



William 'Bill' D. Siarny Jr.

April 11, 1945 - October 1, 2019

William "Bill" Donald Siarny, Jr., 74, a kind-hearted man of integrity and intelligence, died peacefully on the morning of October 1, 2019 in the comfort of his Charlotte home. Bill was born April 11, 1945 in Chicago, the son of William D. and Ann Eve (Walczyk) Siarny. He attended DePaul University, earning a Bachelor Degree in History and Geography. He also studied two years at Dominican University, earning a Master's in Library Science. Bill's career as a librarian and archivist began at the Oak Park Public Library. He then worked at the Northwestern University Library, the National Dairy Council, and managed the world's largest library about meat at the National Cattleman's Beef Association, serving 20 years as the archivist for the American Meat Science Association. Throughout his career, he was a member of the American Library Association, the Society of American Archivists, the Medical Library Association, and the Special Libraries Association. Bill was also passionate about cartography, collecting many beautiful maps and participating the American Association of Geographers. He was a member of the American Historical Association and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Bill married Cynthia Ann Skarbek on October 6, 1973 in Niles, MI, and the two started their family in Oak Park, IL. He served in the Army Reserves from 1965 to 1974 as a Warrant Officer and Assistant to the Adjutant General. In 2000, Bill and Cynthia moved to Charlotte, MI, where Bill became Director of

the Charlotte Community Library, a position he held until his retirement in 2013. Bill was active in the Charlotte community, including the Charlotte Optimist Club, City of Charlotte Planning Commission, and St. Mary Catholic Church, where he was a devoted member of the Knights of Columbus, served as a Minister of Care, and led the Cursillo Leaders' Group. In his spare time, he loved reading every book he could find, putting around the house, and dreaming of moving to a lighthouse in Maine.

Bill is survived by his sons, Gerard Brendan Siarny, David Basil (Julie) Siarny, and Matthew Alexander (Michiko) Goto; daughter, Elizabeth Maureen (Jerrod Lowmaster) Siarny; 4 grandchildren; and sisters, Elizabeth Siarny and Victoria (James) Hosler. He is predeceased by his wife, Cynthia in 2011; their daughter, Monica in 2005; and his parents.

Friends are encouraged to support Bill's family at visitation and funeral services. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2019 at St. Mary Catholic Church in Charlotte with Rev. Fr. David Rosenberg officiating. Visitation will be from 3:00 – 5:00 and 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., with a Rosary at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, October 4, 2019 at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Interment will take place at St. Michael Cemetery in Holbrook, Iowa. Memorial Contributions may be made to St. Mary Catholic Church in Charlotte or the Charlotte Community Library. Friends and family are asked to share memories of Bill on his Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

St. Michael Cemetery

Holbrook, IA

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 4. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Visitation

OCT 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

OCT 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church
807 St. Mary Boulevard
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of William 'Bill' D. Siarny Jr.



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - October 03, 2019 at 09:13 PM

DM

I just learned of Bill's passing. My sincere condolences to the family. I worked with Bill at the National Live Stock and Meat Board from 1986 to 93. He was always helpful, resourceful and kind. Blessed be his memory. Donna Schmidt

Donna Moenning - March 27, 2020 at 08:29 PM

LP

“ Bill was a friendly and warm soul. He will be missed.

Lorna Poyer - October 06, 2019 at 09:31 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William 'Bill' D. Siarny Jr..



October 03, 2019 at 09:51 PM

JP

“ *The Siarny Family’s kindness as friends and neighbors will be cherished always. May God continue to bless you all*

John & Faith Puffpaff - October 03, 2019 at 09:17 PM



“ 19 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - October 03, 2019 at 09:11 PM

TL

“ *The Charlotte Community Library Ladies purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of William 'Bill' D. Siarny Jr..*



The Charlotte Community Library Ladies - October 03, 2019 at 12:44 PM

JW

“ A gentle, accepting soul. He was a model of Christian love and action.
Sympathies and blessings to the family. Eternal thanks for having known Bill.
Art & Joanne Williams

Joanne Williams - October 02, 2019 at 08:34 PM

GC

“ I am very sorry to hear of Bills passing away. I met Bill and we became friends soon after his arriving in Charlotte. We are also brother club members of the Optimist Club Bill was a loyal member and Friend of Youth.

Gene Conley - October 02, 2019 at 10:13 AM

LO

“ We remember Bill (and Cynthia) for their encouragement and support of our General Federation of Women's Club book club. Truly, each one always had a book--and a book recommendation--handy. Thank you, Bill, for making room for us in the library and for always greeting us with a smile.

Brynda Filkins for the Tea and Tomes book club

lori - October 02, 2019 at 09:43 AM



“ bill used to help with clection a lot he also did mass count he was veary nice

Stephen Godin - October 02, 2019 at 06:51 AM

DE

“ *Sending our love and our sympathy...the Kouba Family*

Denise - October 01, 2019 at 08:15 PM