



Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr.

November 13, 1931 - February 18, 2015

Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly, Sr. passed away at his residence on Tuesday, February 18, 2015. He was 83 years old.

Born in Coplay, PA in 1931, he was the son of the late Catherine G. Edwards Lilly Freed and Reuben Thomas Lilly. He also spent many of his young formative years with his grandparents, Thomas and Esther Frickert Lilly. His loving wife of 51 years, Ethelmae Marcella Simcoe Lilly, passed away in 2003.

Reuben served in the Air Force and travelled throughout Europe playing on the Air Force basketball team. Upon finishing his duty, he studied at Moravian College in Bethlehem, following in the footsteps of his grandfather. He is recognized as an alumnus who has contributed to his Alma Mater every year since graduating. He had a successful career working as a District Manager for Mobil Oil Corporation and relocated to La Plata in 1972 where he became the Manager of Southern Maryland Tires, which was a subdivision of Southern Maryland Oil. The next move for Reuben led him to become the Wholesale Manager for Waldorf Tire. In retirement, he took great, loving care of his wife Ethel, played golf as often as he could with his buddies Buck, Don, and Joe and loved the competitiveness of the pitch league at Hawthorne Country Club where he was a life-time member. He was also a member of the St. Charles Senior Club at the Waldorf Jaycees. For many years, he and Ethel so enjoyed travelling back to Pennsylvania each year to spend time with their "Card Club"

friends.

He is survived by his sons, Reuben (Jay) Frederick Lilly, Jr., Joel Thomas Lilly, and Christopher Scott Lilly; his daughters-in-law Mary A. Pocsatko-Lilly, and Barbara Perry Lilly; his granddaughter Ashley Anne Lilly; his special four-legged grandson, Chance; his long-time companion, Nancy Johnson; his half-sisters, Shirley Deiley and Dolores Eck; and numerous brothers and sister-in-laws, nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York.

Friends received on Monday, February 23, 2015 from 2-4PM and 6-8PM with a Wake Service at 6:15PM at Raymond Funeral Service Chapel, 5635 Washington Avenue, La Plata, MD 20646. A Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 11AM at Mount Carmel Monastery, 5678 Mt. Carmel Road, La Plata, MD 20646 with burial at the same location. Arrangements by Raymond Funeral Service in La Plata, MD.

Donations can be made to Moravian College, Development Office, 1200 Main Street, Bethlehem, PA 18018 (Attention: Patricia Price) or the College of Southern Maryland, 8730 Mitchell Road, La Plata, MD 20646.

Previous Events

Friends Received

FEB **23**. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

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

Friends Received

FEB **23**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Wake Service

FEB **23**. 6:15 PM (ET)

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

Funeral Mass

FEB **24**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Carmel of Port Tobacco (Mt. Carmel) Cemetery
5678 Mt. Carmel Road
La Plata, MD 20646

Tribute Wall



“ *Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr.*

October 08, 2023 at 10:45 PM



“ *Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr.*

October 04, 2023 at 03:12 PM



“ *Mary Pruitt lit a candle in memory of Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr.*



Mary Pruitt - March 01, 2015 at 07:44 AM



I am so sorry to hear of Reuben's passing. I met him at the Waldorf Senior Center and he was always saying or doing something funny to make you laugh. My thoughts and prayers are with Nancy and Reuben's family during this really sad time.

Mary Pruitt - March 01, 2015 at 07:47 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of Reuben's passing. What a great friend and golfing buddy he was to my Dad and a wonderful friend to Mom. Know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.*
Debbie Wagner Posey

Debra W. Posey - February 27, 2015 at 08:55 AM

BF

“ Sending our prayers to you, Jay, Joel, and Chris, and to your families, in the loss of your Dad. Reuben lit up this world with his presence, and I'm sure heaven is a brighter place with his arrival. Bill and I have so many fond memories of your Dad, both family times and in the tire profession. He was such a good friend to my parents, and the Wagner family. One of the last times I saw him was in a gift shop with your Mom at a Maryland Tire Dealers' meeting in Ocean City. To see your Dad with Ethel, ever the classy lady, but suffering from dementia, was inspiring. The love, dignity, and respect he showed in her care as he continued to let her experience life in public showed the measure of his character. 'Big Rube' was equally a wild and crazy-fun guy, gentleman, and sincere friend. We were all better from having known him. Wishing you joy in your memories as you deal with life without your Dad. Although we are never ready to lose a parent, I'm sure he is at peace and free from pain. I like to think my Dad was there to welcome him.
~ Deedee and Bill Finisey

Bill and Deedee Finisey - February 24, 2015 at 02:59 PM

CR

“ Chris and family, I will miss my Buddy, have known your Dad for many years. Always had a special name for me when he would walk into my gas station, lol. I am sure he is chewing on a good cigar, and telling someone a joke. RIP IN PEACE MY FRIEND.

