



## William Bill Stringfellow

July 16, 1946 - January 29, 2013

William (Bill) Stringfellow, 66, of St. Joseph died Tuesday, January 29, 2013, at Royalton Manor in St. Joseph.

A Mass celebrating his life will be held at 2 PM on Friday, February 1, at St. Joseph Catholic Church in St. Joseph. The visitation will be held on Thursday from 5 PM to 8 PM at the Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in St. Joseph where Prayers will be held at 7 PM. Cremation will follow the service and burial of the ashes will be at North Shore Memory Gardens. Memorials may be made to the Univ of Mi Cancer Research Center. (Mail donations to: Medical Development, ATTN: Kim Schuster, 1000 Oakbrook, Suite 100, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-6815). Please leave messages and memories at [www.florin.net](http://www.florin.net).

Bill was born on July 16, 1946 in Anchorage, Alaska. He married his wife, Sandra Zepik, in 1981 and together they celebrated 32 years of marriage. Bill was not only a devoted husband and father, but served with distinction in the United States Navy for over twenty years. Bill was first and foremost a respected leader, and always leaned forward in any assignment he was given ensuring the job got done right the first time. He first enlisted in the Navy in 1970 and went through boot camp at the Naval Recruit Training Command in San Diego and subsequently qualified in submarines and as a crypto logic technician (maintenance) serving many U.S. Naval Security Group

detachments and organizations through his career. He was commissioned as an officer in 1982 and he served as a submarine officer at several submarine commands including the USS Parche. He finished his career at the Trident Refit Facility in Bangor, Washington until his retirement in 1994 as a Lt Commander. Bill earned a number of personal awards throughout his career including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (7), Navy Commendation Medal (4), and Navy Achievement Medal (3).

After retirement from the Navy, Bill graduated in 1999 from the California State University, Sacramento with a BS degree in Computer Science. He retired Nov 1, 2012 from Hewlett-Packard. He was a 4th degree Knights of Columbus. Bill was also a member of the Shoreline Garden Club. He enjoyed sailing and was always volunteering for something. Bill was a happy individual who was a devoted family man and a true gentleman.

Survivors include his wife, Sandra; his step-children, Dennis (Jaime) Vandenberg and Bob (Anna) Vandenberg; his brothers, Michael Stringfellow and Richard Deisher; his sister, Candy Bell; and his 2 grandchildren, Cameron and Peter. He was preceded in death by his mother, Maxine, and his step-dad, Richard Deisher.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JAN 31. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service - Closed 2013  
2506 Niles Avenue  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
(269) 983-1514  
staff@florin.net

## Prayer Service

JAN 31. 7:00 PM (ET)

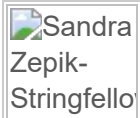
Dey-Florin Chapel of Florin Funeral Service - Closed 2013  
2506 Niles Avenue  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
(269) 983-1514  
staff@florin.net

## Service

FEB 1. 2:00 PM (ET)

Saint Joseph Catholic Church  
211 Church St.  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
<http://stjoestjoe.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ Looks like you have company now. Maybe on the beach having a cold one. What am I going to do here all alone. It's not fair.

Sandra Zepik-Stringfellow - April 04, 2021 at 10:22 PM

SS

“ I just want you back. I just want you back. You never leave my mind.still love you, Sandy

Sandra J Stringfellow - July 04, 2020 at 02:19 AM

SS

“ Bill this not a good time of year for me. I remember what you were going through. I couldn't stand to see you in so much pain. I miss you every day. Love you I would do it all over again.

Sandra J Stringfellow - December 15, 2019 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ When you left I didn't know how I was going to get along without you. I'm still wondering.Love you and miss you.

Sandy - March 27, 2018 at 01:25 AM

SS

“ Just got back from a trip to Fairfield. Saw most of our friends, George now understands why we moved and accepts it. The trips back there always makes me miss you even more than I do. You are why I was there. And with out you there I just don't want to be there. I never knew what was in store for me when you left but half of me is gone. That void will never be filled. Love you and miss you. Sandy

Sandra Stringfellow - May 08, 2017 at 10:11 PM

SS

“ It has been 4 years. Still miss you so much. Got things to tell you.  
Can't wait to see you.

Love

Sandy

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**Sandra Stringfellow** - January 29, 2017 at 10:01 AM

SS

*Still miss you.*

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**Sandra Stringfellow** - December 29, 2018 at 01:59 AM

SS

“ I ask myself everyday, "why did you have to go", I know in my head  
all the why's. But in my heart I still don't understand. Love you and  
Miss you.

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**Sandra Stringfellow** - October 21, 2016 at 11:45 PM

PN

“ It just dawned on my Bill. A little late, but you're used to that with me  
anyway. But now to the point.  
I never got the chance to give and have my salute returned by you. I  
know you will tell me it's no big thing; but I gotta tell ya - it's probably  
what has been bugging me all this time. So the next time I see the  
flag, I'll give it then. If you happen to notice, let me drop my arm  
before I get a cramp. OK?

