



## William "Bill" Eldridge

March 19, 1954 - September 27, 2018

William J. Eldridge

CALEDONIA - William 'Bill' James Eldridge, 64, passed away peacefully in his sleep on Thursday, September 27, 2018.

He was born in Racine on March 19, 1954, the son of the late Robert and Mary (nee: Zontos) Eldridge.

Bill graduated from Washington Park High School in 1972, and attended UW LaCrosse. On August 20, 1977, he was united in marriage to Susan J. Erickson. Bill was employed by the City of Racine DPW, and later retired from the Town of Caledonia. He owned his own roofing company for more than 20 years. Dad instilled a great work ethic in his children, as he was one of the hardest workers that we knew.

Bill loved the outdoors, enjoying many different activities; such as, triathlons, softball, football, hunting, fishing, kayaking, cross country skiing, and most importantly, taking nature walks with his grandchildren. His most recent greatest accomplishment was riding his bicycle over 4,000 miles this summer, and only getting pulled over by the police once.

Surviving are his loving wife of 41 years, Sue; children, Katie (Dan) Recupero of Stoughton, and Becca (Kyle) Thellefsen of Kenosha; grandchildren, Ava Belle, Anthony James, Olivia Marie, and Lola Sue, sister, Di (Denny) Dalton, brother, Dan (Mary) Eldridge; in-laws, Randy (Meg) Erickson, Patti Esson (Jeff Lunde), Debbi (Dan) Smith, and Jim Kaufman. He is further survived by many nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents; Robert and Mary Eldridge, and Harry and Marion Erickson.

In keeping with Bill's wishes, a private memorial service will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Riverbend Nature Center or Koos for Kids.

The Eldridge family would like to extend a very special thank you to Dr. Robert Brown and Dr. James Tierney for allowing Bill to do what he always wanted to do.

# Tribute Wall

BA

“ *Our condolences and prayers for the family. May you find peace in his transition.*

*Bart (Gwen) Trussell and family*

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**Bart** - October 09, 2018 at 09:25 PM

JK

“ *Sue and family, we are so very sorry for your loss. Bill was taken way too young. May your wonderful memories and love of Bill always be in your heart. He was a wonderful person and loved by so many.*

*Sending our love ,  
Frank and Jerri Knautz*

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**jerri knautz** - October 02, 2018 at 04:35 PM

TS

“ *Sue, Katie and Becca. We are so sorry for your loss. Billy was a wonderful guy. I enjoyed hearing about hunting trips and unconditional love of his family. We will miss him! Tim and Rox Ann Pie*

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**Timothy Pie Sr.** - October 01, 2018 at 06:46 PM

BG

“ *Sue and family, our most sincere condolences and sympathies to you all.*

*Seems like yesterday we were at your backyard wedding.  
Bill is joining a great group of Park 1972 classmates in heaven!  
All will be in our thoughts and prayers. Rest In Peace Billy E.*

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**Bill and Lisa Greco** - October 01, 2018 at 03:52 PM

JC

“ *Billy E was a good man and a fun guy!! LaCrosse, Laux Hall*

*My sympathies to Sue and family, Jimmy Corona*

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**Jim Corona** - October 01, 2018 at 03:42 PM

MR

“ *Becca and family, I am so sorry for your loss. Please accept my sincere sympathy and may all of the wonderful memories of your dad warm your hearts now and always.*

*Mary Rother*

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**Mary Rother** - October 01, 2018 at 12:41 PM

MB

“ *Sue and Family ,*

*Mary and I are so sorry to hear about Bill's passing , I just talk to Bill before we went upnorth last week. He was a great friend and will be missed very much. Our prayers are with you and your family. Michael and Mary Bartsch.*

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**Michael and Mary Bartsch** - October 01, 2018 at 09:58 AM

MB

“ Bill had many friends in Racine and I am glad that I was one of them. It was over this spring and summer that he took me on a couple of his biking routes. We had great conversations about many things, and learned that we knew many people in common. For two old guys that really preferred to ride alone, we really enjoyed our rides together. I felt like we were long time friends and was very much looking forward to some winter hikes and spring kayaking with my new friend. I will miss Bill. Karen and I are deeply sorry for your loss Sue, Katie and Becca.

