

WILLIAM WAYNE FRIES



Of Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at the age of 71.

Born in Pittsburgh's Uptown, Bill was the eldest of seven children (Barbara McCullough, Rick Fries, David Fries, Judy Nagy, Michele McLane, Karen Sandora) to William Michael and Helen (Koplos) Fries. Their lively household, shared with extended family, became fondly known as "The

Fries' from Uptown." As a child, Bill was full of energy and mischief and his family was cherished by all who knew them. He held a deep love for his neighborhood and the stories of his upbringing.

Bill's life took a meaningful turn when, at the suggestion of friends, he joined Magee-Womens Hospital, where he met the love of his life, Helen (Martys). The two married and raised their children, Bill Fries (Emily) and Carla Rae (Fries) Shinners (Nicholas), while working side by side for over 40 years.

A proud union man, Bill worked as a heating and air conditioning technician at Magee. His skills extended far beyond his job, as he became the go-to handyman for his family and neighbors, always willing to lend a helping hand.

Bill had many passions. He loved reading, gardening, filling his backyard with vegetables, grapes and fruit trees. His gardens expanded year after year and he generously shared his harvest with friends and neighbors. An avid baker, he was known for the bread and cookies he made and shared with others. Bill also embraced his Greek heritage wholeheartedly, learning the language, enjoying traditional music, cooking authentic dishes and traveling to Greece. His family eagerly awaited his famous leg of lamb dinners during the holidays.

Above all, Bill's greatest joy was his family. He was blessed with three grandchildren, Charlotte (4), Thomas (3) and Henry George (2). He was their "Pappou." He treasured the time spent playing with them on the floor and hearing their excited shouts of "Pappou!" when they entered his home. His love for his family was evident in every moment and he will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Funeral arrangements by **BEINHAUERS**. Family and friends are welcome at 2630 W. Liberty Ave., Dormont, PA, 412-531-4000, on Saturday, September 28, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m., and on Sunday, September 29, from 1 to 4 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, September 30, at 11:30 a.m., at Saint Bernard Church, Saint Michael the Archangel Parish. Interment will follow at Mount Lebanon Cemetery. Family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank. Please add or view tributes at

www.beinhauer.com

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