



## William E. "Bill" Freehill

May 3, 1950 - January 14, 2022

William E. "Bill" Freehill, age 71, of Kankakee passed away Friday, January 14, 2022 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee. He was born May 3, 1950 in Urbana, the son of Edward & Dorothy (Tyrrell) Freehill. Bill married Rosemary Kearney on September 22, 1979 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Urbana.

Bill was a retired Police Officer for the City of Kankakee. He was a graduate of Melvin Sibley High School. He had attended Southern Illinois University and Parkland Community College. Bill was an avid Notre Dame, Chicago Bears, and Chicago White Sox fan.

He was a veteran of the United States Marine Corps, having served during the Vietnam Conflict.

Bill was a parishioner of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee.

Surviving are his wife of 41 years, Rosemary Freehill of Kankakee; one daughter, Erin & Brooks Glisson of Naperville; four sisters, Joanne & David Snyder of Laramie, WY, Carol & Roger Read of Champaign, Mary Beth & Mike Rouleau of Arlington, WA, and Jean Connell of Chicago; one brother and two sisters-in-law, Robert & Sherry Freehill of Florissant, CO and Velda Freehill of Urbana; two brothers-in-law and two sisters-in-law, Patrick & Diane Kearney of Venice, FL, and Kathy & Francois Grobler of Champaign; twenty-one nieces and nephews; and twenty-five great-nieces and great-nephews. Bill is preceded in death by his parents; one sister and two brothers-in-law, Patricia & George Peabody and Michael Kearney; one brother, Richard

Freehill; and mother-in-law and father-in-law, Therese & Frank Kearney. Visitation will be held from 10 a.m. until the time of the 11 a.m. funeral Mass on Friday, January 21, 2022 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Kankakee. Rev. John Peeters will celebrate the Mass. Interment will be held at 1:30 p.m. at Strawn Cemetery in Strawn, IL.

Memorials may be made to the Illinois Special Olympics, the Joliet Diocese Catholic Charities, or the Congregation of Notre Dame Sisters.

Arrangements by Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais.

# Cemetery Details

## Strawn Cemetery

corner of W. Walter St. & N. 2700E Rd.  
Strawn, IL 61775

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 21. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
428 S. Indiana  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-6716

## Funeral Mass

JAN 21. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
428 S. Indiana  
Kankakee, IL 60901  
(815) 932-6716

## Interment

JAN 21. 1:30 PM (CT)

Strawn Cemetery  
corner of W. Walter St. & N. 2700E Rd.  
Strawn, IL 61775



# Tribute Wall

DF

“ Sorry to hear Bill has passed.I worked ME PD with Bill. Best memories all the laughs we all got because of his numerous alarm clocks it took to get him up and fail many times

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**Don Freigo** - January 21, 2022 at 08:31 PM

PH

“ Fr. Mike, from St. Stan's. was definitely waiting to escort Bill into heaven with him. For you see, when Mike was dying, Bill was one of his personal aides, periodically giving Mike his bath. Unseen kindnesses like this do not go unrewarded !



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**Pete Henrisey** - January 21, 2022 at 02:39 PM

CK

“ Rosemary..  
May God be with you in this difficult time. Sending prayers your way.  
Charlene Klipp

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**Charlene Klipp** - January 19, 2022 at 12:58 PM

CS

“ Rosemary and Erin....  
Sending strong prayers to sustain you during this difficult time  
Cheryl

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**Cheryl Segneri** - January 19, 2022 at 12:40 PM

TA

“ Thomas Anthony lit a candle in memory of William E. "Bill" Freehill



Thomas Anthony - January 19, 2022 at 12:13 PM

TA

Rosemary and Erin, I am truly sorry for your troubles, may your memories support and sustain you both. Requiem in Pacem. tja

Thomas Anthony - January 19, 2022 at 12:22 PM



Rosemary; I imagine Heaven was certainly in for a 'Surprise' when Bill announced his arrival at the Pearly Gates!!! Life was never dull with Bill around!! I imagine there is some gaiety as Bill arrived on the scene! Oddly enough; as I've been on line, I've been drinking a can of "Smiling Irish Bastard" Pale Ale....Here's to Bill, and what I found are my Irish Ancestors!!

Ron Riml, Kankakee City Police, Retired; Boothbay Harbor, Maine.

Ron Riml - January 19, 2022 at 04:10 PM

MD

“ Ohhhhh, Rosemary, I am so sorry to read about Bill. Praying God wraps his arms around you and Erin with comfort. I love you, lady!

Mari Dersien - January 19, 2022 at 11:30 AM

GF

“ Rosemary and Erin, I am so sorry for your loss. Praying for you as you navigate without Bill. May the good memories be what carries you through.

Gina Fiore - January 19, 2022 at 09:41 AM

CS

“ Rosemary and family, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you all.

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**Cheryl Skeate** - January 18, 2022 at 07:58 PM

LB

“ I have many wonderful memories of Bill. I loved following him and my dad around as they laughed and retold stories from their youth. I always awaited his arrival at our home with great anticipation, as he never failed to bring me a gift that I knew my mom wouldn't let me touch until I was much older. Nun-chucks, a butterfly knife and the most powerful firecrackers I'd ever seen were some of the highlights! My days spent with Bill were filled with joy and I will always remember him with great fondness.

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**Lee Busick** - January 17, 2022 at 08:21 PM

KB

“ So sorry for this great loss. May he rest in peace. Thoughts and prayers for all the family. One of the good guys!

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**Kathy Branz** - January 17, 2022 at 07:55 PM