



## William Disessa

October 15, 1957 - May 26, 2024

We write with heavy hearts to announce that William “Bill” George DiSessa, 66, of Holly, Michigan, passed away on May 26, 2024.

Bill was born on October 15, 1957, to Mary Lou Wright and William George Farnum in Flint, Michigan. He was later adopted by Vincent DiSessa, who raised Bill, dutifully and lovingly, with Mary Lou. Bill completed his High School education at George A. Dondero High School. After, he achieved a Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism from Central Michigan University; and he also received a Master’s Degree from the University of Pheonix in Organizational Management.

After graduating from Central Michigan University, he found his way to La Porte, Texas, where he met the love of his life, who would inspire him until the day of his passing: Janie Bais DiSessa. Bill and Janie were married; and after two years, they had a son: Will. Bill’s and Janie’s marriage endured until the day of Bill’s passing—a union that lasted 34 years in this world.

With remarkable creativity and effortless excellence in all his endeavors, Bill’s accomplishments are innumerable. He began his career as a Reporter for the Houston Chronicle before he moved back home to Michigan, where he worked as a Reporter for the Flint Journal. He went on to hold many titles within the State of Michigan, including: Communications Specialist; Manager;

Administrative Manager; and, at the time of his passing, Spokesperson for the Michigan Department of Education. Ever committed to the betterment of our society, Bill also served as an Adjunct Instructor with Madonna University, where he taught Bachelor's- and Master's-level courses that reached students as far as Tianjin Agricultural University in China.

Bill's curiosity could never be contained; and his talent was as limitless as the love he brought to this world. In his free time, Bill was an entrepreneur, who explored his interests as a self-made Product Developer. In this role, he obtained multiple approvals from the United States Patent and Trademark Office for utility patents; and he also developed two mobile apps (each aimed at combating the immense stressors of the COVID-19 pandemic). Using an exquisite mastery of the written word, Bill was also an author, who penned works in the style of screenplay and prose. And in his dedication to serving his community in the Village of Holly, Michigan, Bill was appointed to his local Planning Commission, Historic District Commission, and Zoning Board of Appeals.

There is simply insufficient space to give Bill the tribute that he deserves. He was an athlete, a movie buff, a student of history, an inventor, an artist, and—without a shred of hyperbole—among the greatest fathers that has ever been or ever will be. We take comfort in the knowledge that Bill leaves behind a legacy of love that will live on in those for whom he now waits. He is predeceased by his mother, Mary Lou, his biological father, William, and his sister, Juliet. He is survived by his wife, Janie, his son, Will, his brother, Ronald, his sister, Angela, his brother-in-law, Michael Osborne, his niece, Grace, his adoptive father, Vincent, and many more friends and family members. We will see him again, one day, in a happy eternity.

A Visitation for Bill will be held at the Dryer Funeral Home in Holly, Michigan on Sunday, June 2, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. You are also invited to

celebrate Bill's life at St. Rita's Catholic Church in Holly, Michigan, where Mass will be held on Monday, June 3, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. Interment will take place at the Evergreen Cemetery in Grand Blanc, Michigan immediately after Mass. Flowers are appreciated; but the family respectfully requests that you also consider donating to the American Diabetes Association, or to any cause that you believe makes our world a better place.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 2. 2:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

DryerFuneral Home, Inc.  
101 First St  
Holly, MI 48442  
(248) 634-8291  
bgdryer@hotmail.com  
<https://www.dryerfuneralhomeholly.com>

## Service

JUN 2. 5:00 PM (ET)

Dryer Funeral Home  
101 First St  
Holly, MI 48442  
(248) 634-8291

*Eulogy reading*

## Funeral Mass

JUN 3. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Rita Catholic Church  
309 E. Maple St.  
Holly, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dryer Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of William Disessa*



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**Dryer Funeral Home, Inc.** - June 03, 2024 at 01:39 PM

MH

“ *I'm so, so sorry to hear about Bill's passing. We were reporters together at the Houston Chronicle back in the late 1980s. He was a great reporter and I really enjoyed working with him. I remember his laughter (just like in this photo of our journalism team) - he was always joking and so much fun to be around. Sending my deepest condolences, Mary Ann Hellinghausen*



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**Mary Ann Hellinghausen** - June 04, 2024 at 08:43 PM

CH

“ *In my 10 years of reporting on education in Kent County, I found Bill to be an always reliable source of information in helping me tell the stories of K-12 schools and their students. I am saddened to learn of his passing and wish his family and loved ones all the best. From Charley Honey, editor, School News Network*

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**Charley Honey** - June 04, 2024 at 03:30 PM

NN

“ Will and Jane, My sincerest condolences for your loss.



Nancy Nizio-Dalton - June 03, 2024 at 08:45 AM

SU

“ May God give William eternal rest and reward for sharing his God-given gifts so generously...and may God grant comfort and peace to all his loved ones...

Sister Nancy Marie, Madonna U - May 31, 2024 at 03:52 PM

PB

May Bill rest in peace and may God sustain you and Will through this difficult time. You are in my prayers. Phil.

Phil O'Dwyer, Berkley. - June 01, 2024 at 07:33 PM

JD

“ Jane and Will DiSessa planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Disessa.

Jane and Will DiSessa - May 31, 2024 at 02:31 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Disessa.



May 31, 2024 at 02:31 PM

LJ

“ Love, Sue, Larry & Julia planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Disessa.

Love, Sue, Larry & Julia - May 31, 2024 at 02:11 PM

LJ

“ Love, Sue, Larry & Julia purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of William Disessa.



