



## James Raphael Willett

February 18, 1931 - May 24, 2019

James "Raphael" Willett, 88, passed at his home in White Plains, Maryland on Friday, May 24, 2019 with his beloved wife Kathy Spindler Willett by his side.

Raphael was born February 18, 1931, the son of Walter A. and Opal Henderson Willett. A lifelong resident of White Plains, he grew up on the family farm known as Willettsville on Billingsley Road along with his brothers, Reggie, Claude, David, Milton, Johnny, Pat and Wayne and sisters, Daonne and Susie.

He proudly served in the Navy as a Machinist Mate First Class on the USS Mississippi BB-41 for four years during the Korean War.

He followed in his father's footsteps, becoming a talented builder. He then passed this gift on to his sons. He believed in hard work, honesty, and respect.

His greatest loves were rock fishing, bird hunting, telling stories of his adventures, and most of all his family and extended family.

He was the father to eight children with his late wife, Evelyn Tippett Willett, Kathy, Pat, Bill, Mike (Terry), Debbie (Dave), Judy (David), Mark (Melissa), and Keith (Kelly). He was "Granddaddy" to many grandchildren and great

grandchildren and was also known as "Uncle Raphael" to many.

Most of all, he was "Daddy Ray" - a truly great man who was loved and will be missed by so many.

Visitation on Wednesday, June 5, 2019 from 2-4PM and 6-8PM with a Wake Service at 7PM at Raymond Funeral Service Chapel, 5635 Washington Avenue, La Plata, Maryland 20646. Mass of Christian Burial on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at 11AM at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 4590 St. Joseph Way, Pomfret, Maryland 20675 with Interment to follow in the church cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Raphael's name may be made to St. Joseph's Campaign Building Fund, 4590 St. Joseph Way, Pomfret, Maryland 20675.

# Cemetery Details

## St. Joseph's Catholic Church Cemetery

4590 St. Joseph's Way  
Pomfret, MD 20675  
<http://stjoepomfret.weconnect.com/>

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**JUN 5.** 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Service  
5635 Washington Avenue  
La Plata, MD 20646  
(301) 934-2920  
[business.office@raymondfuneral.com](mailto:business.office@raymondfuneral.com)  
<https://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

## Visitation

**JUN 5.** 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel  
5635 Washington Ave.  
La Plata, MD  
[business.office@raymondfuneral.com](mailto:business.office@raymondfuneral.com)  
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

## Wake Service

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**JUN 5** (ET)

Raymond Funeral Chapel  
5635 Washington Ave.  
La Plata, MD  
business.office@raymondfuneral.com  
<http://www.raymondfuneralservice.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

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**JUN 6**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
4590 St. Joseph Way  
Pomfret, MD 20675

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Raphael Willett*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *James Raphael Willett*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *Dear family, Raphael is loved and thought of with the highest regard by our whole family. You have our most sincere and heartfelt condolences. I pray God will hold you all in his loving grace and comfort you and give you strength in the days to come. We love you all and May God Bless You all and comfort you. Rest In Peace , Dear Raphael.*

**Sissy Atkinson** - June 05, 2019 at 06:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Raphael Willett.*



June 05, 2019 at 11:18 AM

SB

“ Sharon Bolton purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of James Raphael Willett.



Sharon Bolton - June 04, 2019 at 06:03 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Raphael Willett.



June 04, 2019 at 09:50 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of James Raphael Willett.



June 03, 2019 at 10:16 AM

HA

“ I was fortunate to have known a great man through his daughter Kathy Johnson. I loved hearing him tell his stories from back in the day. You will truly be missed. Praying for the Willett Family- Harnell



Harnell - June 01, 2019 at 09:00 PM

BW

“ *To Kathy and family. May God grant you peaceful days and restful nights. And the love of family and friends to comfort you. With Loving Thoughts -Barb*



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**Barb Walters** - June 01, 2019 at 07:47 PM

BC

“ *I know Raphael only through his son Mark and his family. He truly must have been a wonderful person. May he Rest In Peace.*



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**Barbara Carpentier** - May 30, 2019 at 11:04 AM

BW

“ *Bethany Willett lit a candle in memory of James Raphael Willett*



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**bethany willett** - May 29, 2019 at 07:21 PM

BW

“ *My Uncle Ray came to me after a hospital stay to talk with me about my recovery.. meant the world to me... Such a special man warm memories of dancing with him Loved you so many so much Miss you Uncle Ray...*

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**bethany willett** - May 29, 2019 at 07:14 PM

LP

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Lowry Spindler Phelps - May 29, 2019 at 12:13 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of James Raphael Willett.



May 29, 2019 at 10:52 AM

BF

“ Betty Buchanan and Family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of James Raphael Willett.



Betty Buchanan and Family - May 29, 2019 at 10:36 AM

RA

“ A wonderful man who lived a very full life. You will be missed by many friends. Kathy, take care of yourself .sending kind thoughts and love to the family.

Rachel Adams-Cutlip - May 29, 2019 at 10:05 AM

BW

“ Raphael will always be remembered. There are no words to make the pain go away, but take comfort in knowing he is at peace, and know that his legacy will live on in the hearts of all who loved him. With Sympathy and Prayers.  
Brian & Leanne



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**Brian and Leanne Willett** - May 29, 2019 at 09:59 AM

SB

“ Sharon Bowie purchased the Caring Condolence s Sympathy Basket for the family of James Raphael Willett.



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**Sharon Bowie** - May 29, 2019 at 09:12 AM

SB

“ To Kathy and Family,  
What a great guy who will be missed by many. He is now with loved ones and buddies that have been awaiting his arrival. I can see Steve Bowie giving his "hero" a big hug. May God's Peace and Comfort give you assurance that all is well and he now awaits your date and time of arrival. Praying that precious memories will bring many smiles to your face, now and in all the coming years.  
Blessings, Sharon Bowie

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**Sharon Bowie** - May 29, 2019 at 08:58 AM

CV

“ Always a great smile on his face-fly high -cindy

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**cindy voorhees** - May 29, 2019 at 08:35 AM

DW

“ To Rayfield's family & friends you have my sincerest condolences. My Dad, Wilson (Booty) Warder sanded floors for the homes Rayfield built & I recall my Dad always speaking highly of Rayfield. He will be missed ~



Dee Warder - May 29, 2019 at 08:07 AM

KL

“ Raphael was a great family friend and person!! He had a great big heart!! He was a very important member of the Spindler family!! Raphael will be deeply missed!! See you one day!! Love you!!  
❤️🐱

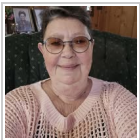
Kathleen Leighty - May 28, 2019 at 09:43 PM

CP

“ Daddy Ray was such a special person in my life. Rest peacefully my dear friend . Thank you for making me smile every time I heard your name. 😊

FISH ON DADDY!!!!!!! 🐟🔪🪦🍌🌟🔨🍺🦀🐟🦋🙏😊 LOVE YOU

Cindy Pearson - May 28, 2019 at 08:08 PM



“ Raphael touched so MANY people in so many ways. I was fortunate enough to meet Cathy & Raphael and become instant friends ♡ We sure did lose a GREAT man with plenty of love and life. I'm honoured to have known them. My deepest condolences Love Evelyn Fisher

Evelyn Fisher - May 28, 2019 at 05:03 PM