



William J. Sullivan

August 17, 1937 - June 12, 2018

William J Sullivan aka "Fat Sulli", 80 of Bonita Springs, FL, formerly of Newport, RI passed away peacefully in his sleep on June 12, 2018. He was born on August 17, 1937 to Cornelius J and Eileen (Nash) Sullivan in Newport, RI.

He served his country as a member of the United States Air Force from 11-7-55 to 10-17-57. He worked for the Naval Underwater System Center on the Naval Base in Middletown, RI on the Trident Submarine program for 25+ years.

His lifelong love of travel started with camping all over the east coast with his 2 girls. Later the travel became worldwide along with his brother Neil and then his best friend Betty Walsh. He was well known for his likeness to Santa. For many years, he brought joy to thousands by playing that beloved character in parades, festivals and daily life. His greatest joys were his 2 girls, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Survivors include the love of his life and lifetime best friend, Elizabeth (Betty) Walsh, 2 daughters, Ann M. (Anthony) Simmons of Fall River, MA, and Teresa M. Kroes (Jerry Quist) of McBain, MI; 5 grandchildren, Amanda L. (Justin) Jarvie, St. Joseph, MI, Fawn M. Sullivan, Fall River, MA, Meghan (Josh) Herweyer, McBain, MI, Joshua C. Sullivan, Fall River, MA, Nathan P. Kroes,

Grand Rapids, MI; 9 great grandchildren; 2 nieces and 2 nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Cornelius (Neil) Sullivan and sister, Rita S. Fish.

Visiting hours will be held at Memorial Funeral Home on Broadway in Newport, RI on June 29, 2018 from 5 – 7pm. The funeral mass will be celebrated at St. Barnabas Catholic Church on June 30, 2018 at 11:00 AM.

Memorial contributions can be sent to the Cornelius J Sullivan scholarship fund at the YMCA, 792 Valley Rd, Middletown, RI 02842.

To sign his guest register or to leave online condolences please visit www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com

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

Tribute Wall



“ *William J. Sullivan*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *To Ann, Teresa and Ms. Betty - I am saddened to hear from a friend about the recent death of your dad. He was always like a 2nd father to me. He will be greatly missed. To all of the happy memories he and my family shared at the diner, weddings and other family parties. He always was very encouraging and caring. With Deepest Sympathy Tracy Cookinham and my Mom (Brenda).*

Tracy Cookinham - June 21, 2018 at 06:43 PM



“ *To the Sullivan families, Betty Walsh and friends. Our deepest of sympathy on the passing of Bill. He will always be remembered as kind, generous and having a huge heart. We will sadly miss his interesting conversation and our get togethers. He will always hold a special place in our hearts. May he Rest In Peace.*

Joe and Barbara Spallone

Joe and Barbara Spallone - June 18, 2018 at 02:51 PM



EM

“ *Edie and I were saddened to learn of Bills passing .He brighten any occasion just by his presence. He will be missed.This past season my car was out of service for a few days. Bill said take my mine. Generous funny and opinionated but the real deal. Edie and Ed Mc Givern*

ed mcgivern - June 14, 2018 at 05:21 PM

TK

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



Teresa Kroes - June 14, 2018 at 03:14 PM