



William Gaillard "Bill" Farrell

March 29, 1930 - December 10, 2016

William Gaillard Farrell 86 of Hendersonville, NC passed away on December 10, 2016 at Elizabeth House in Hendersonville. He was born March 29, 1930 in New York, NY.

Bill graduated from St. Elizabeth Catholic School, Cardinal Hayes High School and Manhattan College, all in New York City. He enlisted in the Navy while attending Manhattan College and ultimately was Commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Candidate program after he graduated in 1952. He served on Active Duty during the Korean War including tours aboard two aircraft carriers, the USS Salerno Bay and the USS Leyte. Following his Active Duty, and a return to the construction field in New York City which included overseeing the major redevelopment of City College of NY as Director of Campus Planning, and Development and Facilities Planning at Brooklyn College, he remained in the Naval Reserve, ultimately transferring to the Navy Civil Engineer Corps. During the next 25 years of military service, Bill served with distinction in the Reserve Naval Construction Forces in key leadership positions supporting the Seabees, following a tradition set by his father. His most notable tours include assignments as the initial Inspector General of the First Reserve Naval Construction Brigade; Commander, 21st Naval Construction Regiment; and Commanding Officer, Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Thirteen. He retired as Captain after a thirty year career. Bill and his wife, Madeline, retired to Hendersonville in 1991.

Bill was a proud Eagle Scout and participated as the Senior Patrol Leader of all the scouts from New York City at the World Scout Jamboree in Moisson, France in August, 1947.

Bill was very involved in church, community and civic activities, both in New York City and Hendersonville. This included in New York serving as a Boy Scout adult leader, involvement in the St. Luke's parish council and serving as an organizer and the announcer for the parish bazaar; and in Hendersonville many volunteer activities for Immaculate Conception parish, including Vice Chairman of the committee which built the current church, the Gem and Mineral Society, the Henderson County Sheriff's Department, the Solid Waste Advisory Committee, the Board of Equalization and Review, the Planning Board and the Republican Club, Member of the Korean War Veterans, Member of the Military Officers' Association of America (MOAA) and involvement in several veteran's activities, which included accompanying veterans on Honor Flights to the World War II memorial. Bill also served on the Blue Ridge Community College Board of Trustees.

He was the son of the late William R. Farrell and Abby (nee Gaillard) Farrell. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by an older infant sister, an infant grandson, an infant great granddaughter and son-in-law.

Bill is survived by his wife of 64 years, Madeline C. Farrell (nee Wenz), his nine children, Madeline Franki, William (Marleny), Gregory (Donna), Dennis, Philip (Maureen), Kevin (Ada), Raymond (Karen), Regina Bellantuono (Robert), Donald (Marisa), his twenty-seven grandchildren, his fourteen great grandchildren, his sister Loretta Dente (Anthony), his brother Philip (Julie), his sisters-in-law Ernestine Wenz and Rose Marie Marron, and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Bill was a loving son, husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather totally devoted to his family, God, country and friends.

The family will receive friends on Friday, December 16, 2016 from 6-8pm at Forest Lawn Funeral Home, 538 Tracy Grove Road, Hendersonville, NC with a prayer service beginning at 6pm. A funeral mass in celebration of his life will be held 11am on Saturday, December 17th in the main sanctuary of Immaculate Conception Church in Hendersonville. Military honors will be rendered in the church following the mass. Interment will be held at Arlington National Cemetery, Washington, DC at a date to be determined.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to any one of the following:

1. St. Elizabeth School, Attention Dr. Adams, 612 W 187 Street, New York, NY 10022, write "In memory of Willam Farrell" on memo line or by [CLICKING HERE](#).
2. Immaculata Catholic School 711 Buncombe Street, Hendersonville, NC 28791, write "In memory of Willam Farrell" on memo line. or by [CLICKING HERE](#).
3. Seabee Memorial Scholarship – a form can be found @ Seabee.org – Look for form under "Memorial Gifts"; print and send in with the donation. Donations may also be made online at Seabee.org by clicking on the yellow "Donate" button or by [CLICKING HERE](#).
4. Greater NYC Boy Scouts of America – William G. Farrell Summer Camp Scholarship Fund – please send check payable to Boy Scouts of America and send to Greater NYC Boy Scouts of America, c/o Raymond Farrell, Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt LLP, 445 Broad Hollow Road, Suite 420, Melville, NY 11747 or by [CLICKING HERE](#).

