



## William Edward Kirk

May 7, 1933 - August 9, 2018

William Edward Kirk, MD passed away August 9, 2018 surrounded by his loving family. Born in 1933 to Cecil R. Kirk and Ruth Weindorf Kirk in Erie, PA he was the youngest of four children. He is preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Jim, John “Jack” and sister Mary Rita. William (known as Bill) received his undergraduate degree from Gannon College in Erie, PA and his medical degree at St. Louis University Medical School. Bill interned at St. Francis Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA. Following this internship he completed a two-year residency in Psychiatry at Warren State Hospital in Warren, PA. He then moved to Ann Arbor, MI where he completed a fellowship in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the University of Michigan. Upon completion of his Fellowship he became medical director at York Woods Psychiatric Center, where during his tenure he helped develop a Child Psychiatry Fellowship. He was also instrumental in making significant improvement to the mental health world by working with Child Guidance Clinics to help eliminate the isolation between city, county, and state organizations. His psychiatry career spanned five decades including hospital and private practice as well as teaching at the University of Michigan. His organizational membership work included serving as the President of the Michigan Psychiatric Society and being an active member of the American Psychiatric Association. Bill served in the Pennsylvania National Guard and the Army Reserve in Michigan. He was a compassionate and dedicated psychiatrist perpetually on a mission to make the world a better place through helping those in need find their paths to

healing. Bill was an avid Michigan football fan and a season ticket holder for years, always making sure to share this passion with his wife, children, and many friends. Football Saturdays he would be dressed from head to toe in maize and blue loudly playing the fight song in order to wake his family. He could frequently be heard proudly saying "Let's go Blue!" Bill was an incredible father, teacher, and role model to his children. He and his spirit for life and thirst for knowledge will be greatly missed by his family and friends. He was a devoted and loving husband to his soul mate, Jean Marie Vickey for over 60 years. They recently celebrated this love for each other surrounded by dear friends and family. Bill is survived by his loving wife Jean, son Douglas of Tokyo, Japan, daughters: Kathy and husband George Huesman and their four children, Ryan, Matthew, Ali and Michael of Loveland, OH, Cindy and husband Mark Carpenter and their daughter Abbey of Waukegan, IL, Karen and husband Jeff Newman and Jeff's sons Joseph and Patrick of Williamsport, PA, Jeanmarie and son Cody and daughter Julia of Ewing, NJ, Mary and husband Chris Clarke and sons Evan and Tyler of Carlsbad, CA, Susan and husband Stephen Rosales and sons William and Joseph of Saline, MI, Kristen and husband Fletcher Flower and sons, Jack and Fletcher of Montrose, CO, Michelle and her fiancé Randy Miller of Yardley, PA, and Sharon and husband Mark Zeller of Faribault, MN. A Mass of the Christian Burial will be held on Wednesday, August 15, 2018 at 2:00 P.M., at St. Andrew Catholic Church in Saline, with a visitation starting at 1:00 P.M. Family will receive friends on Tuesday, August 14, 2018 at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline from 3:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. with a prayer service from 6:00 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to the Alzheimer's Association, [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) or the Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County, [www.csswashtenaw.org](http://www.csswashtenaw.org). Envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Additionally, a mass and celebration of life will be held on Saturday, August 18, at 12:00 P.M. at St. Francis Catholic Church in McKean, PA. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) or Catholic Social Services of

Washtenaw County [www.csswashtenaw.org](http://www.csswashtenaw.org).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **14**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
301 E Michigan Ave  
Saline, MI 48176  
(734) 429-9760  
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com  
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

## Visitation

AUG **15**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church  
910 Austin Drive  
Saline, MI 48176  
<https://standrewsaline.org/>

## Mass of the Christian Burial

AUG **15**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church  
910 Austin Drive  
Saline, MI 48176  
<https://standrewsaline.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *William Edward Kirk*

