



William Clayton Vance

November 14, 1962 - January 25, 2020

William "Bill" Clayton Vance, a selfless and loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, and friend, died peacefully on Saturday, January 25, 2020 in Kalamazoo. Bill was born November 14, 1962 in Charleston, WV, the son of Clarence Wesley and Gay (Kessinger) Vance. The family moved to Potterville, MI in 1964, where Bill graduated high school in 1980. He went to work at Spartan Motors, starting on the line and working his way up to supervisor.

Bill was most at peace in the outdoors. His greatest passions including hunting and fishing, as well as NASCAR. He and Sue held season race tickets for 10 years, camping on the infield and travelling to Bristol. He played baseball at Spartan Motors, and enjoyed bowling. Bill was a lifelong fan of the Dallas Cowboys and the Detroit Lions. He collected guns and knives, and was fanatical about paranormal activity, especially theories on aliens and sasquatch. The family also spent time at their cabin on Narrow Lake, where Bill was usually the pontoon boat captain. All who knew Bill loved him. Many will remember his strength, his love for family, and for always having a candy bar ready for his grandson, Cooper.

Bill is survived by his wife of 36 years, Sue; daughters, Tabitha Vance and Billi Jean (fiancé Cody Hennaut) Vance; grandson, Cooper Hennaut; 5 sisters, Nancy (Patrick) Pung, Brenda (Charles) Tomlinson, Chris (Steve) Morris, Terri

(Joe) Jenson, and Rita Poyer; godson, Maverick Kreps; best friend for life, Charlie Berryhill; and his dog, Mia. He was predeceased by his parents; brother-in-law, Brian Poyer; and his dog, Hunter.

Friends are encouraged to support Bill's family. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at Pray Funeral Home with Bill's uncle, Rev. James Vance officiating. Visitation will be one hour prior to the service. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the family in the care of the Pray Funeral Home. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Bill on his Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Memorial Service

JAN 30. 11:00 AM (ET)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of William Clayton Vance*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 29, 2020 at 04:59 PM

KH

Wonderful

Katherine HARKNESS - January 30, 2020 at 02:17 AM

BT

“ *So today a story came up & it was about an accident & I thought wow! This is almost like the accident Bill was in so many years ago! I shared the story as it was somewhat local (west michigan) & wrote above how it reminded me of a guy I knew who had a terrible accident on his way to work @ spartan motors.... my neighbor wowed the story& I was gonna Google to see if it ever made the news or paper but instead I searched just Bill's name & location & sadly found this! 😭 Bill & my dad were good friends! & Bill was always such an amazing guy! So sweet! So nice and kind! Handsome, fun! Full of life! & even after the accident I feel like nothing could stop him!*

I'm so sorry Sue, tabby & Billy for your lose! & all of his other close family and friends.

Britany Thompson-

Britany Thompson - November 14, 2022 at 07:01 PM



Thank you Britany! It means a lot! We miss him a lot ourselves. It's absolutely wonderful he's still thought of so fondly! 🤔

-Tabby

Tabi Vance - April 06, 2023 at 08:44 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Clayton Vance .



January 30, 2020 at 10:09 AM



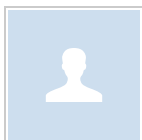
“ Thoughts and prayers are with you as you cherish your memories.

Christine McIntyre - January 30, 2020 at 09:57 AM



I have a picture of Bill and my daughter's first day of school. Lived by the family for many years. Prayers and comfort to the family

Joan hackworth - February 02, 2020 at 04:05 PM



“ "Memories" Keepsake Memory Box was purchased for the family of William Clayton Vance .



January 30, 2020 at 08:13 AM



“ 51 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - January 29, 2020 at 05:00 PM

SD

“ You will be missed my life time wood chopper friend , so glad we had time with you , Love and will miss you . Our heart feels for you Sue and family Chuck and Sheri Davis

sheri davis - January 29, 2020 at 08:37 AM

TC

“ Our condolences to the family. 🙏

Tim Casey - January 28, 2020 at 07:21 PM

PL

“ Our love and prayers are with all of you at this time. It had been a long time since I had actually seen Bill but he's "always been there". Love you all sending peaceful thoughts to you all.

Love Pat & Audie

Pat Lynch - January 28, 2020 at 06:28 PM

KH

“ OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES, LOVE TO ALL OF BILL'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS.BILL WAS ONE OF THE BEST GUYS YOU WOULD EVER WANT TO KNOW OR BE FRIENDS OF. MY BROTHER CHARLIE KNOWS THAT FRIENDSHIP WELL FOR HIS WHOLE LIFE.BILL , CHARLIE WERE BROTHERS TO EACH OTHER FOR THIER LIFETIME. TWO PEAS IN A POD. THE STORIES WE CAN ALL TELL FROM THE FOLK ST. KIDS. THE OLD NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE EVERYONE WAS FRIENDS. I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER BILL'S WONDERFUL, BEAUTIFUL SMILE AND HIS LAUGH. STILL SMILING AND HAPPY EVEN AFTER ALL HE WENT THRU. NO MORE PAIN NOW, BILL YOU R SO MISSED ALREADY.GOD REST YOUR SOUL AND COMFORT ALL WHO LOVE YOU. YOU ARE IN GOD'S HANDS NOW SO RUN, SWIM, FISH OUR DEAR SOUL. "I AM THE LIFE WHO EVER BELIEVES IN ME, THOUGH HE DIES,YET SHALL HE LIVE." BILL YOU WILL LIVE IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER, BERRYHILL, HARKNESS FAMILIES.

