



Billy G. Vaticalos

JAN 30, 1938 - MAR 12, 2021



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Rader
FUNERAL HOMES
OF LONGVIEW AND HENDERSON

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Billy G. Vaticalos

JAN 30, 1938 - MAR 12, 2021

Billy George Vaticalos

Billy George Vaticalos, a beloved friend to many, passed away March 12, 2021, after a brief battle with cancer. A lifelong East Texan, Billy was born in Kilgore on January 30, 1938, minutes ahead of his twin brother, Robert (Bobby), and on the birthday of the then President, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Billy's father sent a telegram to President Roosevelt, announcing the birth of his two boys, and wishing the President a happy birthday. President Roosevelt responded in kind, sending Billy and his brother a birthday wish from the White House via return telegram.

Billy grew up in both Kilgore and Longview, attending school in both towns, before finally settling in Longview in the early 70s. For the past fifty years he has been one of Longview's most sought-after hairstylists. His clientele ran the gambit from the most prominent families of East Texas, to Longview's newcomers. The vast majority of Billy's clients became friends who he treated as family, hosting them for dinners, baking them cakes for their birthdays, or sitting by their bedside in times of need.

Billy was raised in St Paul's Episcopal Church in Kilgore as well as Trinity Episcopal Church in Longview, the latter in which he became most active with his domestic partner, Cleburne McAllister. Billy and Cleburne met in the late 1970's and were together for the rest of Billy's life.

In addition to forming life long friendships, Billy's other passions including baking, antique cars, and traveling. As he learned the art of baking from his mother and his aunt, Billy's guests were always drawn into his kitchen by the aroma of freshly baked cakes, pies, and other homemade treats. He was also an antique car enthusiast, especially Packards and Cadillacs, of which he owned several during his lifetime! Members of the National Packard Car Club and The Classic Car Club of America, and a founding member of the Ark-La-Tex Packards Club, he and Cleburne attended classic car conventions and meetings throughout the country, entering their cars in competitions, and winning many awards.



Obituary

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One of the things that will keep Billy in the memories of many, is the movie "BERNIE" In 2012, Billy made his Hollywood debut, being interviewed and recounting with affection his friendship with Marjorie Nugent who in reality was a lady of quality, who died tragically.

Billy is preceded in death by his parents, Opal Lee Vaughn Vaticalos and George Vasil Vaticalos, sister Elaine Vaticalos Mayo Frederick, aunt Gertrude Marshall, uncle and aunt Tony and Nora Lee Vaticalos, and cousin Billy Wayne Vaticalos.

Billy is survived by his loving partner, Cleburne McAllister, and devoted brother, Robert Vaticalos and Robert's domestic partner, Donald Schuster. He is further survived by his nephew George Mayo and his children, Brittney Ondreas, Vanessa Ondreas, and Lauren Rivera, and his niece Stephanie Hearne and her husband, Douglass Hearne, Jr. and their children, Baillie Milliken and Dodson Hearne, and cousins Helen Jane Hawkins, Mary Ann Vaticalos, Tony Vaticalos, Angela Vaticalos, and their families.

The family wishes to most graciously thank Billy's many friends for their loving care and devoted dedication during this time of need. A celebration of Billy's life will be held at a future date. Please check Rader Funeral Home, Longview, TX for further details.



Events


Billy G. Vaticalos

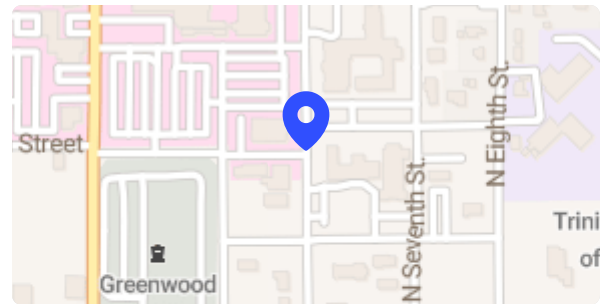
JAN 30, 1938 - MAR 12, 2021

Family Directed Memorial Service

 **Saturday**, April 10, 2021

 1:00 PM CT

 **Trinity Episcopal Church**
6th and Padon, Longview TX





Tribute Wall

Billy G. Vaticalos

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Kathryn A. Kaplan posted:

