



William R. Wood

May 28, 2020

William R. Wood, 81, of Avalon, NJ and Allentown, PA, passed away on Thursday, May 28, 2020 in Cape Regional Medical Center in NJ. Bill was the son of the late Mary (Rodgers) Wood and Richard Wood. He was a graduate of Allen in 1957 and West Virginia Wesleyan College in 1963. He played professional football for the NY Jets. He taught at Dieruff High School for 30 years and coached football and track. He was inducted into the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the NFL Foundation and College Hall of Fame and the West Virginia Wesleyan College Hall of Fame. He loved the casinos.

Survivors: Bill was the husband to Bobbie Wood and is survived by his sister, Mikey Ruth and nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by a sister, Peggy and brothers, John and Dick.

Services are private, but a celebration of life will be held when permissible.

Tribute Wall

RI

“Needless to say, Uncle Billy always was and always will be my favorite uncle. I saw him only rarely in recent years, but when i did he was the same tough guy with a soft center as always. I'll miss knowing that he was always keeping an eye on us, I'll miss Bobbie's detailed updates on his latest (I'm sure I've never known so much medical history on anyone else!), I'll miss his voice, his laugh. But he's still my favorite uncle, always will be.

Richard W Wood III - June 03, 2020 at 01:08 PM

RM

“Thank you, Coach Wood! Wonderful coach and always a friendly, cheerful teacher!

Robert McGuinness - June 02, 2020 at 06:03 PM

VR

“Bobbie, my sincerest condolences. You are forever in my prayers. Coach grabbed my heart some many years ago and never let go. He taught me the meaning of being an Athlete. Not just an athlete but a true ATHLETE. I will carry a part of him with me forever.



Vivian A. Riddick - June 02, 2020 at 09:13 AM

JC

“ Dear Bobbie,

I'm sorry for the passing of Bill. I've known Bill since our Raub Junior High School days. We used to be called "Cake Eaters." Bill was one tough "Cake Eater!" His team, in fact, won the junior high football Championship. Also, our cake-eating basketball team lost the basketball Championship by 1 point. Bill was tough, and he had great speed that carried through his awesome high school and college careers.

Bill's hearty laugh made everyone enjoy his company. He would examine a situation and tell it like it was; there was nothing phony about Bill. If he did not like something, he would tell you.

Our high school class was very close. Every time I lose a classmate, I feel like a part of me is lost. We were lucky to live in the golden era of Allentown High School sports, and Bill was an important part of that time, especially in sports.

Bobbie, I am thankful for the 30-some years of seeing you and Bill every 3-to-6 months. I still cherish your loyalty and friendship.

*John Canzano
Allentown High School
Class of '57*

John Canzano - June 01, 2020 at 02:43 PM

DW

“ My deepest condolences to Bill's family and friends. I had the great pleasure of working with Bill in the Social Studies department at Dieruff for over 20 years. He was a devoted teacher and coach. He was very passionate about profession whether in the classroom, on the field, or on the track. The Husky family has lost a valuable member who touched the lives of numerous students and athletes over his career. He will be missed!!!
Dale Weiss

Dale Weiss - May 31, 2020 at 04:27 PM

BB

“ My name is Bruce Buratti. I worked as a sportswriter at the old Bethlehem Globe-Times and got to know Bill when he was an assistant football coach at Dieruff H.S. under Bruce Trotter as well as an assistant in track under Keith Newhard.. He always sought me out for a funny story and was just an all-around good guy. I even bumped into him while I was working at the Express-Times in Easton once at the New Jersey State track meet when he moved to the Jersey shore and he came up to see the meet as a fan. I'll miss him.

Bruce Buratti - May 31, 2020 at 03:48 PM

CB

“ My deepest sympathies and condolences to the Wood family. I myself a former student and athlete at Dieruff High. For all us who played football or ran track he will always be remembered as “Billy the Jet”. He was a great guy. Chuck Bearish

charles bearish - May 31, 2020 at 11:44 AM

DH

“ To Bill,s family I extend my deepest sympathy.Bill was a big part of myife.A great guy.He will be missed.Sincerely,Dianne Van Horn

Dianne L, Van Horn - May 31, 2020 at 10:18 AM

DM

“ Dear Bobbie, Mikey and Family,
As you might expect, I am stunned and deeply saddened to have learned of, Bill "Coach" passing. My memories number over fifty years with Bill as my teacher, coach and "Friend". I am grateful to him and you Bobbie, for all the kindness and friendship, extended to me through the years.
Donny

Donald R. Miller - May 31, 2020 at 10:05 AM