



## William Richard Pace

July 15, 1943 - May 22, 2023

Following his courageous two year battle with cancer, William (Bill) Richard Pace passed away on May 22 at his home with family in Fayetteville, Tennessee. Bill, who was 79 at the time of his passing, was preceded in death by his parents, William H Pace and Lottie Iwan Pace, and brother Robert "Putts" Pace; he is survived by Sylvia, his loving wife of 55 years, two sons Billy Pace (Missy) and Richie Pace (Cathy), twelve grandchildren, sister Priscilla Hollowell (James), and brother Gary Pace (Vickie). The oldest of four siblings, Bill was born in Chicago, Illinois, but the family relocated when he was in grade school; Bill called Paducah, Kentucky home for the next several decades until settling in Fayetteville, Tennessee to be closer to his grandkids. It was in Paducah, shortly after returning from the Vietnam War where he served in the Military Police, that he met the love of his life Sylvia (Benard) on a blind date. After a short engagement, they were married in January of 1968. Bill worked at, and retired from Air Products after more than three decades, but it was their family

business that he and Sylvia started that was his passion. Precious Memories, which started as a part-time job, transitioned into a full scale enterprise over the next forty years. During those years traveling the craft-show circuit, the two made lifelong friends and gathered numerous, laughter-filled, stories that they continued to share up until Bill's last days. Always a friendly and exuberant character, Bill easily made new friends and was ever eager to share and make new stories with people, at every stage, location, and time of his life Bill formed strong, lasting, friendships. Bill had a variety of interests, many focusing on history, antique coins, and "watching ball", but his greatest joy was his grandchildren and their activities. A memorial service will be held for Bill on June 3rd, 11 AM at St. Anthony's church in Fayetteville Tennessee. In lieu of flowers the family is requesting donations to Hospice at Gentiva 305 ½ South Jackson Street, Tullahoma TN 37388 in Bill's honor.

# Previous Events

## **Celebration of Life**

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JUN 3. 11:00 AM.

St. Anthony Catholic Church

# Tribute Wall

SA

“ Sylvia, my heart goes out to you during this sad hour. Bill was such a sweet guy. Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. 💕🙏. Susan Arrick

Susan Arrick - May 23, 2023 at 09:42 PM

PB

“ So very sad to hear of Bill's passing. We have known Bill & Sylvia as well as their extended family and care so much for them all. May God Bless and keep him. Love, Tom & Pat Bronner

Patricia Bronner - May 23, 2023 at 04:38 PM

EH

I'm so sorry. Bill and I first met the summer of 1952. He was my first friend. So many great memories.

Eddie Hampton - May 24, 2023 at 02:25 PM

BS

I am missing my dear cousin, with whom I have shared so many memories at the beginning of our loves and again in recent years. I am so missing our phone conversations. I loved him like the brother I never had! Rest in peace, my dear Billy!  
Barbara Iwan Sabotnik

Barbara Iwan Sabotnik - May 27, 2023 at 10:49 AM

HJ

Sylvia, Carol and I send our sympathy and prayers to you and the entire Pace family during this sad time. Our God is a loving God who will watch over you and family in the coming days. May God Bless you all. Homer and Carol Thompson

Homer Thompson Jr. - May 27, 2023 at 08:22 PM