



William Francis Jarvis

APR 12, 1952 - DEC 9, 2025



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William Francis Jarvis

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William (Bill) Jarvis died peacefully with his family at his side on Dec. 9, in Salt Lake City, Utah, where he lived in retirement. He grew up in Syracuse, New York, and spent his college years and career in Upstate New York. He graduated from SUNY Cortland and received a PhD in Chemistry from Syracuse University. He devoted his career to teaching at Corning Community College-SUNY. He spent endless hours mentoring chemistry students.

His passion for organic and environmental chemistry flourished even into retirement. He loved being in the hills and lakes of the Adirondecks, especially camping and hiking in Upstate New York and in Utah, Idaho, and Wyoming. He had many memorable travels throughout the United States, the Canadian Maritime Provinces, Germany, Thailand and Dubai.

Bill was a patient and dedicated educator, a devoted father, and a loving husband. He enjoyed camping, fishing, playing the guitar, photography and volunteering. When out for hikes, he always had a camera handy. He was an accomplished photographer.

He was especially influenced by his mother who taught him to live life with optimism, kindness, and honesty. He had a quirky sense of humor and a sunny disposition that endured even in his final days.

He is survived by his wife, Susan, his lovely daughter, Anna Jarvis, and his oldest brother, Jim (Cathy) Jarvis, as well as stepsons, Christopher (Nora) St. John, Jonathan (Erin) St. John, and Daniel St. John, and grandchildren, Lucas and Audrey (Jonathan & Erin). He was predeceased by his older siblings, Patrick Jarvis and Janet Young. He had many friends and loving relatives left behind in Upstate NY. Progressing dementia prevented him from visiting in recent times. These include Sue (Warren) Clough, Sharon (Gary) Slate, Bob and JoAnn Jarvis, and his fraternity brother, Tom (Alison) Kuekla (North Carolina). A special thanks to the amazing staff, nurses & CNAs, Ovation Hospice and Dr. Fehlauer at The Auberge at Aspen Park who provided Bill compassion and dignity in this last chapter of his life, and kept him dancing.



Obituary

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You may honor Bill's memory by taking a walk in the mountains, watching a sunset, or fishing, and extend a hand to someone in need. No formal services are planned.



Tribute Wall

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Premier Funeral Services shared a **Video**.



January 19 at 12:17 PM



Susan St John-Jarvis shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



January 28 at 11:58 AM



Susan St John-Jarvis shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Bill participated in the Gleeful Chair, supported by Jewish Family Services, and it was a weekly practice that was a highlight of his last years.



January 28 at 11:55 AM



Susan St John-Jarvis January 30 at 5:16 PM

Gleeful Choir! (correction)



Jon St. John posted:

Bill was my step Dad. He met my Mom when I was already an adult, and he and my Mom got married the same year that I did. Bill was incredibly caring and affectionate to my Mom, and I was really happy when she met him! I felt like they were meant for each other in so many ways. He had a mild and easy-mannered way about him that made him game for any adventure my Mom wanted to go on. He was also a caring grandfather for our kids. When he and my Mom moved to Utah, we were able to spend more time with them. Bill was always excited to see the kids and shared some of the same outdoor passions - camping, fishing and just being outside. Bill always brought a smile and sense of humor. He is missed by me and the rest of our family. I was fortunate to be there with my Mom when he passed. He was quite peaceful and was surrounded by love.

January 27 at 1:16 PM



Susan St John-Jarvis January 28 at 10:17 AM

Thank you for your kind words and presence - Bill always looked forward to joining you and the family for camping or marathons, and especially fishing. Gone all too soon.



Tribute Wall

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RP

Rebecca Price lit a candle in honor of William.

So sorry for your loss of your partner.

January 26 at 9:07 PM



RP

Rebecca Price posted:

We remember the day Susan and Bill were married, we knew they were perfect together. Sorry to hear Bill passed away Susan. Always loved seeing the pictures of both of you and all the travels and garden fun. What a rich blessing to have had this love and family for both of you. Jim and Rebecca

January 26 at 9:05 PM



Susan St John-Jarvis January 28 at 10:45 AM

Thank you, Rebecca and Jim for the many ways you included us in your lives.

RP

Rebecca Price posted:

So happy Susan and Bill found each other, I knew they were a good match. Sorry to see him go but good years, many travels, and dear friends and family ties have made it worth it all. We love you Susan and family.