CLARKE RAWLINGS - February 24, 2015 at 02:30 PM

CG

“ I am so sorry for your loss. It's hard to lose a parent no matter what our age. My sincere condolences.
Carolyn Guy

Carolyn Guy - February 24, 2015 at 07:23 AM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr..*



February 23, 2015 at 12:45 PM



“ *I will never forget that huge smile on his face every time you saw him! We sincerely wish your family much comfort through the love of God. He is there for you. Donna and Dean Padgett, Optical Shoppe of LaPlata and old neighbor of Nancy.*

Donna Padgett - February 23, 2015 at 09:41 AM



“ *To Reuben's family and my 2nd Mom Nancy- my sincere Condolences. You are in my prayers. 🙏*



Tina Keene - February 23, 2015 at 08:24 AM

DG

“ To the Lilly Family,
Hold onto the memories that you will share
with each other as you gather in the days
ahead. May you find strength and comfort in
them.

Your Dad was a special person and loved by our family.. He will be
missed.

Sending our prayers and thoughts of sympathy!

Joe & Darlene Guy



Darlene Guy - February 22, 2015 at 12:23 PM

BR

“ Reuben's family, friends & my mom:: May care and love of those
around you provide comfort and peace to get you through the days
ahead. My most sincere condolences.

Brenda - February 21, 2015 at 08:10 PM

WP

“ To Jay, Joel, Chris and the entire Lilly family,
I am so sorry to hear about the loss of Reuben - he was a good
friend and he will be missed! You are all in my thoughts and prayers
during this sad time!

Windell Price

Windell Price - February 21, 2015 at 07:25 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr..*



February 21, 2015 at 01:03 PM



“ *Dear Jay and Mary,
I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. No one is ever ready for the loss of a parent. You will be in my thoughts and prayers.*

Aimee Johnson - February 21, 2015 at 10:34 AM



“ *from all the agents at CB Jay Lilly Real Estate purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr..*



from all the agents at CB Jay Lilly Real Estate - February 20, 2015 at 05:41 PM



“ *Wes & Diane Winter purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr..*



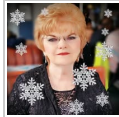
Wes & Diane Winter - February 20, 2015 at 05:31 PM



“ Grace Schofield lit a candle in memory of Reuben "Big Rube" Frederick Lilly Sr.



Grace Schofield - February 20, 2015 at 05:29 PM



Having had the pleasure of serving as "Big Rube's" part time care giver for the last 10 plus months, I can honestly say he was a real, gem and a one of a kind to be blessed by his wonderful characteristics and appreciation he showed during my tenure with him. Many thanks to his family for making me feel so worthy! I will miss him deeply!!! <3

Grace Schofield - February 20, 2015 at 06:19 PM

MR

“ Dear Jay, Mary and Family,

You and yours are in my thoughts and prayers. I remember meeting and talking with your Dad and remember him fondly. He was a very special person, and I know he will be missed.

Melinda Roark

Melinda Roark - February 20, 2015 at 04:09 PM

LI

“ Dear Jay & Mary,

I'm so sorry for your loss of your father. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Best Wishes,

Lindsay Clark

Lindsay - February 20, 2015 at 04:02 PM

B&

dear jay & mary. so sorry we can't be there for you ,but we have you in our thoughts and prayers. BOB & BETTY LOGAN

bobby & betty - February 21, 2015 at 12:36 PM

GN

“ Dear Jay, Mary and family
I am so very sorry to hear about your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. God Bless.

Gemma and Barry Nelson

GEMMA NELSON - February 20, 2015 at 03:04 PM



Susan Parks

“ Dear Jay & Mary,

i am so sorry to hear about Big Rube's passing! I will miss our discussion when he would visit the office, his big smiles and cheery greetings. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the whole family at this trying time. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

Susan Parks

Susan Parks - February 20, 2015 at 02:59 PM



“ Dear Jay and Mary,

Thoughts and prayers are with you as you go through this sorrowful time. When things happen unexpectedly it's an even worse shock to the system. Please take care. All our love, Fran and John Calhoon

Fran Calhoon - February 20, 2015 at 02:50 PM

CM

“ Dear Jay and Mary and Family, please accept our sincere condolences. May your memories warm the heart. Chris McNelis and The McNelis Group.



Chris McNelis - February 20, 2015 at 02:26 PM

DB

“ Jay, I am so very sorry to hear about your dad. You and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Take care. Debbie Brown

Debbie Brown - February 20, 2015 at 02:18 PM

JG

“ Jay and Mary, it has truly been a privilege for Steve and me to have gotten to know Reuben over the past few years. I think that we never ever saw him without a smile or his great sense of humor. He will be missed.

Jackie Grabis-Bunker - February 20, 2015 at 02:16 PM

VH

“ Jay, I'm very sorry to hear that your father has passed away. I only met him once, but that was enough to leave a lasting impression, and I know he'll be missed by all.

Vicky Hammond - February 20, 2015 at 02:14 PM

PF

“ Jay , Joel and Chris, Your Dad will be missed by all.

Paul Fenton - February 20, 2015 at 02:01 PM

KT

“ Jay, so very very sorry to hear about your Dad passing away. We are all thinking of you.

Kevin Turner - February 20, 2015 at 01:51 PM

LG

“ Jay, We are truly sad to hear of your Dad's passing. We do know this, he helped to create one very special human - YOU! May the passing to time and treasured memories help to heal your hurt. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Brad and Linda Gottfried



Linda Gottfried - February 20, 2015 at 10:50 AM

SC

*Jay, so sorry to hear about your dad . I know he was a wonderful man.
My best to al of your ffamily.*

Sarah Carlson - February 20, 2015 at 02:24 PM