



## Billy R. Wilson, Jr.

July 20, 1951 - September 24, 2019

Billy R. Wilson, Jr. 68, passed away peacefully on September 24, 2019. He was a native of New Orleans and a resident of Mandeville, Louisiana.

Beloved husband of Lisa Granberry Wilson. Loving father of Stephanie W. Wilson (Jack) and Patrick R. Wilson (Tiffany). Stepfather of Christy Hebert, Justin Mayberry and the late Cori Mayberry. Grandfather of Katie Wilson and Sara Wilson. Son of the late Wildeth "Chris" Wilson and Billy R. Wilson, Sr. and brother of Melissa W. Hymel (Richard) and Leslie W. Chaix (Richard). Uncle of Gabrielle Chaix. Grandson of the late Ernest and Inez Henson. Also survived by his beloved dog, Jazz.

Billy was a 1969 graduate of Holy Cross High School and received an Aviation degree from Louisiana Tech University in Ruston, Louisiana. He was a retired Captain of Delta Airlines and a former pilot of Pan Am and National Airlines. Billy loved spending time with his family and friends and was very involved in his neighborhood of Driftwood Park Subdivision. He was a lifelong New Orleans Saints fan, avid golfer and angler. Billy will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

To share memories or condolences visit [www.muhleisen.com](http://www.muhleisen.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Billy R. Wilson, Jr.*

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October 15, 2023 at 09:39 PM



“ *Billy was a great friend. We shared airlines and similar jobs. He always encouraged me (and other pilots) to keep flying. I will miss him and the good times we had. He could light up the room with his smile and friendly ways. RIP Billy. Blessings to all the Family.*  
- Alan Gee

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**Alan Gee** - October 11, 2019 at 04:51 PM



“ *It was always a pleasure to work with Mr. Wilson... He made our trips so easy going and if ever "anything" popped up that needed attention he was always there to assist.*  
*May he rest in peace and our sympathy goes out to his family and friends.*  
*Flight Attendant : Connie Charlton*

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**connie charlton** - October 10, 2019 at 08:03 PM

CB

“ Bruce and I so loved having Billy as our neighbor. We had many fun times sitting in the carport and having a few toddies at night. He was always there ready to help with whatever project needed to be done. We still have "Billy Bob" the African tortoise Billy found in my driveway. He is now about 80 lbs. Billy was able to see his namesake when he visited last year. We think and talk about Billy, Lisa and Chris quite often. He was a wonderful man and will truly be missed by so many. Rest in Peace Billy.

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**Carol Burrall** - October 08, 2019 at 06:42 PM

MH

“ Missing you Billy. Gone too soon. Friends, relatives, former pilots, please share your stories, photos, whatever. It is such a comfort at this time.



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**melissa wilson hymel** - October 07, 2019 at 04:44 AM

NB

Oh I remember Billy like it was yesterday. He always had a car, so he would come and pick us all up and then we would all go to the lake front and hang out. He was a sponsor for our sorority. His mama would invite us all over. One time she had a slumber party for just the girls. She made Billy go sleep at one of the boys houses. Melissa I don't know if you remember the girls Rhonda, Cathy, Kathleen, Lynn, Debbie and myself Nanete. Just a big group high school friends that hung out all the time. The girls are all still friends and hang out but lost touch with the guys. Was very sad to read the passing of Billy. I know his friends and family will miss him.

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**nanete juneau blackburn** - October 07, 2019 at 12:44 PM

RC

“ Billy R. Wilson was First a humble true friend, a fellow Aviator who always radiated joy in everything he did. I also shared flying with Billy at National, Pan American and Delta Airlines. I recall the great dinners we all shared at the Commuter House in Forest Hills, NY while flying out of JFK and Laguardia. Billy is in Glory - I will pray for his family. Sincerely - Richard Cahill

Richard Cahill - October 05, 2019 at 08:04 PM

MH

Thank you so much for the very lovely heartfelt words and tribute about my brother Billy. Our hearts are heavy but we all pray he is at peace. God bless, Melissa Wilson Hymel

melissa wilson hymel - October 06, 2019 at 06:10 PM

MH

P.S. All these wonderful stories are so great. Naturally, we didn't get to see him as much as we would have liked because he was always flying as you know. However, he always talked about you guys at the house so fondly, I feel like I've known you all forever. —Melissa

melissa wilson hymel - October 06, 2019 at 06:37 PM

LC

Beautifully said Missy. He loved his fellow pilots. ❤️

Leslie Wilson Chaix - October 06, 2019 at 07:02 PM

MH

Mom would always tell me about every time he called to ask how to cook this or that, (like red beans!) She was so so proud of him and who could blame her? Knowing him to be the picky eater he was when we were kids, I was always surprised by what I heard he cooked up there for the guys. I mean, he detested onions—but it's hard to cook a lot of things without them. I was well and truly flummoxed by his culinary acumen. Lol.

melissa wilson hymel - October 07, 2019 at 04:27 AM

LC

“ God bless you my dear big brother. They do not come any better. I know you are with mom and dad and y'all are watching over us. Gone too soon.



