



William S. Cooper Jr.

January 28, 1935 - February 2, 2024

Rye Beach – William Cooper, Jr., 89, of Rye Beach, passed away early Friday after being admitted to Portsmouth Regional Hospital on Saturday. Born in Port Chester, NY in 1935, Bill made his way North to Hampton Beach, New Hampshire.

After four years of dedicated service in the Marine Corps, he returned to Hampton Beach in a new 1959 red Ford Galaxy 500 convertible, sparking a lifelong love affair with cars. Bill worked in his father's asphalt paving business and, in 1962, assumed leadership of the family business, Cooper Paving. Renowned for having the best, newest, and fastest cars, as well as a sharp sense of style, he earned the affectionate nickname "Hollywood Bill." One of his greatest joys was tuna fishing in Maine with his longtime friend John Anderson.

Upon retiring from Cooper Paving at the age of 75, he embraced leisurely walks on the beach with his beloved Silky Terrier, Bella, who he affectionately called "The Bop." Bill and Bella formed fast friendships with other beach dog walkers, creating a daily ritual they both treasured.

Bill is survived by his daughter, Kara Cooper of Golden, CO, and his cherished Silky Terrier, Bella. In addition to his "daughters," he is survived by his brother Robert Cooper of Rye Beach and sister Sharon Thompson of

Bonita Springs, FL. Bill will be deeply missed by numerous friends, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Family and friends will gather to honor and remember Bill at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 10, 2024, in the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton. The celebration of Bill's life will continue at The Galley Hatch, 325 Lafayette Road, Hampton.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Bill's memory to the New Hampshire SPCA, either online by clicking here (<https://nhspca.org/donate-today/>) or by mailing a check to P.O Box 196, Stratham, NH 03885.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

FEB **10**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory

811 Lafayette Road ·

Hampton, NH 03842

(603) 926-6500

info@remickgendron.com

<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Tribute Wall

PP

“ Oh! The stories I could tell.

I met Bill over 55 years ago at a house a bunch of UNH students were renting. Bill (not a student) was at the house, sitting in a chair in the kitchen with a beer in his hand. He was quiet. I introduced myself. He nodded and said, “Bill.” I noticed his bottle was empty. I opened the frig, got a beer, and handed it to him before going back to my room which was just off the kitchen.

Bill remained in that kitchen chair for two days, beer bottles lined up neatly on either side of the chair. Did he get out of the chair or just peed in the empty bottles? On day three, he was gone. At that point, my curiosity got the better of me. I tracked him down, and surprisingly, we shared many coincidences and soon became good buddies.

During a few summers, I worked for Bill and Cooper Paving, driving the truck, the roller, or pulling/pushing the wheelbarrow, but never spreading the asphalt, which was Bill’s gift—something he did perfectly by eye. After a job, I would go home filthy black while Bill looked as if he had just stepped out of the shower. He came to work one day in all white (shirt, pants, and shoes) to prove a point. Not a speck of dirt on him after the job until I pushed the wheelbarrow into him. Drinks were then on me.

During one of my school years (there were seven), Bill met Beth. Bill wed Beth. Beth gave birth to Kara. The stalwart Kara is now administering to her father’s final wishes. Whether he likes it or not, Bill lives on in our memories. He always will

Phil Popkin (Pops)

Phil Popkin - February 23, 2024 at 12:47 PM

TM

“ I had the good fortune to have known Bill has a friend and to have also worked for him. It was not just a job it was always an adventure full of fun and laughs always getting the job done with never a dull moment.

I will always think of you when I see a shiny red car passing by!

Rest in peace my friend.

Tim mason

Tim Mason - February 10, 2024 at 02:14 PM

BM

“ Throughout life we all experience many firsts: first car, first pet, first job, first love. Many of these firsts we forget or they fade with time. But first love is not forgotten, nor does this feeling of first love fade with time. And so it is with Bill. He is my first love and has always had a special place in my heart. Although our marriage did not last, the memories of our good times have not dimmed. Bill taught me to see the world through his eyes. I will never forget how he loved to build huge wooden block towers for Kara, only to have her knock them over and stand by giggling and clapping her hands together. And his nickname for her which, thankfully, did not last: Baby Binx! Nor will I forget the many holidays spent in Vermont with my Mom and Dad, teaching her to ride a bike, to swim, to ride a horse...And summers at the beach, watching the two of them, her tiny hand in his, as they walked and searched for shells and sea glass, and jumped in and out of the waves. I thank you, Bill, for the memories we created, for the good times, the hard times, for the laughter and the tears. Thank you for helping to shape the strong person Kara is today. Your goodbye leaves a huge hole in my heart.

Beth Cooper Moran - February 10, 2024 at 12:27 PM

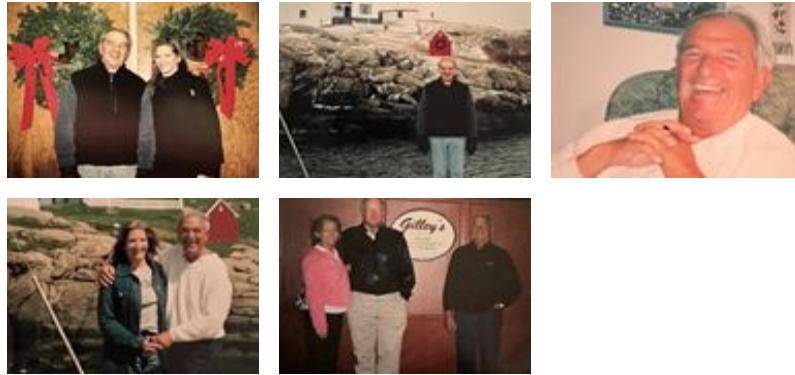
KD

“ It's been a great pleasure to have known you Bill Cooper. So many memories of fun times and a million laughs. Rest in peace my friend.

Kevin Doyle - February 08, 2024 at 08:04 PM



“ 171 files added to the album LifeTributes



Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - February 08, 2024 at 01:00 PM

LC

“ Uncle Bill was a huge part of my family and my childhood. Always looked forward to him coming over for Sunday dinners (and the Sunday night movies, which he would heckle the entire way through!) I remember thinking, when I grow up, I'll get a cool car like Uncle Bill! Great guy, great sense of humor and great person. He will be missed dearly.

Lance Casey - February 07, 2024 at 02:17 PM

JP

“ I am sad we all lost a true friend. Bill was like no other. His humor was a treasure. Everything was always going to be fine.

John Powell - February 07, 2024 at 08:59 AM