Thanks Strange.

BTW the Vette is great; you were right there too. (as usual)

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**Peter Neild** - November 24, 2015 at 12:23 AM

SS

“ Happy 34th Anniversary Bill. I would do it again. May 30, 2015. Miss you every day.

Sandra Stringfellow - May 30, 2015 at 08:55 PM

SS

“ Happy Birthday Bill. Today you would be 67. To soon, To young. Love you and miss you everyday.  
Sandy-July 16, 2013

Sandra J Stringfellow - July 16, 2013 at 10:30 AM

SS

“ July 12, 1977 at 4:00 pm at the base cafeteria in Naples, Italy I meet a guy named "Strange". I feel the same way today as I did then.

Sandy - July 12, 2013

Sandra J Stringfellow - July 12, 2013 at 08:42 PM

DV

“ Happy Father's Day, Bill. We miss you, and ask that you pray for our son Peter!

Dennis, Jaime, and Peter

Dennis Vandenberg - June 16, 2013 at 12:13 PM

SS

“ Happy Fathers Day Bill, Thank you for being so nice to my boys. Love and Miss you. Sandy  
June 16, 2013

Sandra Stringfellow - June 15, 2013 at 09:51 PM

CC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Carl Callender** - June 02, 2013 at 07:36 PM

CC

“ So sad to have a good friend with whom I served on active duty in San Diego leave us. For years I had been a radioman on submarines and had many amateur radio operators urge me to get my amateur license. My response was "why do I want to do for a hobby that I do for a living?" Then Bill asked me one day to help him install an amateur radio antenna on his Navy quarters and showed me his radio equipment. Well, the bug bit and I got my license! Been having fun with amateur radio ever since ... and it was Bill who introduced me to a different world. Thanks Bill! Sandy, our prayers are with you. Stay strong for we are sure that Bill's spirit is with you.

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**Carl Callender** - June 02, 2013 at 07:24 PM

SS

“ Happy Anniversary, Bill. It's 32 years today. I miss you more every day.

Sandy - May 30, 2013

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**Sandra J. Stringfellow** - May 30, 2013 at 10:27 AM

PN

“ Damn it Bill, did you really have to take the lead on this run. You couldn't just sit back for a bit longer. I'm missing you, even though you always blazed the trail for the rest of us.

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**Pete Neild** - April 06, 2013 at 12:57 PM

DV

“ *It was an honor and a privilege to have such a fine man like Bill as my step-father. He couldn't do enough for Bob and I, and I am a better person today for having known him. Bill, you will be sorely missed. God rest your soul. Dennis*

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**Dennis Vandenberg** - February 05, 2013 at 01:20 PM

BO

*Bill leaves us with many good memories, thoughts and experiences. As a step-father, he was always there for us--that speaks volumes. Bill was kind, respectful, considerate, giving, well, the list can go on and on. I saw Bill shortly before he passed and his sense of humor and wit were as sharp as ever. Bill was a loving Grandpa as well; he truly enjoyed Cameron and loved him with all his heart. In years to come, Cameron will be told many stories about Grandpa--the hugs, kisses, sweet words, again the list can go on and on. Bill WILL be missed. Even though many tears have been (and will be) shed and sorrow and sadness are felt, at the same time, joy and happiness will live on in my heart. Bill, thank you times infinity.*

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**Bob** - February 07, 2013 at 07:39 PM

AV

“ *My family and I have been blessed with Bill's and Sandy friendship for many years (15+); and it's an honor for us to have them as part of our extended family. Sandy, both you and Bill are and will always be part of our family, and our lives and we thank God for giving us the blessing of knowing Bill, you, and Bob and hopefully someday we'll meet Dennis. Bill, you are and will always be in our hearts and your memory will always be with us!*

*Aidalila Velasquez*

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**Aidalila Velasquez** - February 04, 2013 at 08:56 PM

AV

“ *Aidalila Velasquez lit a candle in memory of William Bill Stringfellow*



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**Aidalila Velasquez** - February 04, 2013 at 08:44 PM

SS

“ *Bill was a very special person. He was my brother-in-law and best man at mine and my husband's wedding. He will be greatly missed. Rest in peace Bill. Love you. Shari Stringfellow*



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**Sharon(Shari) Stringfellow** - February 02, 2013 at 12:30 PM

PN

“ *I'm feeling tossed between sadness and joy, as if I were head-to-wind. Sadness because my shipmate Bill has passed, and joy because I had the chance to know him. He has crossed the finish line having sailed a good race, on proper course, and no protest flags flying. He always afforded me room at the mark, and we always hailed mast abeam when we were together. I shall miss him dearly, and I mark his passing with the respect he never asked for. By your leave Sir.*

