



Mr. William Barcal

September 30, 1928 - August 17, 2019

William "Bill" Barcal Jr. Dearly Beloved Husband of the late Therese "Terry" nee Dudek. Loving Father of William III (Barbara) Barcal, Nancy (Octavio) Herrera, Sue (Paul) De Grave, Mike (JoAnn) Barcal, Judy (Mark) Nigro and Eddie Barcal. Cherished Grandfather of William (Christina) Barcal, David (Gina) Barcal, AJ (Kelly) Barcal, Kathryn Barcal, Robert (Jane) DeGrave, Jack (Liz) DeGrave, Karen DeGrave (Josh Sinclair), Stefani (Ben) Hartzler, Mike (Amy) Barcal, Kelly (Adam) DuVall, Jimmy (Kelly) Hardy, Perry, Alexandra and Anthony Barcal, and the late Frankie Barcal; Great-Grandfather of eleven; Brother in Law, Uncle and Friend of Many. Visitation Tuesday, August 27, at CARBONARA FUNERAL HOME, 1515 North 25th Street, Melrose Park, from 4 until 8 P.M. Funeral Wednesday, 9:30 A.M. August 28, from the funeral home to Sacred Heart Church, 816 North 15th Street, Melrose Park for 10:30 A.M. Mass. Interment with Military Honors at Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Sacred Heart Church would be appreciated.

William "Bill" Arthur Barcal Jr. was born in Chicago at Ravenswood Hospital, on September 30th, 1928 to William and Anna (Nallen) Barcal. Bill's father was a Chicago Police Officer in the 35th District, Clark and Chicago Avenue. Anna was one of twelve children, born in Ballina Ireland, County Mayo. Anna worked at American Tobacco, putting tax stamps on Snuff packages, and later worked at Madigan's. His parents called him "Mickey" or "Kid". Their Parish was St. Peter Canisius, where Bill attended Grammar School starting in 1934.

His first job was cutting grass at Mount Carmel Cemetery, taking the train and then walking 1 mile to the Cemetery. Bill attended St. Ignatius High School, graduating in 1946. He excelled at playing football, starting at both offensive and defensive end positions. He appears in many photos as the only one that was wearing a white helmet, because it was the only one that would fit him. He played on the school's greatest team, playing for the Catholic League Championship against Fenwick at Soldier Field in 1945, in front of 15,000 people. The game ended in a tie. There was a coin flip after the game, that was won by Fenwick. Fenwick went on to play for the city championship, and St. Ignatius was only awarded the game ball. Bill's team entered the St. Ignatius Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008.

Bill was offered a scholarship to play college football, but upon graduation, enlisted in the Navy in July 1946. His boot camp was at Great Lakes Naval Base. He was stationed in San Diego, the Philippines, and Hawaii, and served in Italy, Spain, China, and the US. His rank was AD1, Aviation Machinist First Class. He flew on a Martin P5M Marlin Sea Plane.

Bill met Terry in the fall of 1952, through the St. Angela's Young People's Club, at Austin Bowl. At this time, The Blue Angels were using the Naval Air Station in Glenview, and Bill was working as a line chief for the planes. He was asked to become part of their team but turned them down because he knew he had just met his wife to be and didn't want to leave her. Bill proposed to Terry around Christmastime, at Russell's BBQ on North Avenue. They were married at St. Giles in Oak Park on May 16th, 1953 by Monsignor Frawley. The wedding breakfast took place at the Oak Park Arms, and the reception was held at the Hotel Belmont Stratford, in Chicago, for about 200 guests. After the reception, they went to a 2 AM mass that was held at St. Malachy, for all of the taxi drivers, printers, and all that got off work late. They spent their honeymoon driving in Bill's 1952 Plymouth on the East Coast for 10 days,

visiting Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

After 10 years in the Navy, Bill and Terry purchased a new home in Melrose Park, built on the same fields he rode his bike through as a youngster. Their new Parish was Sacred Heart, the place where all 6 of their children would go to school and receive all their sacraments. They remained active in the Parish for the next 60 years, volunteering for numerous events like Cabaret. They also helped fundraise by hosting a homemade barbeque rib dinner. Bill helped put in the ADA lift at church and was active for many years in the Holy Name Society. They always gave of their time and talent and were so very passionate about their chosen Parish and their lifelong friendships with many parishioners.

Bill cared for and loved his 6 children very deeply. He cherished the time spent coaching the boys in all of their athletic endeavors, and was so proud of their accomplishments. He enjoyed watching his girls grow up, always taking such good care of him, and their own families. Bill was the proud grandfather of 15 grandchildren, each special in their own way. He always took the time to do something special with each of them, including Bear's Training Camp, visiting his Naval Plane, the zoo, and athletic events -- too many to count. The new great grandchildren in his life always brought a sparkle to his eye.