October 23, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ *Dear family of Dr Kirk,  
I know it's been over a year since he passed,  
but I am just finding out and I wanted to reach  
out to you and let you know how much he  
meant to me. Dr Kirk was the first doctor I met  
when I started working in the Behavioral Science Center at the  
Robert Packer Hospital way back in 2000. He made a point of  
coming up to me and introducing himself, which was refreshing  
compared to so many other doctors I worked with for years that  
didn't even know my name. He was always smiling, always kind and  
such a wonderful listener. One time I recall he had asked to see me  
in his office. He had done that before to speak about a patient, or  
tell each other a joke, so I was not surprised when he called on me.  
This particular time he asked me to sit and shut his door. He asked  
me how I was doing, when I answered just fine he looked right in my  
eyes and said, no how are you really doing? He knew I was  
struggling (my sister had been in a major motor vehicle accident  
and had just been moved to a nursing home for her long term care)  
he sat and talked with me for about a half hour that day. We talked  
about everything from the weather to how my Mom and Dad were  
handling my sisters accident and how I was dealing with everything  
and how my young children were as well. I will never forget how  
much that meant to me. He was such a wonderful man. I'm sure he  
is greatly missed by all. Please accept my deepest condolences.  
God bless you all.*



**Cindy Phillips-Stansfield** - March 09, 2020 at 11:20 AM

AT

“ Dear Kirk Family: Kris recently reached out to me over Facebook. I was very happy to reconnect with your family. I saw this posting on her page. The Thorburns are very sorry for your loss and send our deepest sympathy. Our families share many happy childhood memories, both at your house and traveling to psychiatric conferences in Traverse City and Toronto. My brothers and I often talk about those memories and laugh. I know that our fathers were not only friends but trusted colleagues and shared a love of children and their profession. Our sincerest condolences on the death of your husband, father and grandfather.

*Donna and Al Thorburn,  
Alison, and her husband Larry Michalak  
Ian and Debbie Thorburn  
and Adam*

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**Alison Thorburn** - May 06, 2019 at 09:55 AM

NW

“ Dear Jean,  
Lindsay and I are very sorry to hear of the passing of your dear husband, Bill.  
I remember him as a very kind and caring man and doctor. I had the privilege of working with "Dr. Kirk" at the Divine Providence Hospital and I have many pleasant memories of working together and enjoying social times with the both of you.  
May God Grant you and your family peace and comfort you all with love and special memories.  
With deepest sympathy, love and prayers,  
Norma and Lindsay Wood

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**Norma Wood** - August 19, 2018 at 02:19 PM

GB

“ Dear Jean, Karen, Sharon, and all Kirk family members,

*Bernadette, Madeleine and I wish we could be with you today.*

*Thank you all for wonderful memories: choir picnics at your home, Christmas caroling, and so much else!*

*As a professional and as a friend, Bill Kirk was a godsend in our lives as he was in the lives of many. We will miss him! And we miss you, Please come to Williamsport when you can and be sure to let us know.*

*With love, Gary, Bernadette and Madeleine Boerckel*

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**Gary Boerckel** - August 15, 2018 at 09:30 AM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of William Edward Kirk.*

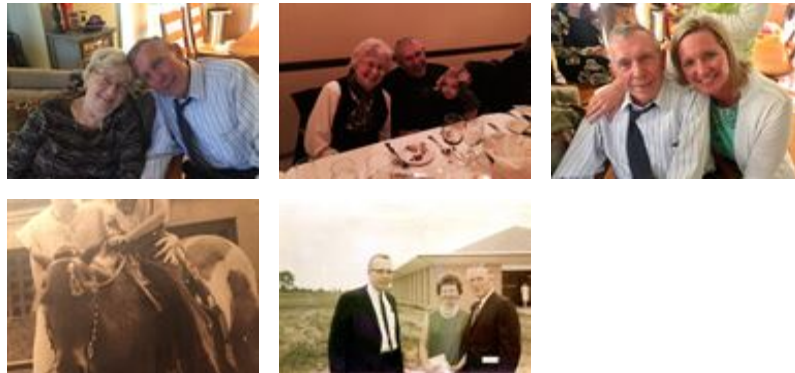


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August 14, 2018 at 06:27 PM



“ 41 files added to the album Life Tributes



**Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - August 14, 2018 at 02:17 PM

SF

“ Mark and I are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this very hard time. May God grant you all His peace and comfort you with love and memories. Our deepest sympathies and prayers. Love, Sue and Mark

**Sue Foster** - August 14, 2018 at 11:48 AM

CL

“ Dr. Kirk was my husband's psychiatrist long ago. He was caring and kind, as well as a complete professional. Dr. Kirk helped my husband through a very troubled time in his life and I am convinced that we are still married today because of Dr. Kirk's work. I am sorry to hear of his passing and will always be grateful that he chose to help others as his life's work.

