



Paul Vincent "Bill" Crist

September 19, 1932 - March 17, 2021

Paul Vincent "Bill" Crist, age 88, of North Ridgeville, passed away on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at the Ames Family Hospice in Westlake after a lengthy illness.

He was born on September 19, 1932 in Richwood, West Virginia and has been a resident of North Ridgeville for the past 57 years, moving from Cleveland. Bill worked as a master tool and die maker, retiring from Triad Metal Products.

Bill loved being outdoors and took advantage of the summer months camping and hiking with his family.

He is survived by his sons William Crist of North Olmsted and Robert "Bobby" Crist of North Ridgeville; grandchildren Michael Beals, Brittani Lanzo, Sarah Puskas and Samantha Crist; many great grandchildren; sisters Katherine Bunting of FL and Shelby Taylor (Charles) of WV; many nieces and nephews.

Bill was preceded in death by his wife Marion Alda (nee Drennen) Crist; sons Paul Michael Crist and Jerry Allen Crist; daughter-in-law Tatsuko (nee Kishida) Crist; granddaughter Ashley Craft; parents Kesler and Mary (nee Pomeroy) Crist.

Family will receive friends in the Bogner Family Funeral Home, 36625 Center Ridge Rd., N. Ridgeville, Monday from 6-8 p.m. and on Wednesday from 10-11 a.m. at the Simons-Coleman Funeral Home, 12 Railroad Ave, Richwood, WV 26261.

Interment will be in Wallace Memorial Cemetery, Clintonville, West Virginia.

Cemetery

Wallace Memorial Cemetery

16155 Midland Trail West
Clintonville, WV, 24931

Events

MAR **Visitation** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

22

Bogner Family Funeral Home
36625 Center Ridge Road, North Ridgeville, OH, US,
44039

MAR **Visitation** 10:00AM - 11:00AM

24

Simons-Coleman Funeral Home
12 Railroad Avenue, Richwood, WV, US, 26261

MAR **Burial** 12:00PM

24

Wallace Memorial Cemetery
16155 Midland Trail West, Clintonville, WV, US, 24931

Comments



“ I Lived - Eulogy for A Father

The song we just played is from the BYU Vocal Point Men's Choir... it is titled "I Lived." My father did live, and he loved music as well. So much so that each of us boys growing up was encouraged to learn how to play an instrument. Jerry and Michael took up the violin. My brother Billy settled into the clarinet, and my principal instrument was the French horn. That got me curious one day, and I asked my father, "What instrument do you play pops?" Not that I had ever seen him with one. His reply to anyone that would ask him this question was the same. "The only instrument I play is the radio!"

Hello, my name is Robert Crist; many of you know me as Bobby. I, my brother Billy and our families thank you all for being here. I know my father would be displeased if I did not welcome everyone as he taught us better.

[Bogner's/Simon-Coleman - I would also like to extend a thank you to the (NAME) Funeral Home and their staff for sharing such a beautiful place for us to gather in and taking such great care of my father for his final journey - Thank you.]

We have gathered to remember my father and to celebrate his life he lived. To support one another at this transition. The last few days have been a whirlwind of emotions and memories for me, and I also confess a sigh of relief. There is no right way or time to say goodbye.

One of the last things my mom asked of me on her death bed was to "look after your father..." It was an order, a challenge, and a task I am sure she knew I could handle. I, on the other hand, was not so sure. Even though dad, or "pops" as I called him, was up there in age already. He was not a senior citizen in his own mind. I heard it said once, "that men should die young... as late as possible." Pops was definitely in touch with his inner child. He was always playing practical jokes or telling them. He could never resist the opportunity to laugh with friends or loved ones.

robert.crist.oh - April 04 at 01:01 PM



“ My father lived life to the fullest and loved us all without reserve. It was not a life just filled with highs; there were low times as well. Moving away from his roots to start a new life was a struggle for both him and my mom. Uprooting a young family and settling in a new land. The move found them on the shores of Lake Erie. (Kidder Avenue in Cleveland) This move refueled his spirit though, as he started a new profession as a tool and die maker, which he excelled in. It also allowed him to meet new people who became good friends over the years and to explore many new places.

He loved adventures and being on the go. I remember those adventures fondly, whether it was to the ocean, picnics in parks, visiting friends, or hiking in the woods. One trip I remember well was the summer we packed up and went to Cherry Point, North Carolina. My oldest brother was to meet us there, as he just finished basic training at Paris Island and was stationed close by the camping site. Other family members, uncles, aunts, and cousins, joined us at the site as well. The area was covered with white sand and pine trees as far as you could see clinging to the coastline. Basil and Lettie had brought or rented a boat, and we hit the waters. We explored small islands, got dragged behind the boat in the lagoon on inner tubes, and some of us even tried water skiing for the first time. Even pops with one leg. The evenings were spent under a canopy lit by propane lanterns, playing cards, and trying to laugh louder than the cicadas singing in the branches. Even when it rained hard and we had to move camp due to rising waters. We all shared in the laughter and experience.