January 26 at 9:01 PM

BM

Bill Mccarthy posted:

My friend Bill was a balanced man of both intellect and kindness. He enjoyed learning things and celebrated passing them on to other curious people. He was an accomplished freshwater fisherman who enjoyed nature and the outdoors. Bill hoped to be invited to join the June Fishing Club. It would require an admission event that would be judged by the voting members. Bill took on this responsibility with a practiced confidence. He first identified himself as a Chemistry Professor who intended to teach the committee the importance of the Periodic Table. At that moment there were cries from the committee – "OH NO". But Bill just smiled and then started singing in great voice the entire periodic table too roars and cheers. It was a great moment to remember. What fun! Bill loved his Susan who shared his future and the wonderful mystery of life. He was a good friend. May he rest in peace. Bill McCarthy

January 22 at 3:28 PM



Tribute Wall

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Sri Kamesh Narasimhan lit a candle in honor of William.

In Loving Memory of William "Bill" Jarvis William Jarvis, known to so many simply as Bill, was the kind of person whose presence quietly but unmistakably lifted the people around him. He was a professor at Corning Community College, and I was fortunate to know him for several meaningful years before his retirement. In that time, Bill became not only a colleague, but a mentor, a friend, and a steady source of encouragement. Bill had a rare gift for teaching. He always seemed to have a chemistry joke ready, often delivered with perfect timing and a spark in his eye. His humor made learning feel lighter and more human, reminding students and colleagues alike that curiosity and joy belong in the classroom just as much as rigor and discipline. He was endlessly patient with students, always available, always willing to explain something one more time, never making anyone feel small for asking questions. As a mentor, Bill led by example. He approached challenges with optimism and perspective, choosing to see possibilities where others might see obstacles. Conversations with him often ended with a sense of clarity and calm, as though he had quietly reframed the world into something more manageable and hopeful. His outlook on life was bright and generous, rooted in gratitude and a genuine love for what he did. Bill cared deeply about his college community. He wanted to contribute in positive ways, whether that meant supporting students, participating in events, or simply showing up with kindness and encouragement. He believed in people, and that belief had a way of staying with you long after the conversation ended. Outside of campus, Bill's devotion to his wife, Susan Jarvis, was evident and deeply touching. The warmth and respect they shared reflected the same values Bill carried into every part of his life. Knowing Bill and Susan during those years before their retirement was a true gift. They were not just colleagues or neighbors, but dear friends whose generosity of spirit left a lasting impression. Bill's legacy lives on in the countless students he helped, the colleagues he encouraged, and the friends who were lucky enough to know him. He reminded us that intellect and kindness belong together, that humor can be a bridge, and that a positive heart can change the tone of an entire room. He will be remembered with gratitude, affection, and a smile.



December 18 at 8:01 PM



Susan St John-Jarvis January 22 at 2:47 PM

Thank you so much for the tribute to Bill - your words capture his spirit and contributions.



Tribute Wall

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JJ

Janine Jarvis posted:

I have so many happy memories of "Uncle" Willie coming to visit — often for Christmas or the annual East Syracuse fireworks celebration in July. I remember him as an excellent storyteller; he had the best stories to share of growing up in East Syracuse with his brother Patrick and his cousin (my dad). Laughter and good conversation were a guarantee when he came to town. Of course, being a professor, there was always a mini chemistry lesson thrown into the mix too! Our entire family was thinking of him yesterday on Christmas. We watched his favorite movie, *It's a Wonderful Life*, in his honor. May he rest in peace.

December 26 at 7:54 AM

KB

Karen Biesanz posted:

Such a kind and enthusiastic man. I'm very sad for his family.

December 23 at 8:00 PM

SJ

Susan Jarvis shared 9 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

Love of life and spreading cheer even in retirement. Love Susan



December 18 at 8:01 PM

JJ

Joann Jarvis posted:

I loved all the times that we (Bob and I) used to meet up with Bill and Susan in Corning for meals at Jelly Bean's and Serges. I loved the stimulating conversations, and Bill (we always called him "Uncle Willie") always had a story, joke or a pun to share. He loved to laugh. A few favorite stories that comes to mind was how he demonstrated to his chemistry students certain concepts. For example, "dehydrate and hydrate." And, his story of using an employee application in order to get the attention of his students. He was a very caring and kind person and very focused when and introspective when listening to others. We will certainly miss him! Uncle Willie, may you Rest in Eternal Peace in God's love with your brother Patrick and your sister Janet and your parents. We will see you when we get there. JoAnn and Bob Jarvis

December 18 at 8:01 PM



Media

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Premier Funeral Services shared a Video.

