



William "Barnacle Bill" Louwsma

September 21, 1955 - July 16, 2021

William "Barnacle Bill" Louwsma, 65 of Everglades City, FL died Friday, July 16, 2021 at Joanne's House at Hope Hospice in Bonita Springs, FL.

He was born September 21, 1955 in Zeeland, MI, and had been a resident of Everglades City for the past 40 years. He was a commercial fisherman for stone crab in the Gulf of Mexico and crawfish in Marathon. He was captain of the F/V Whatever and took great pride in working hard to provide for his family.

He was a sports enthusiast who loved the Florida Marlins, the Miami Dolphins, and the Miami Hurricanes. He also followed the Detroit Lions when the Miami Dolphins were not depressing enough. He loved to tell stories, some of which might have been true. He hated prosecutors and cottage cheese.

His children remember him by his favorite expressions: "rich kids have all the fun," "you can pick your friends, you can pick your nose, but you can't pick your friend's nose," and "it's like the veterinarian said when he cut off the dog's tail: it won't be long now."

He was preceded in death by his parents, Sherwin and Helen (Beelen) Louwsma, his niece Amber Lynema, and the family dogs, Elsa I and Elsa II aka "Vicious Killer."

Survivors include his children, Jenny (Jason), Emily (Michael), and Salem (Kaeleigh) Louwsma; sister, Mary Lynema of Zeeland, MI; and grandchildren, Cypress, Moses and Atlas.

Funeral services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Florida Stone Crabbers Association at <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/FLS CA2020>.

Online condolences may be offered by visiting www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

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

Tribute Wall



“ *William "Barnacle Bill" Louwsma*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *I grew up as next door neighbor to Bill for the first 20 or so years of my life. As I recall they were, at least to me, much simpler times. I have plenty of good memories of times spent together way back then! We both amused much over many things in life that most deemed important and much to serious to either Bill or myself at that time in our lives! A hearty laugh to us had merit!! Miss you 'ole buddy. My heart goes out to you as well Mary if you even recall who I am. It's been a spell.*

Dave Brower - August 01, 2021 at 05:06 PM

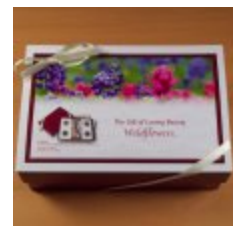


“ *The best "Yankee" Stone Crab Captain that ever fished out of Chokoloskee, Fl*

Steve Burke - July 27, 2021 at 06:20 PM



“ *Wildflower Seeds - Build A Memory Garden was purchased for the family of William "Barnacle Bill" Louwsma.*



July 24, 2021 at 12:02 PM

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“ Our memories of Bill go back decades— and in all of those, I see his wild fisherman’s hair, the twinkle in his eyes when he started a story, his affection for his family and his livelihood, and his ethic of hard work. But he was always up for a day off, too— I remember going far out into the gulf with our three kids and his two girls for a day of fishing. It was hot and sunny, as Florida is, and we decided we needed to cool off in the water. We wondered if it was safe, and he said ‘Well, I’m sure it is— but if there are any sharks out there, they probably won’t bite you.’ We swam, and shortly after climbing back into the boat, set to fishing again. Wouldn’t you know it, one of our daughters snagged a shark right after our swim. He laughed and said, ‘See? They didn’t bite you!’
That night we had our catches proudly cooked five different ways, and a great story to repeat over the years.
Rest In Peace, Bill. You will be remembered.

Kathy Kurtze - July 21, 2021 at 10:27 PM