



William John "Bill" Wentzel

July 15, 1952 - August 30, 2025

William John "Bill" Wentzel, 73, of Raleigh, North Carolina, peacefully passed away on August 30th, 2025, surrounded by family at his home. He was born on July 15, 1952, in Harrisburg, Illinois, to John and Noveda (Shetler) Wentzel. He overcame multiple health challenges during his last three years of life. After being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in November 2023, Bill did not give up and chose to fight this challenging disease until the very end. Bill was able to welcome his first grandson, witness his grandson's first birthday, and celebrate many milestones and holidays with his family until he passed.

Born in Harrisburg, IL, Bill was the eldest son of 7 children born to Noveda and John Wentzel. Bill was an active member in the marching band and played many different sports in high school. He was known as "Mr. Fix It" all through his life, and wired his childhood family home for electricity. He later followed this passion by obtaining a degree in Electrical Engineering at Southern Illinois University before working for John Deere in Iowa in design. He transitioned to sales of microchips in the Research Triangle Park as a subject matter expert. Bill lived his life for his wife and children and was the ultimate "family man." Bill always put his family first, and never missed a sporting event, performance, or recital for his children. He particularly enjoyed supporting his son Mike's journey to earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Bill kept in touch with all his siblings who were spread across the US and even helped them with their repair needs. Before Bill met his wife Meg, he traveled across the US on a Greyhound Bus and toured Europe to see many historical sites. He enjoyed beach vacations with family, a road trip out west, and many trips to Illinois and New Jersey for holidays.

William is survived by his beloved spouse, Meg Wentzel; his children, Amy Imbrogno (Michael) and Mike Wentzel; his grandson, Louis "Louie" Imbrogno; his siblings, Carolyn Wentzel, Kate Wentzel, Leo Wentzel (Kendell), Jake Wentzel (Karen), Mary Mechler, and Missy Cain (George); and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Noveda Wentzel.

A eulogy will be held at 12:45 pm followed by a funeral service at 1:00 pm at St. Andrew's Catholic Church in Apex, NC, on Friday, September 5th, 2025.

Flowers may be sent to the church or memorial contributions may be made to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network.

Previous Events

Eulogy

SEP 5. 12:45 PM (ET)

St. Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church
3008 Old Raleigh Rd
Apex, NC 27502

Funeral Service

SEP 5. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Andrew The Apostle Catholic Church
3008 Old Raleigh Rd
Apex, NC 27502

Tribute Wall

LC

“ Amy, I am so sorry about the loss of you dad. The obituary is beautiful and I love that he had the chance to meet your precious Louie. Sending big hugs. Leesa Clardy



Leesa Clardy - September 08, 2025 at 09:21 AM

AB

“ Meg, her father and Bill were amount my favorite families at a local restaurant every Saturday before Robert passed. They had a special place in my heart. Bill was one of a kind, one of the good ones he will be dearly missed.

Alisa Danny's BBQ

alisa boykin - September 07, 2025 at 04:18 PM

CH

“ Even as a teenage child who was 3 years older than me, Bill was a true gentleman who had leadership qualities. He was first chair trombone player when I entered band at last chair and played with excellent skill at the 1967 Midwest National Band Clinic at the Palmer House in Chicago. Quite an honor to be first chair in that band.

I was three years behind Bill in school and next “caught up” with him on the Harrisburg High School track team. He ran the mile (and had some really good times in the event). But he also ran high hurdles and Coach Trees asked him to try to teach me (a tall and gangly freshman) how to run the 110 yard high hurdles. I completed all four years of high school as a hurdler with the start that Bill gave me. Bill, thank you for being such a wonderful person. (I know you hear me, Buddy.)

Chuck - September 07, 2025 at 08:15 AM

TF

“ The McCabe Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of William John "Bill" Wentzel.



The McCabe Family - September 04, 2025 at 04:29 PM

TF

“ The McCabe Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William John "Bill" Wentzel.

The McCabe Family - September 04, 2025 at 04:29 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William John "Bill" Wentzel.



September 04, 2025 at 04:11 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William John "Bill" Wentzel.

September 04, 2025 at 04:11 PM

TH

“ The Himelbergers purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William John "Bill" Wentzel.



The Himelbergers - September 03, 2025 at 08:33 PM

LF

“ Love the Imbrogno Family purchased the Tender Tribute for the family of William John "Bill" Wentzel.



Love the Imbrogno Family - September 03, 2025 at 03:44 PM

LF

“ Love the Imbrogno Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William John "Bill" Wentzel.

Love the Imbrogno Family - September 03, 2025 at 03:44 PM

KL

“ Kendell and Leo purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of William John "Bill" Wentzel.



Kendell and Leo - September 02, 2025 at 09:37 PM

KL

“ Kendell and Leo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William John "Bill" Wentzel.

Kendell and Leo - September 02, 2025 at 09:37 PM

GP

“ Ginny Imbrogno & Andrew Przylepa purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of William John "Bill" Wentzel.



Ginny Imbrogno & Andrew Przylepa - September 02, 2025 at 08:47 PM