Service Information

Visitation Information

Date: Friday, December 16, 2016

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Location:

Forest Lawn Funeral Home Chapel

538 Tracy Grove Road
Hendersonville, NC 28792

Life Event Timeline

Help tell the story of Bill by contributing to the Life Event Timeline. Upload the photo of an event...

Leave a Condolence

Stan Shelley posted on 12/16/16

Bill was an officer and a gentleman and he conducted himself like both. It was a pleasure to chat with him on a regular basis and I often left those conversations more enlightened than when when I arrived. He made a positive difference in our world and that is a nice way to be remembered. Because I am in retail at a busy time of year, I am sorry that I will be unable to attend services.

Dick Kranker posted on 12/16/16

A good man. A good American. Gone too soon.

Sister Loretta Marie Devoy, O.P. posted on 12/16/16

Madeline and the whole Farrell family: my deepest sympathies to you on the loss of Bill. I have so many wonderful memories of him with his kindness, hard work for the parish of St. Luke's in Whitestone, NY, and his plain-talk with humor as well as his deep love for you, Madeline, and his wonderful family. He is a loss to all even in memory. I will be praying for all of you, especially for you, Madeline, and know he is now organizing everything in heaven and making the heavenly hosts laugh. May you all find a time for joy in the future. That's what Bill would want. Sincerely and with loving remembrance from Sister Loretta Marie (Devoy), O.P.,

Patti and Steve posted on 12/15/16

We're so sorry for your loss Kevin and Ada and Nolan. I never met your dad, grandfather, but have heard so many wonderful stories through out the years. Our condolences

Jim Humphrey, Captain U.S.Navy Retired posted on 12/14/16

Dear Mrs. Farrell and Family; What a wonderful fellow Navy Officer and friend; your husband and father! We just seemed to enjoy telling each other sea stories and share our pride in family accomplishments whenever we met. His love for serving our country and preserving "honor, courage, and commitment" were always evident. He took the time to be kind to me, and welcome me into the many groups of which he was a member in Hendersonville. I highly value his friendship and will miss his keen wit and smile. I salute you, Bill and look forward to continuing our friendship in heaven. God bless you Madeline and family!

Florence Allbaugh posted on 12/14/16

Dear Madeline & family, I'm so sorry for having lost Bill so soon and so quickly. You have both been a wonderful couple and friends. I'm so honored to have met you both and become your friends. You are now surrounded by your beautiful family. You and Bill have lovely children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, family, and friends. I wish I could have seen you both together before he passed. He is now at peace in God's care and you will be forever blessed in your love for each other. I will see you on Friday and Saturday dearest Madeline. May you find peace and love in your family & friends. Blessings, hugs and love,

Debbe Oister posted on 12/13/16

Madeline, I am very sorry for your loss of Bill. I wish you well and hope that you find comfort and peace in your large circle of Family and Friends. You were a very good friend and supporter of me when we were at Curves. Thoughts and You and well wishes through yet another new journey. Memories are Forever... Well wishes, Debbe Oister

Bob & Melody Heltman posted on 12/11/16

Madeline, peace be with you in these days. Bill was a stalwart friend and companion. He could be emphatic and to the point; once, after his verbal input which came across like rocket, I said, "Bill, could you please speak up and make your point clear?" We all laughed, including Bill. A great guy.

Greg Farrell posted on 12/11/16

Thanks to our Dad and Mom for giving us life, sacrificing to help us grow and learn, keeping us in line, and being supportive of us as we grew into adults and started families of our own. Grandpa will always hold a special place in the hearts of all his many grandchildren. Enjoy your eternal peace,

Dad. You certainly have earned it, and deserve it.

Jerritt Gluck posted on 12/11/16

I'm sorry for your loss and I'm glad you had some time with him. I wish I was able to meet your dad. I'm there with you in spirit.

The Wenz Family posted on 12/11/16

We are saddened to hear of Bill's passing.
But we are happy to have shared part of
his life. He was a remarkable man.
Madeline, you and your family are in our
thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.