



Paul William Wilson

November 15, 1938 - November 12, 2023

Paul William Wilson, age 84, of Hessel, Michigan, died at the Hospice House of the EUP on November 12, 2023. He was born on November 15, 1938, in Flint, Michigan, to Guy and Marjorie (Wascher) Wilson.

Paul graduated from Central Michigan University with the class of 1961, with a bachelor's in mathematics. He met Moira Dibert, and they married on August 12, 1961. In 1963, he earned his master's in mathematics and worked as a professor of mathematics at Lake Superior State University for 37 years, before retiring in 2000.

Paul earned the Distinguished Teacher award, at Lake Superior State University in 1983, the Les Cheneaux Chamber of Commerce Citizens of the Year award, along with his wife, Moira, in 2002, and the Michigan Heritage Award for Traditional Boat Building in 2016. He also earned multiple model boat building awards from 2006 to 2022, featuring the "Best of Show", multiple gold, silver, and bronze awards for his many Lake Superior boats and historical models from the Wisconsin Maritime Museum in Manitowoc, Wisconsin.

Paul was a founder and member of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Arts Council, the Great Lakes Boat Building School, the Les Cheneaux Historical Association and Maritime Museum, the Nautical Research Guild, the Model Shipwrights of Niagara, and a Central Michigan University Alumni.

Paul was a skilled artisan and craftsman. His pottery was featured in the Sault Summer Arts Festival show for many years. He had a love of nautical

research and wooden boats, building many full size and model wooden boats while in the Les Cheneaux area.

Paul is survived by his wife, Moira; son, Brian Wilson of Marietta, Georgia; daughter, Wendy Barba (Wilson) of Grand Rapids, Michigan; daughters-in-law, Kelly Wilson (Gath), of Marietta Georgia, and Versa Wilson (Bujold) of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada; grandchildren, Jeff Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie, Kevin Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie, Marcela Barba of New York, Stefany Barba of Los Angeles, California, and Finn Wilson of Marietta, Georgia; Jonathan Bujold of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada; Rachelle McGrath (Bujold) of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada; great-grandchildren, Colton Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie, and Lincoln McGrath of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada; and brother, Ron Wilson of Hawaii.

Paul was preceded in death by his parents, Guy and Marjorie; and eldest son, David Wilson.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making donations out to the Les Cheneaux Historical Association and Maritime Museum, P.O. Box 301, Cedarville, MI 49719, the Hessel School House, P.O. Box 25, Hessel, MI 49745, or the Hospice of the EUP, 308 W. 12th Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Tribute Wall

WB

“ He will always be my Dad. There is nothing I can write that will honor him enough or allow my love to reach him now.

Wendy Barba - December 15, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ Dear Pat & family of Paul,
I met Paul through his involvement with the Great Lakes Boat Building School, where I worked from 2010-2015. I was also active with Paul at the Les Cheneaux Maritime Museum & the local chapter of the Traditional Small Craft Association. I had the great fortune of knowing Paul and sharing quite a few meals with he and Pat. I will miss his intelligence, wry sense of humor and incredible boatbuilding skills...both full size and scale models. I know his passing is a huge loss to your family and to the Les Cheneaux community.

Bud McIntire - November 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ So sad to hear of Paul's passing. After struggling with math all through high school and my first round in college, as a returning student, I had him for three math classes and something just clicked. Have loved math every since. He was a great teacher!!!!

Cindy Smith - November 26, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ *God bless you Uncle Paul for your special life. You helped so many people with your life and brought them much joy! I will always treasure our last time together in October with Patti and Wendy, God bless until we meet again.*
Love Lynn Wilson-Hawaii



Lynn Wilson - November 22, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ *Our condolences to Pat and family. Paul will be greatly missed.*

David and Phyllis Bigelow - November 22, 2023 at 12:00 AM