



Basil Bacandreas

February 15, 1934 - February 25, 2023

Bill Bacandreas, 89, of Centralia, passed away peacefully Saturday, February 25, 2023 at his home.

Bill was born February 15, 1934 in Athens, Greece, the son of Athanasios Bacandreas and Toula (Fotopoulou) Bacandreas.

Bill is survived by one daughter: Yvonne Bacandreas and her husband Tom Hickey of St. Louis, MO; three grandchildren: Alex Bacandreas, Mara Bacandreas, and Sofi Bacandreas; his twin brother: George Bacandreas of Ballwin, MO; and several nieces and nephews.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents: Athanasios and Toula Bacandreas; son: Michael Bacandreas; and sister Rena Ponfil.

Bill was born in Greece and came to the U.S. on a university scholarship at Washington University where he attained his chemical engineering degree. Following him to St. Louis, his family all eventually emigrated to the U.S. and became citizens. Early in his career, Bill worked in food manufacturing, most notably helping to develop the coating for Spree candies. He moved his family to Centralia in 1970 taking a position at the former Hollywood Candy Company. He rose to the position of Vice President before leaving to pursue entrepreneurial pursuits with his beloved hobby of beer can collecting. He created Beer Cans of the Month Club and was known in the hobby for his spectacular beer can collection, even being in the National Inquirer for owning the two most rare beer cans, the Rosalie and the Tiger. In the 1980's he opened his first Video Time video rental store in Centralia across from the

library. He went on to open several more stores in various towns in Southern IL, closing the last one in Salem, IL as the video rental industry gave way to online viewing. He then went back to his beer can passion, this time selling his cans on eBay. Bill was an adventurous, energetic, grateful, happy, passionate person who loved life and always had a smile on his face. In life he loved to say he lived his life like the Frank Sinatra song:

I've lived a life that's full

I've traveled each and every highway

And more, much more than this

I did it my, my way

this was true to the end as he passed peacefully in his sleep at his "park". He will be missed by all who knew him.

Per Bill's wishes, cremation rites will be accorded and no public services will be held. In memory of Bill, memorial donations may be made to the Centralia Humane Society and will be accepted by the Sutherland-Garnier Funeral Home at 235 North Sycamore Street in Centralia, Illinois 62801 (618) 532-3523, who is honored to be of service to the Bacandreas family. Online condolences may be made to the family by visiting www.sutherlandfuneralhome.com or the Funeral Home's Facebook page.

Tribute Wall



“ *Funny thing, I was just thinking of Bill the other day not realizing he had passed. He was the one person that I can say lived life to the fullest and was a friend to all. I came to know him while we both worked at Hollywood years ago. Always had a smile on his face except when the tragic accident happened to Michael. I remember visiting at the house where the dogs ruled! I had never been around dog stars before! He was a friend to both myself and my husband for many years. There will never be another Bill.*

Joyce Bauza - July 14, 2023 at 05:16 AM



“ *I am Bills and neighbor and got to know him by pumping out his basement, and helping with some plumbing issues. . He had sooo many great and interesting stories. Such a big heart and personality. He will be missed around here.*

Jason Green - March 28, 2023 at 04:55 PM



“ *Yvonne, I'll always remember how funny your dad was! He saw the humor in everything and had a smile as big as big can be! I remember dumping beer out of the cans and sitting on the hood of his fancy car, worried that we'd get in trouble! I spent so many fun days at your house.....so many happy memories. I'll cherish all of them! Love to you and your family.*

Karen Logullo Bader - March 03, 2023 at 05:08 PM



“ [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was purchased for the family of Basil Bacandreas.

March 03, 2023 at 01:11 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Yvonne Bacandreas - March 03, 2023 at 10:51 AM



“ So very sorry to hear this. I worked for Bill for several years with the beer cans. Such a great guy. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family Yvonne.

Jerra Swartzlander - March 02, 2023 at 07:06 PM



“ Yvonne, I just saw this. I am so sorry for the loss of your dad. I'll be thinking of you.

Terry - March 02, 2023 at 06:46 PM