**Claudia** - August 14, 2018 at 11:30 AM

DP

“ Mrs Kirk and Family,  
I want to send my prayers to you ,and let you know how much your husband helped me through my ordeal when I was in Divine Providence Hospital Mental Health,he helped me so much and for that I am eternally grateful ,He was the most caring ,compassionate Dr. I have ever met and a Heart for That Kind Of Job !! I just wanted to let you know what me and lots of others Felt about such an Awesome Man !!  
May God Be With You All !!!

Donna Potrzebowski - August 14, 2018 at 08:26 AM



Darlene Winger

I am probably echoing so many others. My stay at Divine Providence Hospital Inpatient was scary and foreign. Dr Kirk was so kind, helpful and complimentary, asking me "What are YOU doing here?". I needed him to set me on a better path. When he left Susquehanna Health I was sad. I never found another psychiatrist that was like him. I am so sorry for your loss.

Darlene Winger - August 14, 2018 at 12:14 PM

RC

Dear Michelle, Mrs Kirk and Family,

We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts & prayers are with you. Hold on to the wonderful memories. You were blessed to have him in your lives - Colacot Family (Reena)

Reena Colacot - August 15, 2018 at 05:58 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of William Edward Kirk.



August 13, 2018 at 10:49 PM

K6

“ *Knights of Columbus Council 6674 purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of William Edward Kirk.*



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**Knights of Columbus Council 6674** - August 13, 2018 at 05:12 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Edward Kirk.*



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August 13, 2018 at 10:33 AM



“ *Pink Potpourri Bouquet was purchased for the family of William Edward Kirk.*



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August 13, 2018 at 10:15 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Edward Kirk.*



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August 13, 2018 at 08:11 AM

SB

“ Our sincere sympathy to your entire family, on the loss of such a wonderful man. It was Frank’s and my privilege to have been able to spend many hours with Bill and Jean on our mutual trips to California, playing cards, or just plain visiting. We have wonderful cherished memories. Our thoughts are with you all, at this time.

*Frank and Sandy Beveridge*

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**Sandy Beveridgd** - August 13, 2018 at 05:09 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William Edward Kirk.



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August 13, 2018 at 01:27 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William Edward Kirk.



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August 12, 2018 at 09:44 PM

KA

“ My sincere condolences to you all. I have heard nothing but wonderful stories of your dad and his love story with your mom. May God carry you all in getting thru this difficult time.

*Kristin Ayler*

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**Kristin Ayler** - August 12, 2018 at 05:18 PM

SR

“ *Fond memories over the last 6 months*



Susan Kirk Rosales - August 12, 2018 at 01:50 PM



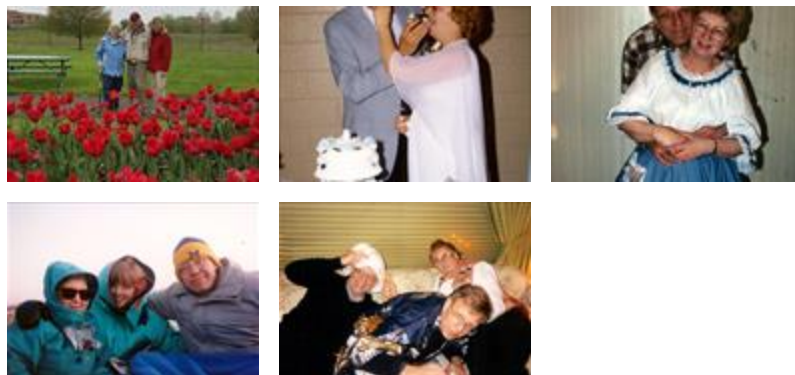
“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of William Edward Kirk.*



August 12, 2018 at 11:56 AM

KK

“ *16 files added to the album Bill & Family Over the Years*



Karen Kirk - August 11, 2018 at 07:13 AM

KK

“ 1 file added to the album *Bill & Family Over the Years*



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**Karen Kirk-Newman** - August 10, 2018 at 04:30 PM