



Bill J. Silverman

August 24, 1946 - February 21, 2011

Bill J. Silverman, 64, of Albany, New York passed away Monday, February 21, 2011. Bill was born on August 24, 1946 in New York, NY, the son of the late Sol Silverman and Alaine T. Silverman.

Bill attended Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois where he graduated with a degree in Sociology/Psychology in 1969. His greatest accomplishment while in college was meeting and later in 1969 marrying the love of his life, Bonita M. Sanchez. Bill and Bonita moved to the capital district in 1971, where Bill worked for the New York State OMRDD as a rehabilitation counselor, until 1986. A resident of Delmar, NY for over 30 years, Bill was one of the founding fathers of the Bethlehem Soccer Club. From the early 1980's he was a tireless volunteer serving many positions within the soccer club which included being a member of the Board of Directors, and serving as President for many years, where he successfully expanded the BSC programs beyond the recreational and travel teams to include the Premier soccer program for both boys and girls. Bill's legacy grew as he was the driving force behind the purchase and development of the 20+ acre Bethlehem Soccer Club "SoccerPlex", located in Glenmont, NY. However, Bill's greatest legacy is through his coaching and the impact he had on hundreds of young men and women, some who went on to be collegiate soccer players, coaches, and most importantly using the life lessons Bill conveyed through his coaching,

were able to become positive members of society. They all held a special place in his heart including his son, Willie, who followed in his footsteps by coaching youth soccer for the Bethlehem Soccer Club and scholastically for both Bethlehem and Voorheesville Central High School.

Bill is survived by his devoted wife of 41 years Bonita M. Sanchez and his son, Willie Sanchez Silverman, both of Albany, NY, as well as many midwest nieces and nephews. Bill's extended family includes: Jerry (Jack) Lindahl and Gloria Walters of Westchester County NY and their children, Lars Lindahl, Georgia (Joe) Lopez, and Devin Lopez. Earl and Leslie Albert of Lenox, Massachusetts, and Michael Albert, and Jim and the late Marian Wallin of Pittsfield, Massachusetts and their daughters Xena and Beth.

Bill's family would like to especially thank Dr. Jorge Cerda, Dr. Lev Barats and Dr. David Putnam as well as the staff of the Hospice Inn at St. Peter's Hospital for their compassionate, dedicated support and outstanding care.

A "Celebration of Bill's Life" will be held Saturday, March 5, 2011 at 3:30 PM at the McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 North Allen Street, Albany. Relatives and friends are invited and may call after 12:30 PM on Saturday.

Donations and memorial gifts in the name of Bill Silverman can be made to The Bethlehem Soccer Club ,P.O. Box 305, Delmar NY 12054

To leave the family a special message on their guest book; obtain directions for a memorial card; or share a photo or e-card, please visit www.McveighFuneralHome.com

Logo

Tribute Wall



“ *McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Bill J. Silverman*



McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. - February 21, 2011 at 12:00 AM



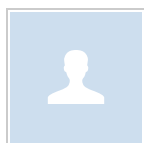
“ *Bill J. Silverman*

October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *Bill was a lot more then a coach, he was a parent, mentor, and friend to me and so many other players over the years. My memories of Bill remain the things I learned through soccer that have applied to so much more off the field. Thanks Bill, for everything.##imported-begin##Michael Nuttall##imported-end##*

March 11, 2011 at 12:24 AM



“ *Bill was an extremely formative presence in my life during high school. Soccer was such a huge part of my high school experience, and Bill was involved throughout. As a high school soccer coach now, I remember him often.##imported-begin##Matt Nuttall##imported-end##*

March 10, 2011 at 12:57 PM



“ *Bonita,*

My prayers and condolences are with you and your son and your extended family. Your love for your husband showed whenever you spoke of him.##imported-begin##Betty-Jean Wrase##imported-end##

March 08, 2011 at 12:55 PM



“ *Bonita,*

May you and your son share wonderful memories of Bill that might it ease your lost.

Regards,

Sandra##imported-begin##Sandra Austin##imported-end##

March 05, 2011 at 11:55 AM



“ *In our thoughts and prayers,
the Daleys (BSC)##imported-begin##The Daley Family##imported-end##*

March 04, 2011 at 07:52 AM



“ *With deep condolences upon your loss,
Claudia Engelhardt##imported-begin##Claudia
Engelhardt##imported-end##*

March 03, 2011 at 01:56 PM



“ *Hace mas que veinte anos atras que conoci a Bonita Sanchez cuando estaba entrando a la universidad para mis estudios en bienestar social. Nunca conoci a su marido, pero siempre la conoci como una personal tan simpatica y con corazon grande. Yo sigo queriendo mucho a ella despues de no verla en tantos anos y me da mucha pena saber que ha perdido su companero en la vida. Trate de visitarla en la universidad hace como un ano, y me avisaron que estaba con su marido que estaba enfermo. Me dio pena de no verla durante ese visita, pero en ese tiempo y mas ahora, senti bien que estaba acompanando a su marido cuando no estaba sintiendose bien. Me imagino que Bonita estaba con su marido de companera en el ultimo ano de su vida, como era su companero la mayor parte de sus vidas. Lo siento mucho, Bonita, por la perdida de tu marido. Espero que por el tiempo precioso que paso con el en su ultimo ano como en las cuarenta anos anteriores, que te sientes bien acompanada - con todos los recuerdos de un matrimonio de casi medio siglo. Y que Dios le bendiga a tu hijo y ti, acostumbrandose a una casa sin el papa de tantos anos.##imported-begin##Pamela Vargas##imported-end##*