Dear Cleburne, Bobby, Don, and all those who knew and loved Billy so much – The service to honor Billy was so beautiful and perfect. While Billy is no longer with us, his spirit and memory are alive with all of those who came to honor him. It was indeed an honor to attend his memorial. The ladies of my family and Billy were dear friends. We've reminisced about the many years he took care of us. And, that doesn't just mean that we had the privilege to sit in his chair at the salon. Oh, did we enjoy his cooking skills tremendously. Just a year ago, Billy helped my mom feed college students from the Valparaiso Choir who were in town for a concert. Billy made two large Dutch ovens of chicken spaghetti. There was none left! Most of those students had never had chicken spaghetti and were quite complementary of this new delicacy they enjoyed. But as was said at his memorial, Billy had a very big heart. My mother just did not miss a hair appointment. Woe be unto anyone that scheduled anything on beauty shop day. That day was sacred. Mom did miss a few of those days this past year due to some pesky health issues. But Billy always came to the rescue. He and Cleburne always took extraordinary care of Mom; just as he would when the grand girls were in town for the holidays. Billy would always find the time for the youngest generation to have a turn in his chair. We consider Billy a member of our family. On behalf of the late Pauline Cargill; Paula and Charles Kaplan, the Kaplan girls – Kathy, Julie, Melanie, Carrie and Kari; the next generation of girls – Hannah, Pauline, Emma, and Julia and yes all of the guys too, we extend our condolences to Billy's family. Billy was a constant in our world for 50+ years. He will not be forgotten. Godspeed Billy. Kathryn Kaplan

April 14 at 4:44 PM



Marceil Lively May 20 at 7:10 AM

On behalf of my mother, the late Margene Lively



Marceil Lively May 20 at 7:07 AM

On behalf of the Light, Margie, Lively and myself her daughter Marceil, I am here to express my love and gratitude for Billy for all he did for my mother and the 40 or 50 years that they knew each other. Billy wasn't just her stylist but he was her friend, and I loved him for that. I also find memories of me coming up there and ask him showing him pictures of Marie Osmond and Saying "I want my hair to look like that! Billy, can you please make my hair look like that "Also I love seeing Billy's cars! God bless you and your family, Billy and Cleburne



Anonymous sent a Beautiful Dreams to the Vaticalos family.



April 12 at 7:02 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the Vaticalos family.



April 9 at 4:35 PM



Donna Brantley posted:

I will miss Billy he made work fun and his ladies just loved him so much. He was a joy to be around. Miss him so much

April 6 at 4:19 PM



Αγγελικη Γιαννουλακου shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

DEARBELOVED BILLGOD BLESS US ALL AND HE GAVE US THE OPORTUNITY TO MEET YOU AGAIN IN GREECE LAST JANUARY AFTER MANY MANY YEARS WE HAD SUCH A LOVELY TIME AND WE WILL NEVER FORGET THE MOMENTS WE SPENT WITH YOU WE MISS SO MUCH WE ALL ARE CRUSHED !!!WE LOVE YOU WHEREVER YOU ARE AS LONG AS WE LIVE WE WILL MISS YOU BILLYGOD BLESS YOU YOUR FAMILY FROM GREECE- FATHER VARLAAM VATICALOS- JOHN YIANNOULAKOS- HELEN YIANNOULAKOS - VATICALOS-PEGGY YIANNOULAKOS-ILIAS YIANNOULAKOS-ANGELIKI YIANNOULAKOS



April 4 at 1:43 PM



???E???? G?A????A??? shared an album called **HELLAS**.



April 4 at 1:21 PM



Anonymous sent a Beautiful in Blue to the Vaticalos family.



April 1 at 8:43 AM



Tribute Wall

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RA

Rick Acker posted:

Just learned of Billy's passing and am so sorry to hear it. I held Billy in high regard. He was a really good man. Rick Acker Tyler, Texas

March 27 at 1:09 PM

KE

Kay Evans lit a candle in honor of Billy.

Billy was a family friend for many many years. I will always remember Billy's laughter and quick wit. He and all of his family will always hold a special place in my heart. Prayers and love to all of his family. Sincerely, Kay McKnight Evans



March 22 at 5:55 AM

JG

Jackie Richards Glover lit a candle in honor of Billy.

March 20 at 3:16 PM



JG

Jackie Richards Glover March 20 at 3:19 PM

Many memories of St. Paul's Kilgore of which the two Vaticalos families were a part.

