



## William Perry Schwind

October 30, 1948 - September 8, 2012

TRAVERSE CITY — William “Bill” Perry Schwind, 63, of Traverse City died Saturday, Sept. 8, 2012 at Munson Medical Center, after a short battle with lung cancer.

Bill was born in Traverse City, on Oct. 30, 1948 to Ferdinand W. and Elizabeth B. (Baynton) Schwind. He graduated in 1966 from Traverse City Central High School. Bill was a sergeant in United States Army, specializing in telecommunications and serving mostly in Germany from 1970 to 1972. In 1973, he met Patricia “Pat” Whiteford, and they were married on Oct. 25, 1974 in Traverse City.

Bill was a plumber/pipefitter for 35 years with Traverse City Local 639, and with Saginaw Local 85 after the two merged. He was a member of the American Military League and Turtle Lake Yacht Club. Bill loved the outdoors, especially fishing, camping and walking in the woods, and the occasional casino outing. He impacted the hearts and lives of many people. He was a good, hardworking, honest man and role model for his family. Bill loved laughter and a good joke, and he celebrated life every day. Thank you so much for being a part of our lives and memories.

Bill was the proud father of his daughters Sheila (Jeff) Zenner of Kingsley and Melissa (David) Wittbecker of Buckley; proudest grandfather of six awesome grandchildren, Ashley, Kayley, Nathan and Jacob Zenner; Lily and Lucas Wittbecker, and a new baby granddaughter due in December. Bill is survived by his wife of 38 years, Pat; his children and grandchildren; his mother

Elizabeth; sisters Linda (Art) Gauthier, and Nancy (Jim) Strang; brothers Jim (Vonnie) Schwind, and Jerry (Cheryl) Schwind, all of the Traverse City area, and aunts and numerous cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Ferdinand; sisters Beverly Shoffner and Karen Gauthier; and niece Cindy Gauthier.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2012 at Living Hope Assembly of God Church, 3050 S. Airport Road W. (by Target) in Traverse City. Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 12 at Living Hope, with visitation beginning one hour prior to the funeral. In lieu of flowers, Bill requested any contributions be made to the family for his grandchildren's education, The Salvation Army, the Wounded Warrior Project, or plant a tree in his memory. The family would like to give a special thanks to Munson ICU and the B-4 nurses and staff.

Please share your memories of Bill with his family by way of his online guestbook at [www.kalkaskafuneralhome.com](http://www.kalkaskafuneralhome.com). The family is being served by Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

GONE FISHIN'

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 11. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Living Hope Assembly of God  
3050 S. Airport Road West  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
<http://www.livinghopetc.org>

## Visitation

SEP 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Living Hope Assembly of God  
3050 S. Airport Road West  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
<http://www.livinghopetc.org>

## Service

SEP 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Living Hope Assembly of God  
3050 S. Airport Road West  
Traverse City, MI 49684  
<http://www.livinghopetc.org>

# Tribute Wall

LK

“ *Whenever I think of Bill, I always think of him with that big smile! He was always smiling and laughing. He will be missed greatly. To the family, may you find comfort and peace in the memories of such a wonderful man.*

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**Laura Kroupa** - September 12, 2012 at 09:03 AM

CT

“ *I think of Bill often because we spent several years doing things with Bill and his family. lots of nights by the fire pit telling tons of jokes and laughing for hours. One of the many times I will never forget was making apple cider with all of our kids, with an old fashioned cider mill that Bill found. Another time was one summer we were catching so many white fish we decided to start smoking them. Bill made the brine and watched the smoker, Ron caught as many fish as we could smoke. We were sending them to Ohio, Kalamazoo and to anyone else that liked smoked fish. Bill loved kids, and entertained my 3 boys all the time. We all loved his spirit and humor. He will be surely missed, but I thank him for the time we did have together. We send our love to Pat and his children, We will keep you in our prayers.*

*Ron and Carol Thompson*

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**Carol and Ron Thompson** - September 10, 2012 at 10:08 PM

SB

“ Shannon Boyne sent a virtual gift in memory of William Perry Schwind



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**Shannon Boyne** - September 10, 2012 at 08:37 AM

SB

*Thank you Bill Schwind for all of the Surprise Dounuts !! I'm going to miss your visits...who will I pick on now ! Hugs and kisses to your wonderful family*

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**Shannon Boyne** - September 10, 2012 at 08:42 AM

CS

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this very difficult time. Bill was a great person and will be deeply missed by many! I will always remember his great smile and all the good times we had at Turtle Lake. I'll never forget the time he hid in the men's bathroom and jumped out at me when I went in to clean....scared me so bad I'm surprised I didn't hit him over the head with the mop!*

*Cheri Smalley*

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**Cheryl Smalley** - September 09, 2012 at 10:46 PM

CH

“ *Turtle Lake will never, ever, be the same without my "Mr. Bill" camped across the road. I loved looking over to see him standing there, looking at the lake, with his jug of peach tea. Behind all his bluster was a kind, loving man who made our time at the lake so much better and we will miss him so much. His spirit will always be here at the lake, Love to all the family, Collier and Rae.*

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**Collier and Rae Hunt** - September 09, 2012 at 07:33 PM

SL

*From our family to yours we would like to pass on our condolence. May the good times you have had together help you get through this tough time. God Bless you all, Jack & Sue Leishman, Theresa & Leonard Mohr and family.*

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**Sue Leishmn** - September 12, 2012 at 11:59 AM