



William Joseph O'Connor

December 28, 1956 - October 6, 2019

On December 28, 1956 William J. "Bi11" O'Connor was born the first son of George and Viola O'Connor. On October 6, 2019 Bill exited the world as he had lived-on his own terms.

In the 62 years between Bill lived with an intensity rarely equaled. His lifestyle could often be simultaneously admonished and envied!

Bill lived a giant life! He traveled, worked and resided in many places, both domestically and abroad. He talked with and rocked with most of the planet. Bill's uninhibited personality, big heart, and generous nature allowed him to make many friends including a core group that he cherished dearly, (you know who you are).

He had a never-ending list of interests and curiosities. He enjoyed travel and good food, loved aviation, and was a huge motorsports enthusiast, but his greatest passion was music. Whether it was listening to a good record, running live sound, or simply sharing the comradery of the musical brotherhood, from the time he was a child, through all the ups and downs, music was the one constant.

Bill never married or had children. On Father's Day 1966 an accident claimed the life of his younger brother "little" Jim, leaving a tear in the fabric of the family that could never completely be mended.

He is survived by his brother Joseph (Rosemarie) who wish to offer their sincere thanks to all of those who tried to aid and comfort Bill during his final days.

Painfully, yet inevitably, now it is time to say, Goodbye to the Blade', Saheeya to 'Mr. Bill', and above all; please, rest in peace beloved brother.

Cremation has taken place and no formalized services are planned. Memorial donations in Bills memory may be made to Kiel's Konnection, 1851 Hancock, Butte, MT 59701.

Tribute Wall



“ *Everywhere... There Is Bill. Never To Be Forgotten. Love This Man.*

Rob Couture - October 07, 2023 at 01:39 AM

KS

“ *Dear Joe and Family,*

I was very saddened to hear of Bill's death. He was such a larger than life character, it's hard to believe that he's gone. There were many good memories and good times, Remember the time you two showed at our Halloween party on Farrell Street dressed as gangsters, what an entrance! I wanted to let you you know that whoever wrote the obituary did a wonderful job capturing Bill's essence and the picture also really shows his warmth and big heart. My heart goes out to you, Joe, as I know that during the years that I knew you best, he was much more than a big brother, but also a best friend. I don't know if Tom will see this, but I so appreciate him for being such a true and loyal friend to Bill all these years and I know that he did everything he could for him.

Thinking of you, with love and memories,

Kathlyn Swann

Kathlyn Swann - October 19, 2019 at 11:35 AM

HD

“ *Bill did some great Sound Engineering for us in our outdoor performances so many years ago..("The Z-Ons" and "The Zacks" music groups). He was always good to work with and enjoyed his friendly & positive personality. Sending deep condolences to his family and friends. Harry E. Dziak*

Harry E. Dziak - October 18, 2019 at 12:38 PM

AT

“ Bill was a most unique man and I cannot imagine that there will ever be anyone quite as genuine and interesting as he was and hopefully continues to be in *The Great Beyond*. My mother enjoyed him so much! She left us many years ago and I know - if it is possible - they are regaling each other with stories.

Allene Trafford

Allene Trafford - October 17, 2019 at 08:50 PM

DM

“ I was deeply saddened when I heard of Bill's passing. We worked together at the Beal mine and grew very close. I am sorry for your loss.

~ David McEwen

David McEwen - October 17, 2019 at 07:22 PM

LD

“ Joe and Rose, I am so very sorry to hear about Bill's passing. I tried very hard to keep in touch with Bill after my mom died, but only managed to see him a time or two. Though he may never have married or had children of his own, Bill was certainly a big part of my life and my brother Zack's when we were young. He has influenced my life in ways he will never know, though I did steer clear of musicians at his urging. I will miss him very much.

Lisa Dailey

Lisa A Dailey - October 17, 2019 at 05:04 PM

BM

“ There are a few people along the way that for one reason or another Bill took a particular interest in, I happen to be one of those lucky folks. At a time in my life when I couldn't get any lower Obro lifted me up and helped me help myself. I did not have the opportunity to share with him just how much this and he has meant to me. Although I'm pretty sure he knew (as he was pretty insightful) does not make me lament missing the opportunity to say this to him in person any less. One day...

Thank you for EVERYTHING Billy! You will NOT be forgotten. I will regale Merritt & Ruby with the colorful accounts of our journeys together till the end of my days.

Till we meet again old friend.

Best to your brother Joe and his family

Bart Morrow

BART J MORROW - October 17, 2019 at 01:18 PM

JT

“ Goodbye Bill. I enjoyed visiting about the good old days and hearing about your travels whenever you stoped by the shop. You will be sincerely missed. The world will be a little emptier and quieter without you in it.

My condolences to your family

John Truzzolino

john truzzolino - October 17, 2019 at 11:22 AM

GO

“ God bless you Billy we sure enjoyed the one hitter back in the day.
Glc

gordon - October 16, 2019 at 07:06 PM

CG

“ Bill was a great friend and such an interesting character. His intelligence and curiosity made him a great vessel of information. He could talk endlessly about a wide variety of subjects, and would gladly do so. One time on a riverboat in Cambodia we came to a place that was so incredibly still and serene that not even a bird could be heard. Bill explained to me in his usual barking staccato manner of speaking, and for several long minutes, how rare it was to experience silence and that true silence could only be found in a few places on earth and prolonged exposure to such would drive a person mad. In Bill's presence silence was a rare commodity indeed. I am saddened by the fact that I will never again be regaled by his enthusiastic storytelling. I'm sure going to miss you Bill.

Corey Grace - October 16, 2019 at 12:41 PM