



## William Gordon Johansen, Jr

March 17, 1957 - November 22, 2023

My darling Bill, I will love and miss you forever.

William Gordon Johansen Jr. passed away on Nov 22, 2023. He died peacefully at home surrounded by family. Bill was born on March 17, 1957 in Boston, Massachusetts, to William Gordon and Rachelle Johansen. Bill graduated from Coconut Creek High School where he was the star of the basketball team. Following High School Bill graduated from The College of The Air Force with a degree in Air Transportation and Management, and proudly served in the grade of Sergeant in the United States Air Force from 1978-1981, Charleston AFB, South Carolina. Bill was an extreme asset to the Passenger Service Section. His professionalism and dedication are qualities that made the 437th Aerial Port the "Best in the Air Force" for the year 1979-1980. Bill's devotion to duty and loyalty to his unit and the Air Force were far above normal, and those qualities carried over in all that Bill did, and into how he lived his life.

The very nature of Bill's life was service. His belief was that there was no greater calling than to serve others. Following Bill's service in the Air Force, he began his career with Alaska Airlines in Seattle Washington. That is where Bill and I met on a blind date in July of 1988. When you know, you know! We married on January 21, 1989 in Pocatello, Idaho, my home town. We were married in the Greek Orthodox Church in Pocatello in the winter time! A celebration to remember that took place on a Saturday followed by Super Bowl Sunday, 49ers vs Cincinnati. Our marriage started out with family and

friends having fun-opening wedding gifts, enjoying food, and watching football. We bought our first home in Federal Way Washington in 1990, and soon after had our first child, our son Michael. Later came another son, Chris, and finally our daughter, Analisa. As the years rolled past Bill was promoted several times, allowing me to stay home with our children for over Thirteen years. A choice we never regreted.

Those years were busy. Bill coached basketball, soccer, and baseball for all of our kid's teams. He was devoted to serving as a coach and mentor and he cherished every moment. He always stayed late so the kids could play longer. Bill supported the interests and passions of all of our children. He was their biggest fan, proud of all they accomplished. As Mike put it about golf, it doesn't matter if it's 65 or 85, he's always proud. Our son Chris remembers being introduced to his love of music by Bill, and Analisa admired Bill for his ability to light up a room, his big warm heart, his tenacious attitude, and the way he would show up for her no matter what.

As fathers go, Bill amazed me at every turn. Being married to a hot tempered Greek woman is not easy. He had a calming presence and would always be the voice of reason and peace in our home. He listened to understand, and he showed up 100% of the time for all of us.

Bill also served in our church in Tacoma Washington. St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church. He led a youth group on outings to the Olympic Peninsula, and even secured a unique opportunity for the youth group to experience a flight simulator, practicing take off and landing of aircraft. Bill served on our Church council and chaired the annual Greek Festival in Tacoma.

In 2001 Bill made a career move after 21 years with Alaska Airlines, and embarked on a new career. We built a new home in Vancouver Washington, where Bill immediately stepped up to serve as the HOA president, taking on the responsibilities of establishing a new HOA. He loved serving the neighborhood. Bill had the unique ability to talk with people he had never met before and walk away knowing their life's history! The magic in that is that Bill truly cared about people and was always interested in their stories. He served

as HOA president for twenty two years, until he passed away. He will be missed by all.

Bill enjoyed a long career with Lynden Transportation, later serving as President of Brown Line LLC. He was the best president that Brown Line LLC ever had. Before falling ill, Bill served as Executive Vice President of Sorenson Transportation. He worked tirelessly for our family and was the most amazing father and husband. He loved with all his heart, and he was generous and kind.

Bill's hobbies included weight lifting, golfing, fishing, bbq-ing, and having the greenest lawn in the neighborhood. He also prided himself on being the best host of any gathering. He made sure that we threw the very best celebrations for the kid's graduations, birthdays, and any special days. He curated amazing birthday celebrations for me, including planned wine tasting tours, and five star dinners with the entire family. He was the gold standard as a husband and father.

My loving husband was patient, kind, generous, protective, and wise. He said "I love you", and he meant it. He always let me think I was right. He is the love of my life, I will always love and miss my dear Bill with all of my heart.

Bill is survived by his wife Sophia, Children, Michael [Mallory] Johansen, Christopher Johansen and Analisa Johansen, Godson Kenneth Clark, his mother Rachelle Thomas, sisters Linda [Max] James, Laurie [Joe] Mazzola, nieces and nephews.