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**Pete Neild** - February 02, 2013 at 11:01 AM

KC

“ He will be missed. I worked with Bill in Concord, CA and sat in the cubical across from him. He was always up beat and had a nice word for everyone. Bill reached out to me couple years ago after he and Sandy had moved from CA. At the time I thought I had their email and address. I found out to later that I didn't and I didn't know how to get a hold of them. Sandy helped me with a stainglass project at their house one time. I have fond memories of both Sandy and Bill. Sandy - condolences for your loss. Sincerely Kirsti Cyrus

Kirsti Cyrus - February 01, 2013 at 01:57 PM

SS

“ Brothers of different mothers was how we referred to ourselves. It was a tickle to both to find another Stringfellow at work years ago. Enjoyed our military recollections of our different, yet similar paths.



Brother Bill - you walk in the Light. It's been an honor and a priviledge to have shared that walk for a while. Shine on, my friend.

Scott J. Stringfellow

Scott J. Stringfellow - February 01, 2013 at 12:34 PM

BR

“ Brother Rick lit a candle in memory of William Bill Stringfellow



Brother Rick - February 01, 2013 at 10:39 AM

BR

*A finer brother there never was. You will be sorely missed, not forgotten and we'll catch up in the not so distant future. :)*

**Brother Rick** - February 01, 2013 at 10:41 AM

MS

“ 1 file added to the album *Bill with brothers Mike & Rick*



**Michael Stringfellow** - February 01, 2013 at 08:42 AM

MS

“ *I have so many memories of you when I was growing up. You were always kind, smiling, and ready to talk. I'll never forget you singing me The Lion Sleeps Tonight out on the back porch of your house (next to mine). I didn't know you much as I got older, and we didn't share much adulthood years together - but I shall miss you Bill - you are part of my heart and always will be. My love and prayers go out to Mike, Kandi, and Rick - may you be comforted your many memories - and the love he had for all of you. Blessings be yours Sandi as you grieve. Mary Stronach*

**Mary Stronach** - January 31, 2013 at 08:02 PM

KA

“ *Kandi sent a virtual gift in memory of William Bill Stringfellow*



**Kandi** - January 31, 2013 at 07:00 PM

RB

“ Just leaving honor and love for his passing on to greater things.  
*Robyne, quinn, & anna*

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**robyme sue marie brightup** - January 31, 2013 at 04:22 PM

BH

“ *"i came to tell my friend Bill goodbye and I hope I don't start to cry. We shared a lot on this good earth, We asked each other what was it worth? I'll tell you again old friend, You can rest assured that we will meet again. Over the years I watched you all go before me You're checking things out so I'll just wait and see. Those who've gone before us look back our way, Telling us all, there will come a day. When my time runs out, you'll surely cry, But I came today to tell my friend Bill, Goodbye"* Billy Hollaway from all Naval Security Group Submarine Direct Support Personnel

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**Billy Dean Hollaway** - January 31, 2013 at 07:22 AM

AT

“ *We gonna miss you Bill, you being a guide, a mentor, a great person, a great team men. It was amazing and one of the most memorable time working with you, infact one of the most important and fruitful learning experience of my life. I am really gonna miss your "OH MAN", "NOT AGAIN". Cant even imagine that you are now not with us...but folder of your name is still in my outlook and your emails your teaching will defiantely remain with me forever. RIP Bill.*

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**Arpit Tater** - January 31, 2013 at 04:24 AM

BM

“ *Becky Meier purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of William Bill Stringfellow.*



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**Becky Meier** - January 30, 2013 at 04:30 PM



“ *Celestial Love was purchased for the family of William Bill Stringfellow.*



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January 30, 2013 at 03:37 PM

CA

“ *Dear Sandy and Family,*

*Bill was such a vibrant and important part of our team at Hewlett-Packard.*

*He was always there 'at the ready' when there was a problem or if you needed him.*

*There was nothing he wouldn't tackle or attempt to figure out and his wit and sense of humor was invaluable. Bill was a wonderful co-worker, great friend and gentleman through and through.*

*Please know you will be in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Carol Ayers  
Hewlett-Packard*

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**Carol Ayers** - January 30, 2013 at 10:45 AM

HC

“ Dear Sandy and Family,

*Bill was such a dynamo in our garden club. He volunteered for everything and worked hard. I was so impressed with the number of trees he planted last fall. He will be missed.*

*Heather Catania  
Shoreline Garden Club*

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**Heather Catania** - January 30, 2013 at 08:43 AM

DL

“ Dear Sandy and Family,

*I am so sorry for the loss of your loved one, Bill. I am so glad that I got to know him in the past few years. His company was always a pleasure and he was one of the few gems with a beautiful heart. You will all be in my thoughts and prayers while you heal from your terrible loss.*

*God Bless,  
Donna LeBeau*



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**Donna LeBeau** - January 30, 2013 at 08:07 AM