January 19 at 12:17 PM





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William Francis Jarvis

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Susan St John-Jarvis shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

January 28 at 11:58 AM





Media

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Susan St John-Jarvis shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

January 28 at 11:55 AM



Susan St John-Jarvis January 30 at 5:16 PM

Gleeful Choir! (correction)



Media

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Susan Jarvis shared 9 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

December 20 at 9:37 AM



Susan St John-Jarvis January 28 at 10:20 AM

Thank you to Tom and Alison Kukla who visited in summer 2024, and our time taking Bill out walking and visited his favorite places - and with his awesome fraternity brother!



Media

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Susan St John-Jarvis January 28 at 10:21 AM

Bill always loved my visits but visit with Dan elevated him to the highest level.



Media

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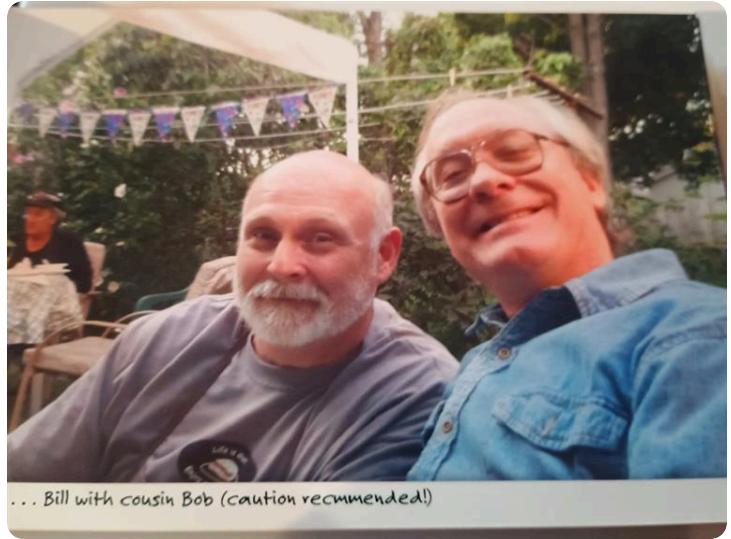
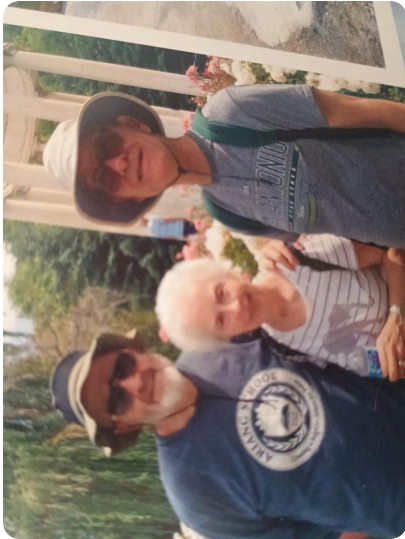




Media

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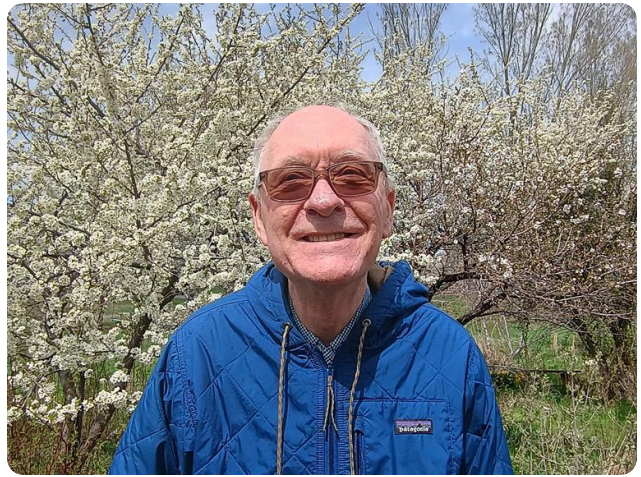




Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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