



William W. McDonald, Jr.

December 12, 1926 - March 17, 2016

William W. McDonald Jr., 89, of Hamden, CT died peacefully, surrounded by family, on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2016. Bill was born on December 12, 1926, in New Haven, Connecticut, the son of William W. McDonald, Sr. and Frances Marsh McDonald. He was a devoted husband, father, brother and friend and was well-loved for his sense of humor and caring, sensitive nature. A graduate of Hamden High School class of 1945, Bill was a veteran of WWII and served as an Army clerk in the Philippines. He returned to the States where he graduated from UConn with a BS in Business and life-long friendships with his fraternity brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho. After college, Bill made a name for himself as an affable and trustworthy salesman for Moran Brush Company and dozens of other industrial supply companies. He was always ready with a quick joke and made friends wherever he went. Bill was an avid sailor who, along with some of his best college pals, sailed a 3-masted sloop called the Widgeon where they spent weekends day-sailing off the waters of Branford. He was a skilled model maker and enjoyed collecting matchbox cars, coins, and maritime memorabilia. Bill garnered many compliments for his beautiful singing voice and maintained a passion for singing barbershop throughout his long life. He was also an enthusiastic sports fan, and loved reading, action movies and travel. Survivors include his wife Diane Johnson McDonald of 26 years and three children from his first marriage to Shirley Ahern McDonald: William W. McDonald, III of North Haven, Roy T. McDonald of Darien and Claudia M. O'Connell of Durham, CT.

He is also survived by seven grandchildren, four nieces, and several step children and step grandchildren. He was predeceased by his sister Barbara McDonald Drinkwater.

A Celebration of his life will be held Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Sisk Brothers Funeral Home 3105 Whitney Ave. Hamden. Visitation will be Tuesday from 4:30 until time of service. In lieu of flowers contributions to the American Lung Association 45 Ash St., East Hartford, CT. 06108. To leave an online condolence please visit www.siskbrothers.com

Previous Events

Calling hours

MAR 22. 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Sisk Brothers Funeral Home
3105 Whitney Ave.
Hamden, CT 06518
(203) 288-7114
siskfuneral@sbcglobal.net

Funeral service

MAR 22. 6:30 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall

DB

“ *May the stars lift him by his finger tips
and dance him smiling across the skies..... the winds a serenade
for his passing,all the love he feels waving joyfully in his wake
a good life lived, deserves celebration
love to you from the Rockies*

Donna Wilson Barker - March 22, 2016 at 07:13 PM



*Donna Wilson! WILSOONNN. (Castaway)
Soon sweet. Thank you!
I don't have contact into for you. Though you have every right not to
want to send me contact since I never answered any of your letters,
please send. rmcdbucket@aol.com
(203) 570-2851*

Roy McDonald - April 10, 2016 at 04:58 PM

YU

“ *Your friends at Breitling USA purchased the Senti
ments of Serenity Spray for the family of William
W. McDonald, Jr..*



Your friends at Breitling USA - March 21, 2016 at 11:44 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of
William W. McDonald, Jr..*



March 21, 2016 at 11:06 AM

PJ

“ I remember, with fondness, the winters that you and Diane shared with me in Florida. You were always on top of your game and a pleasure to be with. - Pete Johnson

Pete Johnson - March 21, 2016 at 08:53 AM

DM

THANK YOU PETE. THE MEMORIES OF FLORIDA WITH YOU AND FAMILY WILL ALWAYS BE SHINING IN MY HEART.....

Diane Johnson McDonald - March 31, 2016 at 03:56 PM

VW

“ Vanessa Wilson purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of William W. McDonald, Jr..



Vanessa Wilson - March 20, 2016 at 08:31 PM

Mike Devine

“ Diane, I am so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. My heartfelt condolences to you and your family.

Mike Devine - March 20, 2016 at 06:52 PM

DM

THANK YOU SO MUCH MIKE...

Diane Johnson McDonald - March 31, 2016 at 03:57 PM

KM

“ Kevin McDonald lit a candle in memory of William W. McDonald, Jr.



Kevin McDonald - March 20, 2016 at 05:19 PM

MC

“ When I met Bill it seemed I'd always known him. That's how he made you feel. You were friends. I'll bet he never knew a stranger. This world has suffered a great loss.

Marion Clark - March 20, 2016 at 12:55 PM

DM

THANK YOU MARION..

Diane Johnson McDonald - March 31, 2016 at 03:58 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of William W. McDonald, Jr..



March 20, 2016 at 07:38 AM

DS

“ DIANE MCDONALD SPOUSE lit a candle in memory of William W. McDonald, Jr.



DIANE MCDONALD SPOUSE - March 20, 2016 at 07:11 AM

SC

My thoughts are with you dear friend...my sympathy to the whole family...

Sandra senerchia casagrande - March 20, 2016 at 07:57 AM

DM

THANK YOU DEAR SANDY..

Diane Johnson McDonald - March 31, 2016 at 04:00 PM

LV

“ *My deepest condolences to the entire McDonald family.....
I have so many fond childhood memories at the cottage by the lake
with Claudia, her brothers, and parents. Those were the days when
all was simple. RIP Mr. McDonald! My heart goes out to everyone at
such a difficult time. XOXOXO
Lots of Love,
Lisa Volpe*

Lisa Volpe - March 19, 2016 at 09:31 PM