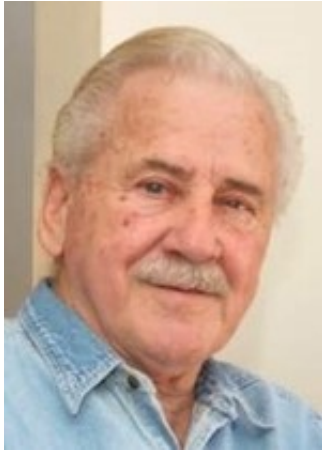


IN MEMORY OF
WILLIAM F.
GINGERELLA SR

Obituary for William Gingerella



William F. Gingerella, Sr., lifelong resident of Westerly, passed away peacefully on Saturday, June 11th, 2016 surrounded by his family.

Billy was born to the late Grace C. Gingerella and Angelo “Spuchy” Gingerella, and was stepson of Frank “Shorty” Comforti.

He will be sadly missed by the mother of his children Teresa Gingerella; his son Thomas Gingerella and wife Dayna; his son William Gingerella, Jr. and Val; and his daughter Linda Barber and son-in-law Willie. He was so proud and loved all his grandchildren: Joel, Logan and Nolan Gingerella, Lauren and Billy Gingerella, III and Willie Jr., Jackson, and Lila Barber. He is also survived by his stepbrother Angelo “Boo Boo” Comforti and sister Lucille Sposato, both of Westerly. William was predeceased by his loving brothers, Angelo “Red” Gingerella and Robert Gingerella, both formerly of Westerly.

Billy’s life was full of accomplishments. First and foremost he always made clear how out of all his travels through the country, Westerly was the most beautiful place to live. Everyone who knew Billy knew his love of baseball. A 1950 graduate, he was an outstanding athlete who was active in both football and baseball. During his senior year he was captain of the baseball team, batting .370 he was selected to First Team All Division. On April 9, 2005, William was inducted into the Westerly High School Athletic Hall of Fame.

After high school, William signed a professional baseball contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers and then went on to play baseball for the Boston Braves; his career was interrupted by military service and the Korean Conflict, but he continued to play baseball at Fort Dix, maintaining a .300 batting average.

Returning home from military service, Billy continued to play baseball in the Westerly Twilight League joining the Hilltop Team, founded by his father Spuchy and his brother Bob. He was dubbed Greybeard Gingerella still playing ball at 48.

Among the many businesses that he owned in Westerly, the place to have pizza in the 70's was the well-known Roxy's Pizza. He served the town that he loved so dearly as a Westerly Police Officer, member of the School Committee, and 6 years on Westerly Town Council, two of those years as council president. He went on to serve the state of RI being appointed the High Sheriff of Washington County until retirement.

He is also survived by so many friends who stayed with him to the end of his journey.

Visiting hours are omitted. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday at 10am in St. Pius X Church, 44 Elm Street, Westerly. Interment will follow at St. Sebastian Cemetery, Westerly. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations to Hasbro Children's Hospital/RI Hospital Foundation, PO Box H, Providence, RI 02901 in Billy's memory. Gaffney-Dolan Funeral Home, 59 Spruce St., Westerly is in charge of the arrangements. For online condolences, please visit www.gaffneydolanfuneralhome.com

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