



Billy Joe Norris

January 10, 1934 - February 11, 2024

Billy Joe Norris, age 90, United States Coast Guard MKCM, passed peacefully on February 11, 2024 in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Bill was born January 10, 1934 in Gilmer County, Georgia to Patrick A. Norris and Bonnie (Weaver) Norris. After graduating high school, class of 1951, he was drafted into the U.S. Army, serving 2 years in the Panama Canal Zone. He then enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard where he served another 18½ years, until his retirement in 1975. A Master Chief Machinery Technician, Bill served on all five Great Lakes, a Loran Station in the South Pacific (Marcus Island) and 2 years on a search and rescue vessel in Fort Bragg, California. He served in a Coast Guard cutter fleet for more than 5 years, earning the designation of Cutterman, something he was very proud of.

Bill also worked 12 years for the Michigan Department of Corrections, from where he retired for good in 1990. His retirement was spent fishing, exploring the U.P., and visiting the Smoky Mountains. An avid reader he was particularly interested in history, the Civil War and Great Lakes shipwrecks.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Carol (nee Dalle), son William (Denise Friedrich) Norris of New Mexico, daughter Jane (Jeffrey) Sheneberger of Missouri; granddaughter Jennifer (Jacob) Zawojski, also of Missouri; and brother-in-law Gary Dalle of New York.

The family would like to express their gratitude to their neighbor Joe, for all of his help as Bill's health was failing, as well as the staff and volunteers at Ball Hospice House for their compassion and care during his last week.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of the EUP, 308 W. 12Th Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

A private family service will be held at a later date

Tribute Wall



“ *I worked with Bill at Kinross Correctional Facility. Loved his stories, and always knew he had my back and I had his if things went bad. Rest in Bill*

Mark Nelson - February 13, 2024 at 06:56 PM