



William Henry Hill

December 11, 1947 - January 28, 2022

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In typical fashion, William Henry Hill (Bill) left the party early, passing on January 28, 2022. The son of Thomas Hill and Barbara May Smith, Bill is survived by half-brothers Brian (Margaret Stolz), Keith (Marlene), Gary (Colleen), half-sister Laura Downing (Greg) and a host of nieces and nephews.

Bill grew up on Long Island, NY, was active in human rights organizations, including ACT UP, and eventually settled in Boston, MA, where he was employed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Following the untimely death of his long-time partner and companion, Jim Bretz, Bill moved on to Hallowell, ME, and eventually to Nashville, TN.

Bill had an eye for good art and collected what he could afford. He adored kosher food, especially big, crunchy dill pickles, and bemoaned the dearth of bialys in Nashville. He had an almost encyclopedic knowledge of obscure musical theater. He was a devoted fan of Dame Vera Lynn, celebrating her birthday each year without fail. Despite suffering a debilitating stroke in 2002, Bill continued to travel extensively, drove using adaptive controls, and managed to live a full, independent and active life. The great love of Bill's life was undoubtedly his Bedlington Terrier, Pippa, who passed away last fall. His cats, Jeremy and Funny Face, tolerated his presence.

In accordance with his wishes, no memorial is planned. Donations to the

Human Rights Campaign (www.hrc.org) in his name would be appreciated.

Tribute Wall



“ *William Henry Hill*

October 14, 2022 at 08:02 PM



“ *As the neighborhood ‘dog lady,’ I met Bill shortly after he moved in when he was out walking Pippa. It warmed my heart to see them going to and coming back from the dog park and sometimes I’d even spot them there under the pavilion when I drove by. :) Bill and Pippa are to thank for bringing neighbors together regularly during their evening visits with others at the front of the property. His presence is already missed and we are glad to have known him and called him neighbor and friend.*



Tara Shaver - February 06, 2022 at 01:18 PM



“ *I so enjoyed getting to know Bill through our friend Cindy. He was a wonderful, kind person and he so loved his little Pippa. In that we shared a great love of our animals. I always teased him that he lived in my first CP unit since that was the first one I ever saw. Made me fall in love with the neighborhood and I finally bought a place there. Bill will be greatly missed by his friends and neighbors. I know Pippa was sooo excited to have him with her again. Bye, Bill. We'll miss you.....*



Barbara Norkus - February 06, 2022 at 11:15 AM

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“ I was blessed to become friends with Bill as we are neighbors and fellow dog lovers. There was a time in these past several years that we would see each other at least once a day..We would discuss current events..art..music .film. We enjoyed going to the Frist ..dinner and just "happy hour" at our friend's Barbara where we lived at Cottage Place..my last cherished memory was when we went to the Sistene Chapel event at Opry Mills. We all admired him for his independence and strength..he never wanted help with anything.. I have lost my "Boston Buddy"..I'll miss sharing with him all those Boston/Maine news events. I miss him terribly... My condolences to Brian and family..he loved you and was so proud of all of you. I felt like I knew you from Bill's descriptions especially after a fabulous meal that Brian prepared. Rest in peace my dear friend. Pippa and Jeremy were there to greet you Cynthia "Cindy" Desmond



Cynthia Lee Desmond - February 04, 2022 at 08:45 AM