful memories. Bill was filled with short little words filled with his witty humor. Meeting Bill for the first time over 20 years ago was like seeing an old friend. He always made you feel welcomed and important. Bill you will be missed by so many! God speed our friend.

*Love you, John and Julie GAGLIANO*

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**Julie Gagliano** - January 07, 2020 at 02:47 PM

DI

“ Thank you Commander Bill for all the love, guidance, patience and leadership that you showed to my boys. They were fortunate enough to have a Godly man lead them in the Royal Ranger program at GG Assembly of God... I will never forget the imprint that you left upon their lives. Thank you for your example. Theirs not to many around these days. You and Mrs Kathy are very dear to us. We love you!!! The ISON Family.

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**Demonica Ison** - January 07, 2020 at 01:43 PM

EP

“ Our heart felt sympathys Kathy to you and your family. May God give you peace and comfort at this time.

*Glenn,Evonne, and Tina Prescott*

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**evonne prescott** - January 07, 2020 at 12:36 PM

KL

“ Kim Linqanti lit a candle in memory of William P. Guisto Sr.



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**Kim Linqanti** - January 07, 2020 at 12:26 PM

PS

“ I will always remember Bill smiling and enjoying himself at my home on NYE. My heartfelt condolences to Kathy and family as I know what a loss this is to them. He will be forever in their hearts and to those who had the privilege of meeting this lovely man.



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**Pamela Schmidt** - January 07, 2020 at 11:28 AM

CD

“ Chris & Judy Durbin purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of William P. Guisto Sr..



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**Chris & Judy Durbin** - January 07, 2020 at 10:33 AM