



William David Lytle

July 4, 1945 - December 28, 2025

William “Bill” Lytle, 80, of Napoleon, Ohio passed away after a hard-fought battle with cancer. He was a natural firecracker, born on July 4, 1945, in Cleveland, Ohio. He was the son of William P. and Alice Elizabeth “Betty” (Nase) Lytle.

Bill grew up in Mansfield and Deshler before settling in Napoleon in 1955. He graduated from Napoleon High School (now known as Central) in 1964. He went on to join the US Navy where he served his country in Boston where he delivered 125 babies and then a tour in Vietnam as a corpsman from 1968-1969. After being discharged, he went back to school graduating from Defiance College in 1972 with a bachelor’s degree in social work. He joined his alma mater, Napoleon Area Schools, in the fall of 1972 until his retirement in 2000 as the district attendance truant office. In 1975, on a predestined trip to Hawaii arranged by his longtime friends, Larry and Bonnie Sasaki, he met the love of his life, Jeanne (Bruskotter) Hermiller. After a whirlwind romance, they were married six months later at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church in Ottawa, Ohio on December 27, 1975. With this union came an instant family of two sons, Robert and John Hermiller. The completion of his family came in December of 1977 when his daughter Megan was born. His beloved Jeanne passed away in June of 1979. After her passing, he stayed the ever-devoted family man.

In his free time, he was a devoted member of St. Augustine Catholic Church. Bill was an avid golfer with his longtime "tee-off" buddies, Walt Berhman, Greg Merrill, Doug Lange, and many others. He enjoyed a good game of poker with various monthly groups. Bill, also known affectionately as Billy, Uncle Bub, and Papa will be remembered for his strong and stubborn, yet humble and fun-loving spirit.

A man of few words but a generous giving spirit leaves behind to continue his legacy; sister, Martha (Daniel) Schipfer, brother-in-law, John Rupp; sons, Robert (Sarah) and John Hermiller; daughter, Megan (Doug) Lytle-Steele; grandchildren, Keri (Geoff) Fansher, Cale Hermiller, and Jeanne Steele, and bonus grandchildren, Nicole and Doug Steele, Jr.; nephews, Daniel (Christine) Schipfer, John (Marlo) Schipfer, and Matthew (Adrienne) Schipfer, and Joseph (Kristin) Rupp; and many great grandchildren nieces, nephew, and lifelong friends.

Besides his parents and beloved wife, Bill was preceded in death by his sisters, Mona Lytle and Elizabeth "EP" (Lytle) Rupp; brothers-in-law: Jim, Bob, Tommy, Richard, Johnnie, and Chuck Bruskotter and Jack "Jacko" Wells; sisters-in-law, Rosemary, Marge, Mary Ellen, Jo, and Marilyn Bruskotter and Marge (Bruskotter) Wells; and daughter-in-law, Mary J. Hermiller.

A memorial gathering will be held at the Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, on Friday, January 2, 2026, from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM. A memorial mass will be celebrated at St. Augustine Catholic Church on Saturday, January 3, 2026, at 10:30 AM with Fr. Jerry Schetter officiating. Interment will be held at a later date at St. Peter and Paul Cemetery in Ottawa. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Augustine Catholic Church, St. Augustine School, the Henry County Humane Society, or Ohio Living Hospice. Online condolences may be shared with the family at rodenbergergray.com.

The family would like to extend their sincerest thanks to everyone for their prayers, visits and thoughts.

Cemetery Details

St. Peter and Paul Cemetery

867 W Main St
Ottawa, OH 45875

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 2. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Mass

JAN 3. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Augustine Catholic Church
726 Monroe St.
NAPOLEON, OH 43545

Tribute Wall

PC

“ *My warm thoughts are with Bill's family.
And yes, Bill always carried an infectious smile reaching way back
to the days that we rode the school bus together!*

Peg Cramer

Peg Cramer - February 14 at 11:28 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Tribute Video*



Rodenberger Funeral Home - January 14 at 10:54 AM

CA

“ *Bill was a great guy! So very sorry to learn of
his passing.*



Carol Agler - January 03 at 03:37 PM

JR

“ *Megan, and family. Sincere sympathy on the passing of Bill. May
God surround you with his love and peace . Bill always had a smile
when ever you saw him. He will be missed. Hugs.*

John and Tresa Rowland - January 02 at 05:58 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of William David Lytle.*



January 02 at 12:54 PM



“ *Sandra Kirkpatrick and family purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of William David Lytle.*



Sandra Kirkpatrick and family - January 02 at 12:03 PM



“ *Love Dan, John, Matt, Joe & families purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of William David Lytle.*



Love Dan, John, Matt, Joe & families - January 02 at 11:40 AM



“ *We send our sincere sympathy on the passing of Bill. We were always greeted with a big smile , he was a true joy to know. The Lytle family were great neighbors, hang on to those many fond memories. ❤️ , Tom & Susie Snyder*

Tom Snyder - January 01 at 03:18 PM

LF

“ Love, the Jurs Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William David Lytle.



Love, the Jurs Family - January 01 at 01:21 PM

TF

“ The Lammers family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William David Lytle.

The Lammers family - January 01 at 09:28 AM

TF

“ The Lammers family purchased the Large Basket Garden for the family of William David Lytle.



The Lammers family - January 01 at 09:28 AM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of William David Lytle.



December 31, 2025 at 09:54 AM

RG

“ To each of Bill's Family & Friends, I send my prayers and deepest sympathy. I knew Bill when Bill was married to Jeanne. What a great person Bill was. Hope each of you can find comfort in the days to come. I am asking God to please allow Bill to RIP. Ruth G.

Ruth L Gerdeman - December 31, 2025 at 08:44 AM

TF

“ The Mossing and Reed families purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William David Lytle.



The Mossing and Reed families - December 30, 2025 at 07:00 PM

TF

“ The Mossing and Reed families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William David Lytle.

The Mossing and Reed families - December 30, 2025 at 07:00 PM

JW

“ Billy and I were classmates and friends in the NHS Class of 1964. I believe my classmates would agree with me that Billy was among the most popular, friendly and well-liked members of our class. He served his country with distinction as a corpsman in the Navy. I last spoke with him at our most recent class reunion in Napoleon in 2024. I'll always remember he was the same Billy Lytle, same smile, same friend I always enjoyed being with. My heartfelt condolences go out to Billy's family. He was a good guy.

Jim Whitaker
Hilton Head Island, South Carolina

Jim Whitaker - December 30, 2025 at 05:32 PM

KS

“ Kay Showman lit a candle in memory of William Lytle



Kay Showman - December 30, 2025 at 04:32 PM

JF

Condolences to the family and friends. Rest in Peace.
Bodie and Cathy Fortman

John "Bodie" and Catherine Fortman - December 31, 2025 at 07:01 AM

TM

“ Tim & Phyllis Macke lit a candle in memory of William Lytle



Tim & Phyllis Macke - December 30, 2025 at 04:07 PM

PM

“ *Phyllis J. Macke lit a candle in memory of William Lytle*



Phyllis J. Macke - December 30, 2025 at 04:06 PM

RB

“ *Randy & Deb Burke lit a candle in memory of William Lytle*



Randy & Deb Burke - December 30, 2025 at 03:38 PM

KS

“ *Katarina S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William David Lytle.*

Katarina S. - December 30, 2025 at 03:07 PM