



William A. Brown, Jr.

January 11, 1955 - December 19, 2024

Holyoke - William A. Brown, Jr., known as "Billy Brown," passed away unexpectedly at the age of 69 on December 19, 2024, in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Born on January 11, 1955, he was the beloved son of the late Alvin and Shelia Kurtz. Billy proudly served in the United States Navy and recently retired from Western Builders, Inc., enjoying his retirement by pursuing his many passions. A true handyman, Billy was skilled in fixing almost anything! He had a sharp eye for photography, enjoyed spending time outdoors, often with his dog, Marshall, and was a passionate advocate for environmental causes, particularly through his support of the Arbor Day Foundation. Billy was predeceased by his life partner, Jody A. Stevens, in 2015, and his sister, Susan Brown, in 2017. He leaves behind cherished memories with his daughter, Megan Lagoy, son-in-law Mark Lagoy, and granddaughter Mckinley, all of Chicopee, MA as well as his sons, Ryan Brown and Brandon Brown of Holyoke, MA, and his three sisters: Patricia Bylicki of Chicopee, MA, Dariel Giroux of Holyoke, MA, and Judy Keith of South Hadley, MA, along with many nieces, nephews, and extended family members. Though he is no longer with us, Billy's memory will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. The family requests that donations be made to the Arbor Day Foundation; www.arborday.org. New England Funeral & Cremation Center, 25 Mill Street, Springfield, MA has been entrusted with the arrangements. Please visit William's memorial page at www.nefcc.net for expressions of sympathy.

Tribute Wall

JR

“ I met Billy when we were both in the same 7th grade class at H. B. Lawrence School. We hit it off right from the start. We lived in different parts of Holyoke so we didn't hang out regularly but when we did it was like we had. Just before he passed I thought about him and wondered what happened to him. His obituary showed he lived a great life and I must say I'm proud to have known him wish we had stayed in touch. My condolences to his family. ps your mutual friend Mitch Summers joined the Navy together and sadly he also passed away in 2024. 🥹

John Ribeiro - January 09, 2025 at 07:20 PM

ML

“ My friend, Billy Brown. I always looked up to you as a friend and leader, as a Big Brother of sorts. I remember very vividly the time you turned to bedroom closet into a NASA space capsule and i was the astronaut about to be launched into space, yes i was crammed into it almost upside down, omg that was something.. going fishing with you off the canal bridges and the Willimansett bridge too. I will miss running into you in the strangest places, such as when I was driving my boat through the channel on the river, and there you were with your Dogs, on the side of the hill, just enjoying life. I will miss you my Friend.

Mark D. LaVallee

Mark D. LaVallee - January 09, 2025 at 12:38 PM