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**Mark & Karen Bollmeier** - October 01, 2018 at 09:27 AM

LT

“ Sue, Becca, Katie & Family ~ I know how much you all loved Bill (Dad). All of the beautiful stories I would regularly hear are proof of what a great guy he was. Please accept mine & Tim's condolences and know that you all have the best guardian angel looking over you. Love, Leslie Thilleman

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**Leslie Thilleman** - October 01, 2018 at 08:26 AM

LF

“ my dear friend Sue and family. I am so very sad to hear about your love of your life. Bill was always a happy, friendly, athletic, quiet but thoughtful person. I reach out to you with all my love and hopes that time and memories will comfort you. You both comforted me when my parents died. Please let me know if I can help. Love you and your family  
Lis (and Herb) Fisher

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**lis fisher** - September 30, 2018 at 08:43 PM

MB

“ Bill had many friends in Racine and I am glad that I was one of them. It was over this spring and summer that he took me on a couple of his biking routes. We had great conversations about many things, and learned that we knew many people in common. For two old guys that really preferred to ride alone, we really enjoyed our rides together. I felt like we were long time friends and was very much looking forward to some winter hikes and spring kayaking with my new friend. I will miss Bill. I am deeply sorry for your loss Sue, Katie and Becca.  
Mark Bollmeier

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**Mark Bollmeier** - September 30, 2018 at 05:00 PM

SM

“ Sue, we are so sorry for the loss to you and your family. We are thankful that Bill got to do things he wanted to do and left us peacefully.

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**Shawn and Norah McCue** - September 30, 2018 at 10:20 AM

LC

“ Dear Sue and family- I'm SO sorry you lost Bill. I'm sending you my sincere condolences.  
I was a neighbor of Martin and Dorothy Twardos on Osborne Blvd.  
Libby Cape Sheboygan, WI

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**Libby Cape** - September 30, 2018 at 01:29 AM

MH

“ Sue and Family, we are very saddened to hear of Bill's passing. Not too long ago, we were sitting in our gazebo with him, when he stopped during one of his many bike rides through our subdivision, getting his recommendations on which "fishing holes" to try with our grandsons. He was a heck of a guy and will be truly missed. May the MANY wonderful memories you have of times spent with him be a source of comfort to you during this difficult time and in the days ahead .... Mindy and Rick Hetland

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**Mindy Hetland** - September 29, 2018 at 11:09 AM



“ Eldridge Family: Judi and I were so sad to hear about Billy's passing. He was a great friend and will be missed. Our prayers go to you all. Jerry & Judi Tapp

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**Jerry Tapp** - September 29, 2018 at 08:21 AM

CK

“ Bill was a great friend and caring neighbor. I will truly miss his helping hand and my wife will miss him as a walking partner and being able to reminisce about high school. Rest peacefully my friend.

*Cliff and Colleen Kogutkiewicz*

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**cliff Kogutkiewicz** - September 28, 2018 at 09:30 PM



“ I’m so sorry for your loss Becca and Katie. My dad was always great friends with your dad. And, I’m sure they are hanging out in heaven together now. We, unfortunately went through the same type of loss a few months ago with our Dad. It is way too soon. Your father was a wonderful man and he will be dearly missed. Blessings to you all.

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**Krystyn Hirsch** - September 28, 2018 at 09:29 PM

NH

“ Such a great man Bill was. After my stroke, he still made it possible for me to hunt by putting up a ground blind. It was so thoughtful! I know he was a great father, husband, and grandfather and will be truly missed by all that knew him. Heaven holds a place for you Bill.

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**Nancy Hill** - September 28, 2018 at 06:13 PM

DG

“ I am so incredibly sorry to hear of Bill’s passing. I know how much he adored Sue, his daughters Katie and Becca and his beautiful grandchildren, as well as the rest of his extended family. I enjoyed watching him grow into such a wonderful and devoted father and grandfather from pictures posted on social media. He will be so missed. My heart goes out to Sue and the entire family. Please know that you will all be in my heart and prayers. May he Rest In Peace in God’s hands.

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**Deb Gault** - September 28, 2018 at 05:31 PM