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**William "Bill" Williamson**

On the morning of August 14, 2016, William "Bill" Williamson passed away peacefully of natural causes. Bill had been visited and comforted by family members and friends at his home in Linthicum, MD, at the time of his passing. Bill Williamson was born in the town of Elmira in Chemung County, NY, at 6:15 AM, on January 20, 1934. He was the third son of Lester P. and Kathleen V. Williamson. Bill was the youngest of four children. He had two brothers, Bob and Jim; and a sister, Alice. Growing up a "southpaw", Bill had many early learning teachers try to correct his use of his left hand. He initially thought of it as a mild disability. His left handedness turned beneficial to him as he began to excel in baseball. In fact, in 1953, Bill began a professional career in baseball starting with the Green Bay Wisconsin Blue Jays, the minor league club for the Green Bay/Boston Braves. His team shared County Park Stadium with the Green Bay Packers until Lambeau field was created. By the time he was 20, Bill played professional baseball for Reading's Eastern League Indians (affiliate Cleveland Indians). Roger Maris, who ultimately appeared in seven World Series, was on his team. Bill entered the [Army](#) in 1955, and continued to play baseball for the Army at Ft. Bragg. After his honorable discharge from the service, he went on to play baseball in Burlington, NC, for the Indians minor league. He left baseball for good in the fall of 1959. In 1965, he married Patricia (Pat) Owens and they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary last year. Bill and Pat became a family of three in September of 1966, when their son, Jim, was born. The births of Jennifer and Jeffrey were quick to follow and by 1969 they were a family of five. Bill attended night school for 14 years and attained four advanced degrees including a Juris Doctorate from the University of Baltimore. However, Bill considered his crowning achievement the raising of his three children and was beyond proud of the fine adults they grew up to be. He adored spending time with his five grandchildren and often horsed around with them or played them in games of chess. He marveled in the talents of his grandchildren and loved to hear about any of their achievements, large or small. Bill had worked as an educator, an accountant, and eventually retired from his own insurance business just a few years ago. During his lifetime, Bill was heavily involved in his church, the Lions Club, NCEON, Meals on Wheels, and various other charities and community service. Bill was instrumental in the planning and building of the North Linthicum Community Pool, which opened in 1975, and was enjoyed for more than three decades by the community it served. Bill was a social man with a keen sense of humor and a quick smile. He was an empathic and generous person who felt an inner duty to help the less fortunate. He greeted all who he encountered with warmth and often a small gift or token. His family is grieving the loss of their beloved patriarch, but is comforted by fond memories and the kind words and prayers from friends and loved ones. Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Lester and Kathleen; and his brothers, Robert and James Williamson. Bill is survived by his wife, Patricia; son, James Williamson (and his wife Robin); daughter, Jennifer Staples (and her husband Jeff); son, Jeffrey Williamson (and his wife Donna); and loving grandchildren: Bryanne, William, Brady, Holden, and Bella. Visit Gonce Funeral Service P.A., 4001 Ritchie Hwy., on Thursday, from 4 to 7 PM. Service is Friday, at 1:00 PM; and interment is private. Memorial Contributions can be made to Hospice of the Chesapeake, 90 Ritchie Hwy., Pasadena, MD 21122.

**Funeral Home****Gonce Funeral Service Pa**

4001 Ritchie Highway Brooklyn, MD 21225  
410-789-1800

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