Love, Sue, Larry & Julia - May 31, 2024 at 02:11 PM

LP

“ I didn't know William but am a fellow faculty member at Madonna U and knew his name. This is a wonderful tribute to him, thank you for sharing the details of his rich life, having given so much, to so many people, in so many capacities. God bless you all with the peace and solace you need.

Linette Popoff-Parks - May 31, 2024 at 12:30 PM

BF

“ Brian Pearson and family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Disessa.

Brian Pearson and family - May 30, 2024 at 08:27 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of William Disessa.*



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May 30, 2024 at 08:27 PM



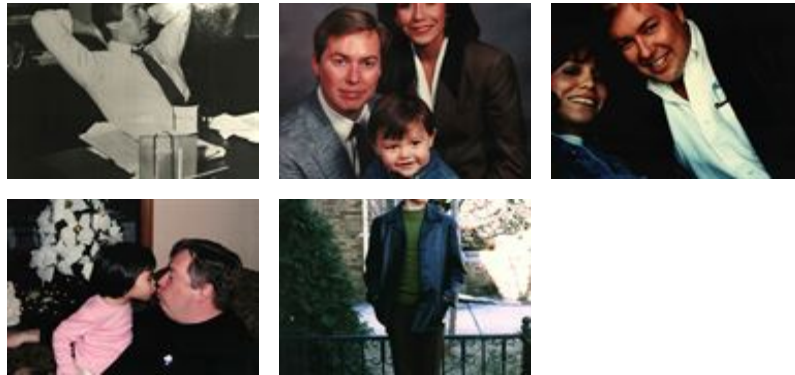
“ *Bill and I shared an apartment in the late 1980s. We met as reporters for the Pasadena Citizen. He had gotten the Pasadena beat for the Houston Chronicle by the time we got an apartment. We'd wait until we knew our respective presses were rolling before we talked about whatever stories we had and whether we'd scooped one another. I never scooped him, and with stories that we both covered, he always had details that I didn't. This was reporter school for me, and with every detail he got that I didn't, it made me a better reporter. We also had a rather "Pink Panther" Kato-Clousea thing going in the apartment. If one of us came home later than the other, he would arrive to find a squirt gun on a table by the door. The ensuing water-gun fight not only soaked the apartment but involved water booby traps everywhere. He didn't think it was wise for me to take a job at the much-bigger Odessa paper, believing I should hold out for the Houston Post or Houston Chronicle, but I did it anyway. I should have listened to him. An excellent reporter and fine human being. I'll miss him and our goofy social-media banter.*

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**Brian Pearson** - May 30, 2024 at 08:22 PM



“ 26 files added to the album Life Tributes



Dryer Funeral Home, Inc. - May 30, 2024 at 02:43 PM

KZ

“ My deepest condolences to Angie, Ronnie, Jane, and their families on Bill's passing. I remember him as a funny, outgoing person. I'm sure he will be sorely missed.

Kevin Ziegler - May 30, 2024 at 10:27 AM

KD

“ Karen Davis purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of William Disessa.



Karen Davis - May 29, 2024 at 08:33 PM

KD

“ Karen Davis planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Disessa.

Karen Davis - May 29, 2024 at 08:33 PM

AO

“ Bill was a wonderful person and a wonderful brother. I'm so lucky to have been his sister. He always made me laugh and it was so much fun just hanging out with him. I will miss him more than words can ever say. Rest in peace, brother. I love you!❤️

Angela Osborne - May 29, 2024 at 05:46 PM

AD

“ Angela Osborne (formerly DiSessa) lit a candle in memory of William Disessa



Angela Osborne (formerly DiSessa) - May 29, 2024 at 05:42 PM

AD

“ Angela D. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Disessa.

Angela D. - May 29, 2024 at 05:39 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of William Disessa.



May 29, 2024 at 05:39 PM

LN

“ Liz Newell lit a candle in memory of William Disessa



Liz Newell - May 29, 2024 at 03:46 PM

SS

“ Stacy Sipes lit a candle in memory of William Disessa



Stacy Sipes - May 29, 2024 at 03:07 PM

KS

“ Kristen Snow lit a candle in memory of William Disessa



Kristen Snow - May 29, 2024 at 02:35 PM

CH

“ Carol Hammond lit a candle in memory of William Disessa



Carol Hammond - May 29, 2024 at 02:08 PM

SD

“ *My sincerest condolences to you and your family.*

Shawan Dortch - May 29, 2024 at 09:06 AM

LP

“ *I knew Bill mainly by email at work. He was always helpful and informative when dealing with press releases and other OPGA-related items. I am very sorry for your loss.*

LORI POZNANSKI-MASON - May 29, 2024 at 06:57 AM

DE

“ *Dr. Corinne Edwards lit a candle in memory of William Disessa*



Dr. Corinne Edwards - May 28, 2024 at 08:53 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of William Disessa.*



May 28, 2024 at 02:44 PM

KW

“ *Karin Winchester lit a candle in memory of William Disessa*



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**Karin Winchester** - May 28, 2024 at 09:05 AM

LS

“ *Bill was a staple at Battle Alley Coffee. He has many friends there and they would sit and talk to him while he was working. We will miss him.*

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**Linda Stouffer** - May 28, 2024 at 07:44 AM

DH

*Jane my condolences to you and your family. May the peace of the Lord be with you all. Diana Hernández*

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**Diana Hernández** - May 30, 2024 at 07:59 AM