BL

Brenda Liverman posted:

Billi, oh Billy...such a grand time you had! You brought so much love, laughter to all of us. Your many talents too! Life was better because of you. We have a life time of memories to cherish! Love you!

March 20 at 6:13 AM



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CE

Claire Roberts English posted:

Billy was one of my favorite classmates when we were going through schools in Longview! He was always so positive and entertaining to be around. I know that so many people will miss his laughter and sense of humor. The world needs more guys like him! His kindness to everyone was another one of his wonderful traits. I will personally miss visiting with him. Claire Roberts English

March 18 at 6:01 AM

NR

Natalie Rabicoff March 20 at 8:10 AM

Time flies past me and when I finally sat down to read 2-3 old papersI was " heart broken" to see East Texas loss Billy. I grew up in Houston , but my husband, Mendy, was a Native of Kilgore. Billy knew my late Mother in Law , Sarah Rabicoff, and I think he did her hair. I met him once Mendy and I moved from Ft . Worth to purchase the family business, Sobol Welder Supply, from my Mother in Law. What a Happy gentleman he was and a joy to be in conversation / company with. He was wonderful in the movie made in Carthage and I loved to refer to him as our Movie Star friend which made him smile. So sorry to lose another friend who spread joy and happiness in our community. May God Bless his loved ones with comfort in the happiness of times spent together in the past. RIP sweet Billy!!! You will always be missed. 😊❤️❤️❤️❤️ Natalie Rabicoff

KC

Katie Coghlan March 18 at 10:11 AM

Billy was a friend of my mom. She always would speak of him with a smile. I met him a few times, I loved his energy and stories. East Texas has lost a bright, funny, kind and much loved person. He was as a spark! May Jesus bless all that mourn his loss and give them peace and love..... as Billy would want

KC

Katie Coghlan March 18 at 10:03 AM

Billy was a long time friend of my mom. She always,with a smile, spoke fondly of him. I had met him, but unfortunately never was able to know him well. To me, Billy had a full, happy and glamorous life. He added joy to his friends. East Texas lost one of "The Greats", in my book. May Jesus bless all that mourn the loss of Billy and give them peace and love..... as Billy would want them to have. Katie Coghlan

TF

Tracy Fenner posted:

My aunt, Carol Simmons Elder, adored Billy. They shared a sharp sense of humor, creativity, and lots of laughter. I am sure she is glad to see her dear friend, although we are all mourning our loss. God bless all who love him.

March 17 at 10:40 AM



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PT

Phyllis Taunton posted:

My late husband and I were friends with Billy for 20 years, enjoying numerous fun times together. We had a mutual interest in antique cars and participated in many car tours together, one of the favorites was a week-long trip to Detroit, Michigan where we attended the National Packard meet. The Texas Packard Meet in Salado was also a "must attend" event that holds a special place in my memories of Billy. I shall miss him.

March 17 at 10:15 AM

RF

Richanna Finney posted:

Billy and my mom Janie Finney were the best of friends long before I was born she died a while back so I believe he is up in heaven doing her hair and laughing together again... Richanna Finney

March 17 at 9:33 AM

BH

Betty Hunt posted:

know Billy for over 40 years. We always celebrated his birthday in a big way. I will miss him and his smile. Betty

March 17 at 4:40 AM

PC

Pat Chreene posted:

Billy was a great friend of mine when I lived in Longview. He was my hairdresser until I moved and helped me redecorate a house. He made the hard work we did, allot of fun. It's been several years since I saw him but always considered him a great friend! He will be missed by all that knew him! RIP Billy!

March 16 at 5:40 PM

CF

Camille Franklin posted:

Love Billy's infectious fun, sweet hugs and his dedication to helping and checking on others! Love his cool cars. He will be missed terribly. ❤️

March 15 at 3:42 PM



Media

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Αγγελικη Γιαννουλακου shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

April 4 at 1:43 PM



WE MISS YOU BILL A LOT



Media

Billy G. Vaticalos

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???E???? G?A?????A??? shared a photo to the **HELLAS** album.

April 4 at 1:21 PM



GOD BLESS YOU DEAREST BILL. J.YIANNOULAKOS FAMILY AND FATHER VARLAAM BATICALOS



Memories only last if you share them

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



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