



F. William Hessmer IV

December 1, 2020

With great sorrow, we announce that Frederick William Hessmer, IV of Chevy Chase, Maryland, formerly of Cresskill, New Jersey, passed away suddenly on December 1, 2020. Bill/Billy/Frederick/Freddy/William/Willy (depending on who you are) will be forever missed by his brother Thomas Hessmer, his sister Jane Hessmer Reilly and her husband Stephen Reilly, his niece Marina Reilly, his nephews Tymeson Reilly and Everett Reilly, his loyal Chi Phi brothers and many wonderful friends. He was predeceased by his father, Frederick William Hessmer, III (d. 3/1/1989) and his mother Zoan Fox Hessmer (d. 3/29/2020).

Bill was born on May 2, 1960 in New York City and grew up in Cresskill, NJ. He graduated from Franklin & Marshall College and earned his Juris Doctor from the Washington College of Law, American University. At the Washington College of Law, he was a founding member, senior editor and on the executive board of the Administrative Law Journal. He remained an active alumnus until his death.

After working as an attorney at the Lee F. Holdmann, Chartered law firm, in 1998 Bill became a founding member of Thomason & Hessmer, LLC, a law firm specializing in estate planning and trust administration. He was a proud member of the Montgomery County, Maryland State, American, and United States Supreme Court Bar Associations.

A Son of the American Revolution, Bill took great interest and pride in his heritage as a descendant of Thomas Danforth of Salem Witch Trials fame, and William C. Bouck, the 13th Governor of New York, as well as his relation to Billy Mitchell, father of the U.S. Air Force, to name a few.

Bill had many passions in life – avid reader, especially of historical biographies, enthusiastic gardener, amateur photographer, music aficionado, accomplished cook and wine connoisseur among other interests. A very social guy, Bill will be remembered for his wide smile and infectious laugh by all who knew and loved him.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions in Bill's name to Church of the Atonement, 97 Highwood Avenue, Tenafly, NJ 07670.

Family and friends are invited to visit on December 18th from 4-8pm at the Volk Leber Funeral Home, 268 Kinderkamack Rd., Oradell, NJ. There will be a short prayer service and eulogy at 6pm. Private cremation.

Events

DEC **Memorial Visitation** 04:00PM - 08:00PM

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Volk Leber Funeral Home

268 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, NJ, US, 07649

DEC **Memorial Service** 06:00PM - 06:30PM

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Volk Leber Funeral Home

268 Kinderkamack Road, Oradell, NJ, US, 07649

Comments



“ A webcast video has been added.



Volk Leber Funeral Home - December 18, 2020 at 02:44 PM



“ Thank you for sharing this-my condolences

Debbie - December 18, 2020 at 06:10 PM



“ Hello Tom and Jane, I am so happy that I was able to attend this virtually. Your tributes to Bill were wonderful. Clayton

Clayton - December 18, 2020 at 06:35 PM



“ We were saddened to hear the news of Bill's passing. He was an excellent attorney.

John and Heidi Vargas



Heidi M Vargas - June 17, 2021 at 04:54 PM



“ In addition to being an excellent attorney, Bill was an exceptional man. As often happens, we wait to the last "minute" to take care of our personal legal matters. Bill made a trip to my parents home and to the hospital to get documents signed while there was time. What attorney these days takes that much interest and care of his/her clients? We are forever grateful to you, Bill.

Patricia Voitk - May 18, 2021 at 07:44 AM



“ Saddened to hear of Bill's passing. He was our family attorney for over 20 years. He was a superb and knowledgeable attorney, honest, and decent man. He will be greatly missed. My family extends deepest sympathy and prayers to the family. He will be missed dearly.

Kim - December 23, 2020 at 10:35 PM



“ The Hessmers and my family met vacationing in the Adirondacks. I became fast friends. The Hessmers were like family to me. They took me water skiing, and we hiked together and threw parties and chased bears at the Piseco dump. Some of my happiest memories are those carefree summer days with the Hessmer family. It would not have been the same without Billy.

Later, Bill never forgot me, sending Christmas cards every year.

Tommy and Jane, the three of you had a special bond. I am so sorry for your loss.

With heartfelt love and fond memories,

Clayton Handleman



Clayton - December 18, 2020 at 06:33 PM



“ Kathleen lit a candle in memory of F. William Hessmer IV



Kathleen - December 18, 2020 at 06:08 PM



“ Billy, you have been such a great friend for almost 50 years. Rest in peace. I often think of all the wonderful times we had at Lake Piseco with your family and eating dinner at The Old Stein Inn, Normandy Farm, and Kings Creek Country Club. Who can forget brunch in Rehoboth Beach? Your time ended too soon. We will miss you dearly. Love Mark and Michele. We will think of you often and all the great times we had together.

Mark and Michele Breckwoldt. .



Mark and Michele Breckwoldt - December 18, 2020 at 03:40 PM



“ Mike Pearse and Helen Price purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of F. William Hessmer IV.



Mike Pearse and Helen Price - December 17, 2020 at 06:58 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of F. William Hessmer IV.



December 17, 2020 at 06:34 PM



“ Bill's Law School Classmates purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of F. William Hessmer IV.



Bill's Law School Classmates - December 17, 2020 at 04:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of F. William Hessmer IV.



December 16, 2020 at 04:24 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of F. William Hessmer IV.



December 16, 2020 at 01:40 AM



“ I was Bill's Big Brother at Chi Phi. I wish I had known him better. Both then and since. My memories of young Bill are of a guy who was as earnest and sweet as the day is long. Quiet, but always well spoken and always ready to smile. Share a confidence. He more or less carried ME through the long, last night of pledge week. Never flagged. I missed a chance 10 years ago to get together when a mutual pal (Tim Canova) came through DC and rue that miss. Bill was a bit better than most of us.

Steven Perry - December 15, 2020 at 09:29 PM