Katherine Harkness - January 28, 2020 at 04:11 PM

KB

“ Katherine BERRYHILL lit a candle in memory of William Clayton Vance



Katherine BERRYHILL - January 28, 2020 at 01:18 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Clayton Vance .



January 28, 2020 at 09:23 AM



“ I havent seen Bill much since we worked together at 'Jansko'
But, oh the memeries we had on "Folk street"
For football games every Sunday
Flashlight tag after dark (ya had to watch yourself when ya went around the Moores house or you'd get close lined from clothes line that was empty in the back
Kickball in he street (Buck's house had the big rock that worked great for 1st base)
Riding bikes out in the back fields
(I remember when Charlie &Bill set the field on fire)
Rock forts
To playing ball together as grown ups (well alittle grown up 🤔)
I could go on & on....
They were some great times had by great friends
Bill was a awesome person, always had a smile (he'd tilt his head to the side & give ya that little smirk smile)
Your in a place with no more pain, hanging with your mom & dad
You will truly be missed

Teresa (Moore) Beck - January 28, 2020 at 09:16 AM

TK

“ *My condolences to Bill's family!! My heart aches for your loss! Hold tight to all the memories you made together and remember they are always yours for keeps, no one can take them away!
I will miss the facebook posts shared under his from his daughter of his adorable grandson who carries his smile!! And from what I could see, his fun spirit of life! RIP Bill* 📿📿🙏🙏

Tonia Ireland Ketchum - January 27, 2020 at 07:44 PM

TW

“ *I remember the group of us on Folk St. hanging around, riding bikes, having fun. Bill always had a great sense of humor and was a friend all through school. Although I hadn't seen him in quite some time, I will truly miss him. Condolences to the entire family.*

Tammy Ward - January 27, 2020 at 06:24 PM

KB

OUR HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES, LOVE TO ALL OF BILL'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS.

BILL WAS ONE OF THE BEST GUYS YOU WOULD EVER WANT TO KNOW AND BE A FRIEND OF.

MY BROTHER CHARLIE KNEW THAT FRIENDSHIP WELL FOR HIS WHOLE LIFE. HE AND BILL WERE BROTHERS TO EACH OTHER WITH ALL THE YEARS THEY SPENT TOGETHER IN SCHOOL AND IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD ON FOLK ST. THEY BOTH MOVED TO FOLK STREET THE SAME YEAR, THEY WERE LIKE 2 PEAS IN A POD, EVEN THO BILL WAS 2 YEARS OLDER HE TOOK CHARLIE UNDER HIS WING AND OFF THEY WENT.

THE STORIES WE COULD ALL TELL FROM THAT OLD NEIGHBORHOOD. SO MANY KIDS ON THAT BLOCK, THAT WERE ALL FRIENDS.

I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER BILL'S WONDERFUL SMILE. HE BRIGHTENED UP EVERYWHERE HE WAS. FOR ALL THAT HE HAS BEEN THRU HE COULD STILL SMILE AND MAKE U LAUGH..THERE IS NO MORE SUFFERING OR PAIN, U R WITH GOD NOW SO RUN, FISH, SWIM ALL THAT U WANT. YOU R MISSED BY SO MANY WHO LOVE YOU. GOD REST YOUR SOUL AND COMFORT ALL WHO LOVE YOU.

" I AM THE RESSURECTION AND THE LIFE WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME THOUGH HE DIE, YET SHALL HE LIVE "
LOVE TO ALL ,the BERRYHILL , HARKNESS FAMILIES.

Katherine BERRYHILL - January 28, 2020 at 01:02 PM

DS

“ I am so sorry for your loss prayers for his family. Bill was a great person I went to school with him, there was 4 of us that hung out Bill, Paul, Jenella and I , the 4 of us were inseparable we hung out all the time, every lunch we went to LCC at the same time we would play cards on the bus on the way there and back. He was a great friend he will be dearly missed

Debbie smith - January 27, 2020 at 06:11 PM

AA

“ Bill gave me a knife for a Christmas present but wanted me to have it for hunting so he gave it to me the day before hunting season. The next day I shot a nine point buck. He told me the next week, “See, I knew you were going to need it!” Rest easy my friend.

andrew Allen - January 27, 2020 at 05:45 PM

BN

“ So very sorry for the families loss.

Brenda Newman - January 27, 2020 at 04:28 PM

PK

Sad for the family of Bill. Prayers for his family.

Patrick Kundrat - January 27, 2020 at 04:30 PM

RB

Sorry for your loss.

Rocco Buysse - January 28, 2020 at 12:24 AM