Bill's work life included being a Business Agent for Teamsters Local 714, a Crane Oiler for Local 150 Operating Engineers, a salesman for Lanman Bolt and Forge, and finally a salesman for Bethlehem Steel. Bill traveled extensively across the Midwest, and always knew his directions and a good restaurant to entertain his clients. Bill retired at age 55 due to legal blindness.

Bill loved to travel, going to all 50 states with Terry. They would host Friday Night Poker Nights with their neighbors and Superbowl parties with their grade

school friends. Bill maintained life long relationships with his neighborhood friends. Bill loved Notre Dame. He loved taking Terry to games and watching them on TV. He also loved Mass at the Basilica, and made one last trip earlier this year. Their group had lunch together on Tuesdays for many years at Doc Ryan's in Forest Park. Sometimes, as many as 25 guys would attend. He called it "Lunch with the Bunch". He attended his last lunch just 2 weeks before his passing. Bill loved his road trips to Michigan and Wisconsin, always asking, "Where are we going next?" Bill traveled to Florida many times over the last 14 years, staying at his Daughter's home in Sarasota. He enjoyed playing cards, watching Wheel of Fortune, Jeopardy, 60 minutes, the Golf Channel, and always knew the weather forecast. He also loved going out to eat; he knew all the best places. Every Saturday night was church and dinner at Abruzzo's, with family.

One of Bill's highlights was being a part of the Honor Flight in October of 2017. He was honored to be a Veteran of the Korean War, and relished the opportunity to share this special event with his fellow Veterans. He was touched by the opportunity and wore his commemorative hat so proudly. He also participated in the Lake County Veterans Project, telling his Service story and having it recorded in the Nation Archives in 2017.

Bill's last wish was to take a trip to Florida. He went to Disney World with his great grandchildren and experienced their smiles as they met each of their favorite characters. He rode the Dumbo ride with his daughter, the Carousel, and It's a Small World. Wish granted. His last meal out was at one of his favorite places, Twin Anchors, a place that hasn't changed much over the years, but remained his favorite place for ribs!

Bill always said that Terry was his first love, and only love, and couldn't wait to give her a kiss and hug in heaven. The wait is over. May God Bless You Bill.

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. William Barcal*

October 05, 2023 at 03:04 AM



“ *Mr. William Barcal*

September 08, 2022 at 03:08 AM



“ *Thank you, Beloved Mr. Bill, for the thousand acts of kindness over the years; from welcoming my family into your home when we first met, and the wedding plans began to being there and sharing the warmth of your home and family when my Father passed away and we were hurting and only wanted to retreat and forget. We're especially grateful that over the last 14 years when you visited Florida you generously shared your time, favorite places to eat, sharp wit, business sense, warm humor, and many other gifts that made you, "the Main Irish Guy" of my Irish Family; by the way, the Sarasota Nursing Management Team sends their thoughts and prayers.*

My Mother and I are sending our love; we are thankful for every moment especially including when a few short months ago you pulled from that bottomless well of strength and courage that only faith and love of family gives you, and came to wish my Brother a Happy Birthday. You're forever in our hearts and souls. We are happy that your Beloved Terry has welcomed you home.

Thalia & Laura Herrera - August 30, 2019 at 12:20 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Mr. William Barcal.*



August 27, 2019 at 03:00 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Mr. William Barcal.*



August 26, 2019 at 07:13 AM



“ *What an outstanding job Nancy and Judy have done caring and making lasting memories for their father. He was a caring and charismatic man. I cherish his stories and dedication to family, friends and church. He was a hero in my book as he never faltered in his beliefs of what was right and good. God Bless.*
Johanna

Johanna Walker - August 25, 2019 at 05:21 PM



“ *From The Scott and Maureen Howard Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. William Barcal.*



From The Scott and Maureen Howard Family - August 23, 2019 at 06:28 PM

LF

“ Love, Debbie & Steve Fliehman and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mr. William Barcal.



Love, Debbie & Steve Fliehman and Family - August 23, 2019
at 11:27 AM

MS

“ Thank you for sharing this truly lovely and thoughtful obituary. God bless your family at this difficult time. Cherish precious and unique memories of him from here forward! See you all soon and thanks for posting this fantastic tribute to a wonderful and rare soul!

Maria Salidas - August 21, 2019 at 09:48 PM

MV

“ Mike, JoAnn and all the Barcals, Mickey and I are so sad to hear of Bill's passing, but oh my heavens....what a life!!! And that is what is important. He engaged himself in all that he wished to experience and he gave of himself to all those he loved and/or cared about. What a great man. We will personally always remember Terry's glowing eyes and smile, and Bill being the wonderful attentive hubby. He ALWAYS had a wonderful smile himself, and the friendliest of hellos. He could make you feel like you were the special person he always wanted to see and visit with, and always made you feel.....like family.

We shall miss him, but will wait to hear more stories about him from his son and DIL. God Bless all the family.

Uncle Mickey and Aunti Sandi

Michael Venditti - August 21, 2019 at 09:10 PM