Funeral services for Bill will be held on Wednesday, November 29th, 2023 at 9:00 AM at: Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral 3131 NE Glisan St. Portland, OR 97232

Private Burial at Evergreen Memorial Gardens in Vancouver Washington  
A Celebration of Life will be held at 1:00 PM-4:00 PM at: Royal Oaks Country Club 8917 NE Fourth Plain Blvd Vancouver, Wa 98662  
The dress code at Royal Oaks Country Club requires NO DENIM, NO SWEAT SHIRTS

In lieu of flowers, donations in Bill's honor can be made to either of the

following:

The Wounded Warrior Project <https://www.woundedwarriorproject.org>

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Greek Orthodox Church  
518 N 5th Ave. Pocatello, ID 83201

# Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 05:06 PM

CK

“ I am so saddened to hear of Bill's passing. He was truly a great man. We may not have always agreed on things, be it business, politics, etc., but he ALWAYS listened and valued my opinion - and I never once doubted that he cared, both about me and my family. He was instrumental in my growth both professionally and personally during our time together at Brown Line. I will forever cherish our conversations, and forever remember the good times we shared at company BBQs, Holiday Parties, and just in the day to day in general. May he rest in peace and be remembered by all whose lives he touched.

Chris King - November 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ Loved you as a baby, changed your diapers, dried your tears, had so much fun with you as you grown into a wonderful, hardworking young man. Rest in Peace, you established a wonderful legacy for your kids to follow 💖🙏

Beverly / Joe Lurix - November 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ Just like a big brother with his arm around me. And from the time I was little, I always looked up to him. He was a great brother and friend and I miss him tremendously. Love you always ❤️❤️❤️

Linda Johansen-James - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ Joe and I always remember the great times we had with Bill during his visits to Massachusetts. We would go to Boston, walk Fanuell Hall, sit at the bar to have a drink and talk about the old days. Then we would head home, where Joe and Bill would sit outside and smoke their cigars. Those days will never be forgotten. We love you, our brother and we will miss you forever. ❤️❤️ Your sister Laurie and brother-in-law Joe.

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**Laurie Mazzola** - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ I love I love this photo of all of us together big brother, little sister and me, middle sister. Growing up, we were always close and then his life goes. You know we all had our own family. Some of us moved away most of us and we couldn't always get together so this was one of those really special times when all three of us were together I miss you tremendously and I'll miss the daily phone calls, the updates on what's going on and just hearing your voice. You were a great big brother and I love you very much. ❤️❤️

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**Linda Johansen-James** - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ With heartfelt condolences, Aunt Barbara, Teddy, Donna and Chip Johansen (MA)

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**Johansens** - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ Sophia and Family, so sorry to hear that Bill had passed. Sophia that was an amazing and very true tribute of Bill and his amazing connection to people. I have many memories of Bill and I talking but my favorite was how he treated my handicapped brother inlaw Dennis. Dennis would wander the neighborhood and if Bill saw him he would invite him in.  
Dennis always got the biggest grin when I would say where were you and he would say with my friend Bill. Rest in Peace Bill, Gone too Soon! Kirk & Danielle Miller

Kirk Miller - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

GT

“ Chris, sending you our deepest condolences on the loss of your father.



Goosehead Operations Team - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Billy was an awesome guy i remember get togethers at his dad house all of us kids together when we were growing up.

Mary Ackley - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Bill was an exceptional individual. Always enjoyed our limited times together. He was a true patriot, a great father to his family, a dedicated husband. Truly sorry that he was called to leave this planet so early.

Max James - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RO

“ Prayers to the family. He was such a kind and gracious soul. May he go rest high.

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**Robbin** - November 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ One of my favorite memories is Bill and I spending many hours putting model cars together. We would go to the store, look through all of the options and decide together which one would be the most fun. We would then buy some model paint colors (make it look fancy), go home, grab some cookies and spread out all the parts on the table. We would spend hours with one another, talking, laughing and just having fun. Those models came out great! I will never forget those times. These memories I will cherish forever. I will love and miss you forever, my brother Bill. Love your sister, Laurie

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**Laurie Mazzola** - November 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ Sophia & family, we are so very sorry for your loss. You are all on our hearts and in our prayers. Our deepest condolences, Mike & Jane Flanagan

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**Anonymous** - November 26, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory

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**A Memorial Tree was planted for William Gordon Johansen, Jr** - November 24, 2023 at 12:00 AM