We had many trips visiting family in what to me seemed like “far off lands” during the holidays. Many of you may know my pops lost a leg when he was younger. By the time I was born, my earliest recollection of him was with an artificial leg. This gave him a distinctive gait as he walked. One time at a family gathering at Uncle Robert’s and Aunt Phyllis’s house in Richwood, WV. A family friend turned to my brother and me as we walked out to a bonfire and asked us who we were. As a mere ten-year-old I quickly replied, “we are Paul’s youngest boys.” The family friend said, “ah, I should have guessed; you walk just like him.” I looked at Billy, and he looked at me. Glancing at each other with puzzled looks on our faces. The family friend must have seen our reaction to his statement because he then retracted and said, “I don’t mean like that... I meant that you both walk tall and proud as he does.”



“ Eulogy Part 2

Relationships sometimes can be tense in a family. Fathers and sons don't always see eye to eye. Especially when you are in your teenage years. But love does shine through the angst. On my sixteenth birthday, I walked into the kitchen, and my pops was sitting there. He looked up at me with stern eyes, handed me a box, and simply said, "I kept the receipt in case you don't like it." As you can imagine, our tastes were very different. He always wore pocket tee shirts and dickie pants. He hated any top that did not have a pocket. This was his fashion go-to, and he wore the pairing all the time, accessorized with a ballpoint pen in the tee's pocket. I opened the box cautiously, pulled back the tissue papers, and saw a jacket. Oh gawd, I mutter to myself, thinking the worse. I lifted the jacket out of the box and held it up. Suede, nice details, the right size, grey, hmmm. I peeked over the top of the collar as I held the jacket, admiring it, and blurted out, "I love it! Who helped you pick it out?" Then the widest smile I have ever seen spread across his face as he tells me, "No one... I just walked about the department store till I found the ugliest one!" We both started laughing, and I gave him a big hug. I am not sure what happened to that jacket. On the other hand, the love way outlasted it.

This past year has been a challenge for us all. When COVID 19 emerged, many of us faced "new ways of doing the same things." From shopping to schooling and all the different types of social interactions to abide by. At the onset of this pandemic, I had brought my father home from the nursing facility and set up the living room to mirror a care unit as much as possible. It was a relief for me to have him close. I witness he was content when he sank back into the bed, grabbed the controls of the bed, and quickly adjusted the head and leg positions to cradle his body. He then reached for the TV remote, found his favorite station, smiled, and then... fell asleep. Pops was one that could find a silver lining in any bad situation. I can hear him saying now, "God doesn't give you more than you can handle," or "We will never know why God does what he does." I was worried about how I would take care of him, and now in hindsight, and in "God's mysterious ways," COVID was a blessing in disguise. It gave me this year to be by his side more than I could have ever imagined. This finding of a "silver lining" ability he often demonstrated has been handed down from father to son. A final gift from my pops that I hope to exploit regularly in his honor.

To me, my pops had the ability to listen and, in return, offer his advice. His degree from the "School of Hard Knots" was utilized in many ways. From teaching us kids manners, to the value of responsibility. Pops expected only the best from us all. To live productive lives and, most of all, to be happy and make change happen if we were not. Even if it was just by telling a joke to get yourself out of a rut.

Pops had many of his own jokes that he shared willing with anyone and everyone. At the end of his life, the nurses and aides that assisted me with his care would come in. Almost immediately, if he did not tell a joke, they would ask for one from him, which he happily delivered. This became a way of measuring how he felt, as he would not always tell you if he was hurting or in pain. Sometimes they were not the most appropriate jokes, but he seemed to make everyone laugh nonetheless. The day before he left us, Michael and I were by his bedside. He was sleeping a lot due

to the morphine, but he did open his eyes briefly. I drew close to him and asked, "You have a joke for me?" He spoke quietly and managed to utter one word... "no." I squeezed his hand and leaned in closer, placing a kiss on his forehead. I then looked over at Michael with a tear in my eye and swallowed hard nodding my head.

robert.crist.oh - April 04 at 12:58 PM



“ Eulogy Part 3

He was a tall and strong man. He was always reassuring. Pops lived a long and happy life and only stopped telling his jokes, right at the very end. His strong character and the way he made his way through life are best reflected in this prayer.

Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi:

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is discord, union;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
~Amen.

Pops lived; he laughed and overcame many obstacles. Brought joy to many, showed faith, and he sowed love. I will hold onto these memories, grateful for the times he had lived. His soul has returned to God, and we will return his body to the earth, laying him to rest beside mom.

In closing, I know my dad would not like all these mournful faces. Would you all stand and join in one of his favorite songs, "I'll Fly Away." Even if you can't hold a pitch like me but know the words, please belt them out. Thank you all for being here and celebrating his life.

robert.crist.oh - April 04 at 12:57 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Paul Vincent "Bill" Crist.



March 27 at 07:38 AM



“ Bobby,

Dale and I are sending our sincerest condolences and prayers to you, and your family for the passing of your Dad. May God keep you all in your time of sorrow. Cory

<https://s3.amazonaws.com/storage.lifetributes.com/Gifts/Hands-In-Prayer.png>

Coranota B Hall (Cory) - March 24 at 07:25 AM



“ Thank you both so much.

Robert - March 25 at 08:49 AM



“ Bobby -

Myself and the entire team at OVAL is sending you love and our sincerest condolences for your loss. Keeping you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Reading all of the tributes he sounds like he was quite the character and very well respected and loved.

All the best to you during this difficult time -

Mike Harry



Mike Harry - March 23 at 12:43 PM



“ Thank you Sir for your kind sentiment. Your invention gave my father and me great comfort and me peace of mind for his safety when he was more mobile. May the powers that be look over your family and team. ~ Bobby.

robert.crist.oh - March 25 at 09:28 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



robert.crist.oh - March 21 at 07:42 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 21 at 09:56 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 21 at 09:56 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 21 at 09:55 AM



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Robert L Crist - March 21 at 09:54 AM



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Robert L Crist - March 21 at 09:53 AM



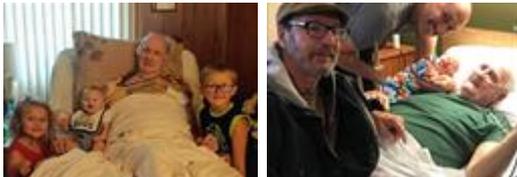
“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 21 at 09:38 AM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 20 at 08:35 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul Vincent "Bill" Crist.



March 20 at 03:59 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 20 at 03:20 AM



“ Bobby

So sorry to hear about Bill. Dad and I were just talking about him last week. He said he needed some of Bills ramps, I went through the old videos dad had. Posted them under video hope you can see them. Your in our prayers Joyce Mike & Earl

joyce kall - March 19 at 05:47 PM



“ Pops was just saying last week it is almost ramp season! Thank you for your thoughts and prayers. Even if we were not connected by blood your family has always been part of ours.

Robert - March 19 at 06:23 PM



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Earl Ross - March 19 at 05:40 PM



“ These 2 videos are amazing moments in time. Thank you for sharing them.

robert.crist.oh - April 03 at 01:56 PM



“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 19 at 03:14 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 19 at 01:31 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Paul Vincent "Bill" Crist.



March 19 at 10:38 AM



“ Oh the memories! all the Saturday nights of playing cards & 151. the night YOU made all my drinks, I thought I was going to puke. The bed was spinning & I had a baby to take care of, Oh that was a night to remember! All the trips to W.Va. to visit family, so many memories. I know we lost touch over the years, but I kept track of you behind the scenes. You were always special to me even tho we didn't see eye to eye on many things I still loved you. Now you behave in Heaven, I don't want God throwing you out because you tried to run things !



Betty J Drennen - March 19 at 10:28 AM



“ Uncle Bill oh the memories of coming over on Christmas Eve from the bad jokes or dare of eating jalapeno peppers I learned a lot of interesting things at a young age because of conversations in the garage remembering Aunt. Marion always being mad because you hit the corner of the house backing out he will be missed by many people here on earth your fight is over now go rest high on mountain.



David Drennen - March 19 at 09:12 AM



“ I miss seeing you and Nan on Saturday nights. I still have the Christmas present of coal from West Virginia you made me!! I know we haven't spoken in a long time but you are always in my heart!!! Love you always Bill!!! Janet Ridgeway

Janet Ridgeway - March 19 at 01:27 AM



“ Dad you fought many battles through life, even the angels that night. I should have told you sooner... it is okay to go home. You will always remain in my heart.



Robert - March 18 at 06:41 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Paul Vincent "Bill" Crist.



March 18 at 06:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Robert L Crist - March 18 at 05:55 PM