



## William Alfred "Bill" Tellas

November 25, 1935 - May 16, 2019

William "Bill" Alfred Tellas, age 83, died in his home on May 16, 2019 in Pickford, Michigan, surrounded by family. He was born November 25, 1935 in Berkley, Michigan, to William McKinley and Allie Mae (Thackery) Tellas.

Bill spent his childhood in Greensburg, Indiana, where he graduated from St. Paul High School. Around the age of nineteen, he moved to Charlotte, Michigan, where he held various jobs from working at Oldsmobile to making aluminum parts at Aluminum Extrusions. In 1956, he met Donna Marie Filbert. After about eight months, they married on October 20, 1956 in Charlotte. Their family began to grow in January of 1958 and they raised four children. Over Memorial weekend in 1969, the family moved from Charlotte to Pickford, where he would gain the future nickname of "Stutterin' Bill". Bill began working at the Kincheloe Air Force Base removing snow before beginning his career at the Cedarville Limestone Quarry. Having a love for horses Bill was a co-founder of the Tri-County Speed Horse Association that is still active today. After working just short of ten years, he was forced to retire due to health issues. Bill was not a person that could just sit still, so with suggestions from doctors and because of his gypsy nature, Bill and Donna headed out west and met people who would become lifelong friends working the rodeo circuit and travelling. In 2002, Bill had to undergo open heart surgery, this caused his life to slow down, but only a little, he settled into his role of wheeling and dealing. When Bill wasn't at home helping on the farm, playing cards, or enjoying his

grandchildren, he would be found running the roads and visiting his Amish friends that became like family. You could always expect a good joke or riddle when you saw him and were sure to leave smiling or laughing.

Bill is survived by his wife, Donna M. Tellas; son, William C. (Tonia) Tellas; daughters, Cheryl Tellas, Sharon (Cal) Portice, and Carol (Ed) Arbic; grandchildren, Ashley (Brandt Baker) Tellas, Brandy (Scott) Ruditis, Carmen (Lukas) Seltzer, Kaylynn (Jayson) Cairns, McKinley Portice, Eddie (Jenessa) Arbic, and Megan (Nick) Dell; great-grandchildren, Sage, Zaydn, Emily, Cecilya, Maraya, Anastasia, Elijah, Lillian, and Bodhi; brother, Doug (Janet) Tellas; brothers-in-law, Clare Ash and Charles (Glenda) Filbert.

Bill is preceded in death by his sisters, Margie (Bug) Maurer, Mildred (Vernon) Boyles, Shirley Ash, and Betty (Dick) Buell; and sisters-in-law, Dorothy (Jim) Shattuck and Evelyn (Archie) Cole.

A Graveside Memorial Service will be held Saturday, May 25, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. at the Fairview Cemetery, in Pickford. Followed by a Celebration of Life luncheon at the Stalwart Fairgrounds.

R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, is serving the family. Condolences can be sent to the family at [www.rgalerfuneralhome.com](http://www.rgalerfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Alfred "Bill Tellas*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *William Alfred "Bill Tellas*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *William Alfred "Bill Tellas*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *Loyd Cords lit a candle in memory of William Alfred "Bill Tellas*

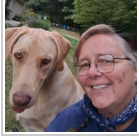


loyd cords - May 22, 2019 at 07:08 AM



“ *Bill was one of my favorite people loved it when he gave me a hard time. He was hard to beat at quarter flip I believe he was ahead of me in winning. My father liked Bill the worked at the quarry together, he will be missed.RIP*

Robbie - May 21, 2019 at 06:42 AM



“ *Heaven gained a great story teller. Bill touched so many lives his memory will go on through those people. What a great legacy. I am sorry for your loss. Look around and take comfort from all the memories surrounding you.*

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**Tami Kokko-Wojnaroski** - May 19, 2019 at 10:58 AM

LA

“ *I don't know where to start. We have know the Tellas family forever. Loiy's of fun adventures and wonderful memories. Rest in peace, Bill  
You will  
Be missed*

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**Linda Alsbaugh** - May 17, 2019 at 07:39 PM

JH

“ *My love, prayers and condolences are sent to ALL the people that loved Bill. He was one of a kind. Good memories of love, laughter and kindness. God Bless you Bill, rest in peace. Baamaapii Bill  
Baamaapii*

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**Jamie Harvey** - May 17, 2019 at 09:14 AM

LT

“ *Too many memories of this sweet man who was loved by anyone who ever met him. Forever in my heart.*

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**Lisa Taylor** - May 16, 2019 at 06:28 PM