The world is a better place because you were in it. 🧡🧡🧡

Love,  
Your little sister

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**Leslie Wilson Chaix** - October 05, 2019 at 09:35 AM

BE

“ Billy was a great guy. Such fond memories of him, Jay, Timmy, Brophy and my brother, Buddy! They had a great time together. Sorry for your loss.  
Barbara Brignac Eschete

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**Barbara Eschete** - October 04, 2019 at 06:26 PM

MH

Thank you so much Barbara. We are all missing his big heart, selfless generosity and kind spirit.

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**melissa wilson hymel** - October 05, 2019 at 11:12 AM

MH

Ps: Say hi to Buddy for me.

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**melissa wilson hymel** - October 07, 2019 at 04:36 AM

MH

“ *Godspeed on your last flight home my darling big brother. I carry you with me always in my heart* ❤️



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**melissa wilson hymel** - October 04, 2019 at 12:15 PM

NR

“ *Yes, I knew Billy at National, Pan Am, and Delta Airlines, what a great pilot, man, and friend. Billy always had a smile on his face and so much fun to be with, may God bless Billy and his family, this world has lost a great man!*



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**Norm Reagan** - October 03, 2019 at 10:10 PM

MH

*Thank you so much. My heart is so heavy but I know he is at peace* 💕

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**melissa wilson hymel** - October 04, 2019 at 12:16 PM

AC

*Billy loved our Elvis parties and I used to tease him and asked him to drop off some Flying Elvi over Driftwood during our party! Rest in peace, Billy.*

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**Annie Purnell Collom** - October 04, 2019 at 01:07 PM



“ *I flew with Billy at National, PanAm and Delta Airlines. We spent an abundance of time together at a commuter house in Forest Hills, NY. He was a good friend, superb pilot and fun to be with. May his Final Flight west be smooth and free from turbulence.*

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**Stephen Mills** - October 03, 2019 at 04:43 PM

MH

*Thank you for the lovely tribute ❤️  
Melissa Wilson Hymel*

melissa wilson hymel - October 03, 2019 at 10:07 PM

LO

*Billy was a great guy!! I always enjoyed talking with him! Praying for all loved ones and friends!  
Fly high Billy!!*

lori - October 05, 2019 at 11:20 AM

LW

“ *I remember Billy Ray as happy and gregarious and oh so handsome! He was a cousin I could look up to.*

Laurie LaCour Wheeler - October 03, 2019 at 02:51 PM

MH

*Missing him so much*

melissa wilson hymel - October 03, 2019 at 10:08 PM

LR

*The Roths love and never will forget Billy. That boy loved to dance. We had fun at all club events. ❤️❤️❤️❤️❤️🙏*

linda roth - October 04, 2019 at 11:12 AM

D(

*We went on vacations to Callaway Gardens with Billy and his family. Served with him on the board of Driftwood Country Club, he made everything thing fun.*

Darlene Matranga Olano (Ford) - October 04, 2019 at 12:38 PM

MH

*Thank you to everyone for all of your kind words and wonderful memories. We didn't get to see him as much as we wanted because he was always flying, so these stories are truly heartwarming. ❤️*

*Melissa Wilson Hymel*

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**melissa wilson hymel** - October 06, 2019 at 06:33 PM

Mike  
Drufner

*Billy was our brother in law, Laurie knew him since high school. He would give you the shirt off his back if you needed it.... always ready for life's next adventure. He will be missed greatly. Rest in Peace Billy.... no more sickness and pain with your illness.*

*Mike & Laurie Drufner*

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**Mike Drufner** - October 07, 2019 at 05:33 PM



*Billy was the sweetest, kindest soul. I'll always remember the great times we had in Kew Gardens NY, especially at Lefferts. He was always available to drop off and pick up crews at the airports, in his beautiful beaten up station wagon. I was smitten the first time I saw him. I think of him everytime I hear Van Morrison. Rest in peace Billy, you were the very best.*

*Deb*

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**Deb Cantalamessa** - January 17, 2020 at 04:13 PM