March 02, 2011 at 11:51 PM



“ *You are in my thoughts and in my heart at this most difficult time, Bonita.*

I have great faith in your love for Willie and your family and friends as resources for you for the days and years to come.

Love, Gloria##imported-begin##gloria desole##imported-end##

March 02, 2011 at 10:06 AM



“ Hello Bonita,

I send my deepest sympathy to you and your family on the passing of your husband. I will light a candle in his honor on behalf of you who was an inspiration to me as my teacher at SUNYA School of Social Welfare. Thanks for being you Bonita.

Susan Cote-Burke

Class of 1992

SUNYA School of Social Welfare##imported-begin##Susan Cote-Burke##imported-end##

March 01, 2011 at 07:54 PM



“ So sorry to hear about your loss. May God's Holy Spirit comfort you during this time.##imported-begin##Kori Robinson##imported-end##

March 01, 2011 at 05:06 PM



“ Dear Bonita and Willie,
I know what a great guy Bill was and I am so saddened by the loss of such a wonderful husband and father and community member. I am so sorry that your family has to deal with Bill's passing, and I know what a hard time it has been for him in recent months.

We are all thinking of you guys.

Love,

Ronnie##imported-begin##Ronnie Glassman##imported-end##

March 01, 2011 at 10:27 AM



“ *Bonita...I am so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. My thoughts are with you and your family as you mourn his loss and celebrate this incredible influence and legacy he left for you and your son as well as so many others.##imported-begin##Judy Postmus##imported-end##*

March 01, 2011 at 10:18 AM



“ *Dear Bonita,
My deepest sympathies are sent to you with love and compassion and the belief that the lord will watch over you and bring you through your grief with that same love and compassion as well as welcome Bill into his loving embrace.*

The loss of a family member is never easy, but when it is your partner, one with whom you have spent a loving lifetime with, it is the most difficult loss to bear to say the least. I believe that in time, through God's love, your hurt will heal and the memories you have made with Bill will remain strong in your heart forever.

I send you my prayers and condolences at this difficult time. If there is anything I can do for you, please do not hesitate to ask.

Fondly,

Ellen##imported-begin##Ellen Burke##imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 09:34 PM



“ *Bonita,
My dear friend, please accept my heartfelt condolences during this most difficult time in your life. Please know that my thoughts are with you and I hope that the prayers of the many who love you provide you with a semblance of solace. I am so sorry Bonita.
Te quiero mucho amiga querida.*

Librada##imported-begin##Librada Pimentel##imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 03:42 PM



“ *Dear Bonita and Willie,
I was so sorry to learn that Bill died recently. He was such a force of nature and the community has now lost a great advocate for soccer. Bill was on the front lines of bringing this sport to our community. He leaves such a wonderful legacy and I know he will be remembered for generations to come.
Bonita, your memories must be many and I look forward to listening to the stories of you adventures over 41 years. Willie, I know how proud your dad was of all of your accomplishments. We hold you both in our thoughts as you learn to live with this loss.##imported-begin##Mary McCarthy##imported-end##*

February 28, 2011 at 02:40 PM



“ *Bonita & Willie,

Your heart is breaking
Your tears are falling
His memores are awaiting.##imported-begin##Mary Lou & Rick
Weseman##imported-end##*

February 28, 2011 at 01:57 PM



“ *Bonita you and Willie are in my thoughts and prayers.*

LOVE

Shirley J. Jones##imported-begin##Shirley J. Jones##imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 01:48 PM



“ *Dear Bonita and family,
I am so sorry to hear of your loss. May your wonderful memories of Bill sustain you during this most difficult time. My thoughts are with you.##imported-begin##Bonnie Kenaley##imported-end##*

February 28, 2011 at 01:06 PM



“ *Dear Benita and Willie,
We are very saddened to hear of Bill's passing. Our family, like so many in Delmar, got to enjoy the wonders of soccer that Bill brought to the community.*

Our deepest sympathy and prayers,

Roger, Noelia, Chena and Elon##imported-begin##Roger and Noelia Backer and Family##imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 10:56 AM



“ **Bonita**

Although I only knew Bill through you and your stories, I know he was a special person who will be missed by many (not to mention missed by your cats!). While I will not be able to be with you on Saturday, you know I am with you in spirit. And look forward to reconnecting soon.

Linda###imported-begin##Linda Mertz###imported-end##

February 28, 2011 at 10:24 AM