



William J. Pesola

October 30, 1934 - January 15, 2026

Hampton – William J. Pesola, 91, of Hampton, passed away peacefully on Thursday, January 15, 2026. He was born on October 30, 1934, in Detroit, Michigan, the son of the late Leo and Marion Pesola.

William was raised in Detroit and enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of 17. While serving, he earned his GED through the military and went on to serve his country honorably for more than two decades. He retired from the Navy in 1979 with the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

Following his naval retirement, William began a second career at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, where he worked in Shop 67 until his final retirement. He was a longtime communicant of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church.

For many years, William looked forward to his annual summer trips to his family's camp in Wawa, Canada, where he spent a month each year. He traveled in his beloved camper, enjoyed golfing along the way, and also loved kayaking. An avid sports fan, he was a devoted supporter of The Ohio State Buckeyes and the Detroit Red Wings.

William was a fiercely independent man who cherished time spent with his family and greatly enjoyed traveling.

He is survived by his son, Patrick Pesola and his wife, Marie, of Haverhill, Massachusetts; his beloved granddaughter, Isabel; his sisters, Barbara Muser and her husband, Frank, of Kansas, and Joann Wilson and her husband, Henry, of Michigan; as well as several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, William was predeceased by his son, Matthew Pesola, and his sister, Betsy Watson.

Burial will be private in the High Street Cemetery, Hampton.

Tribute Wall

MM

“ Megan M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William J. Pesola.

Megan M. - February 01 at 12:37 AM

KM

“ Karen M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William J. Pesola.

Karen M. - January 26 at 06:27 PM

BB

“ I'm so sorry to hear about your dad. He was a good neighbor. Bill helped me out many times. He will always be in my thoughts and prayers.

Barbara Bourgeois - January 21 at 07:40 PM

SM

“ Susan M. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William J. Pesola.

Susan M. - January 21 at 11:38 AM

HW

“ Bill and my family spent a lot of time up in Canada at my parents cottage. He loved kayaking and taking pictures of the sunsets. But more than that, his discussions were consumed by his family, Isabella, Maria, and Pat. He was a lucky man to have people like that in his life.

I always appreciated his time in the Navy and always tried to discuss the depths in the ocean. Unfortunately for me, he never broke.

See you on the other side Bill!

Hank Willson - January 20 at 08:51 PM

LF

“ Love JoAnn & Henry Willson & family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William J. Pesola.

Love JoAnn & Henry Willson & family - January 20 at 01:53 PM

LF

“ Love JoAnn & Henry Willson & family purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of William J. Pesola.



Love JoAnn & Henry Willson & family - January 20 at 01:53 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William J. Pesola.*



January 19 at 05:59 PM



“ *He was always a great neighbor. My parents enjoyed their conversations. I'm sorry for your loss and will keep Bill in my prayers.*

Matthew Bourgeois - January 19 at 03:47 PM