



## BG (Ret.) William P. Cody, Sr.

June 22, 1932 - November 21, 2013

Brigadier General (Ret.) William Paul Cody, Sr. 81, of Dewitt, passed away Thursday at home. Born in Syracuse, he graduated from East Syracuse High School where he was an Onondaga County football and track champion. He graduated from Bucknell University with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1955. He played on their undefeated football and track teams and was a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. He began his military career US Army in 1955 as Second Lieutenant of Infantry. A year later he was reassigned as Rifle Platoon Leader with the 11th Airborne Division in Germany and later promoted to First Lieutenant. While in Europe, he played football and earned 1st team as half back. He was also an assistant boxing coach for the division. Upon release from active duty, he was transferred to the New York Army National Guard with assignment to the 174th Armored Infantry Battalion, 27th Armored Division. Here, he worked his way up to the rank of Colonel and then was transferred to the state headquarters staff, assuming the duties of Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff to the Governor. While with the Department of Military Affairs, he was Director of Training and Intelligence, Chief of Staff for the New York Army National Guard and the Division of Military and Naval Affairs. He was also the Superintendent of the Empire State Military Academy, a Federal Brigadier General. Bill's long military career culminated in his role as the Adjutant General for the New York State Army National Guard. In later years, he was self-employed as an independent manufacturer's representative. He was active as a member of Dewitt Rotary and the Knights of Columbus. He also volunteered for organizations such as the Veteran's Administration in Syracuse, Holy Cross Church in Dewitt, and a cook for Unity Kitchen.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, the former Anne Marie Robidoux; one daughter, Kelly (Craig) Richardson of Derry, NH; three sons, Bill (Mary Anne) of Camillus, NY, Michael of Syracuse, NY, Patrick of Rochester, NY, and Karen West Cody of Rochester, NY; one sister, Beverly Bertolo of Mattydale, NY; ten grandchildren, Will and Ned Cody, Michael Cody, Jr., Shane, Travis, Dylan and Kayla Cody, Coleman Concannon, Hunter and Zachary Richardson, and many nieces and nephews. Bill's final days were eased by the visits and kindness of many including dear friends Gary and Kathy MacLachlan.

Calling hours will be Monday at Holy Cross Church, 4112 East Genesee Street, in Dewitt from 5 to 7 p.m. A Mass of Christian burial at 10 am, Tuesday at Holy Cross Church. Burial with military honors at St. Mary's Cemetery in Dewitt.

Contributions in lieu of flowers to Holy Cross Church. Arrangements by B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee St., Camillus. Please sign the guestbook at [www.BLBUSH.com](http://www.BLBUSH.com)

# Comments

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“ Dear Ann, I got the word of "Uncle" Bill's paasing only a few days ago when Randy Beeman told me. Uncle Bill had represented my company in New York state, but above all he was a role model in terms of disciplin, integrity and commitment. i have great memories of our times together at numerous sales calls, trade shows and out trip to Switzerland. I will never forget the dinner at your house when you cooked a mexican dish and - which I never saw before - uncle Bill had a beer from a Mason jar. I'll miss him and i still have the photograph of him in uniform and you beside him on my desk at home. He was ready when duty was calling and now he had one more call to answer. God give him peace and bless you and your family. Yours respectfully, Andi and family from Germany.

**Andi Maerz** - March 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Bill, Mary Anne, Will and Ned, We're very sorry to hear about your loss and are keeping you all in our thoughts. May God give you comfort and strength at this difficult time.

**Ed and Carri Prue** - December 04, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Mrs.Cody, Bill, Mike,Pat and Kelly we are saddened by your loss. You are all in our prayers. May our Heavenly Father and His Holy Spirit cover you all with a warm, thick blanket of His grace, mercy, comfort, assurance and peace at this time. We love you all!

**Marc and Kelly Richardson** - November 27, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ BG (Ret.) William Paul Cody served his country and state with distinction. We are grateful for his service and leadership. Our thoughts and prayers are with your family. Very Respectfully.

**27th Division Association National Office** - November 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Bill, Mary Anne, Will and Ned, We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this difficult time. Jane, Tim, Hannah and Nash Scanlon

Jane Bush-Scanlon - November 26, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Bill and Mary Anne, You are in our thoughts and Prayers.

Kate & Ken Ackerman - November 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Ann and family, from your former neighbor gone West. My condolences and sympathies. Bill and you were wonderful neighbors for the short time I lived on Revere Road. Peace and Prayers - Mary

Mary Himlin - November 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ I just heard about Bill passing away. He always kept in contact with me with his latest and greatest. I am sure he will be as persistent with the Lord in getting his way. My Prayers are with you, Tom

Tom Witkowski - November 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Please accept the sympathy of Le Moyne College on the occasion of the death of your father in law. Be assured of our prayers for him, for you and for your family.

Le Moyne College Alumni - November 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ His fellow soldiers and airmen of the New York Army and Air National Guard mourn the death of BG William Cody, USA Ret. He led the 27th Infantry Brigade, a decorated and very widespread unit whose home station armories are located throughout upstate New York.

Pete Fairchild - November 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Mrs. Cody and Family, Please accept our sympathies for your loss. My grandfather, my father, and I all had the honor of doing business with Bill. He was a magnificent man, and so helpful to our business success. We will miss him greatly. You all will be in our prayers. Regards, Brian Peters Ronald Peters

**Brian Peters** - November 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Bill, Mary Anne, Will and Ned, Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. May you find comfort and peace in the fond memories of your father and grandfather. Barbara, Doug and Sophie Cooper

**Barbara Cooper** - November 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ My prayers are with you all in your time of need. i will forever miss my most favorite Uncle Bill. He was such a special man with such a sense of humor.. May he rest in peace

**Mary Kate & Gonzalo Villacres** - November 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Mrs.Cody, Bill, Mike,Pat and Kelly, I am so sorry for your loss. Many years have passed since we have been neighbors, but the fond memories of knowing Dad has never faded. He was a great family man and father. I remember as kids, we used to wait till he came home from work to unload his trailer and make forts out of the empty cardboard boxes he brought home for the neighborhood kids to play with. My prayers and best got out to all of you and your families. Sincerly, Jay Gerber

**Jay Gerber** - November 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Gen Cody was a great friend and Commander of the 27th BDE. It is with deep sorrow that I hear of his passing. I looked forward to seeing him each month at our breakfasts with the retired soldiers from the BDE. Bill will be missed and thought of often. I wish to extend my feelings to his family.

**Michael Ratkoski** - November 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ To dear Mrs Cody and the entire clan, I extend my deepest condolences. As painfully shy as I was as a kid growing up 3 houses away, Mr. Cody would always tease, whistle, or happily shout his greetings, refusing to let me go unnoticed. He made me feel special~ a great gift. He would greet each neighborhood child by name, and always with genuine enthusiasm and interest. Together with his wife, they were cornerstones of the neighborhood, coloring and enriching our memories. Such a special family, and a great and generous man.

**Lauren Wallace (Daly)** - November 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ My sympathy goes out to the entire Cody family. I knew Bill for many years. He was always good to me.

**Geoffrey Keppler** - November 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ Bill, Mary Anne, Will and Ned, Our deepest sympathies go out to you all during this sad time. We are here if you need us. Much love. The Palumbos

**Kate and Jim Palumbo** - November 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

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“ The Officers and Members of the Mattydale Fire Department and Ladies Auxiliary join in extending Heartfelt Sympathy to you and your family at this Time of Sorrow.

**Mattydale Fire Department** - November 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM