



## Mr. William A. O'Connor

June 23, 1930 - July 14, 2020

William A. O'Connor, 90 of Croswell, peacefully entered eternal life of July 14, 2020 surrounded by his family. He was born June 23, 1930 to the late J. Leo and Grace O'Connor.

Bill was a graduate of Croswell Lexington High School, class of 1949. He later joined the United States Air Force where he served for 4 years. Bill then returned to his hometown of Croswell after the Air Force. There he delivered Pyrofax fuel for Cecil Maxfield and sold Ford Tractors for H.H. Brown. While working for Mr. Brown, Bill sold the first snowmobile in Croswell, Michigan. In the early 60's he partnered and purchased the Croswell Stockyards, later being the sole owner. He was the proud owner of the Croswell Stockyards and Flea Market for nearly 30 years. While raising a young family, Bill always had his boys working hard, whether it be cleaning pens at the yards or baling hay on hot summer days.

Bill retired from the Stockyards in 1992, but his legacy continues as son Jim and family continue with the business. After retirement He never stopped. He did Missionary work in Hephzibah Children's Home in Macon, Georgia. He traveled there three times and helped build their first home. Bill also built countless desks, sheds, prominent white fences in the Croswell area, remodeled homes, built furniture, and even sold cars and furniture in his late years. He was always tinkering in his garage and loved word working. Bill and Ellie traveled many years in the fall and became part of the "Myrtle Beach Gang." He spent his last 15 winters in Florida with his sister Clara.

Bill served as Chairman of the Board at the Sanilac County Medical Care Facility for over 20 years. There he made lifelong friends. His primary goal was to guide the staff and lead the building to be the premier facility in Sanilac County.

IN 1981, Bill gave his life to Christ and later became a member of Croswell Wesleyan Church. There he was a Board member for many years, later receiving the Lifetime Trustee Award, for his years of service and dedication. Because of his strong faith, Bill knew he was going to Heaven when he left us on earth. The last five days, while receiving Hospice Care, were truly a celebration of his life. His faith was stronger than ever, he was never afraid, and he was telling jokes until his last day.

Bill will always be remembered for his gift of caring, his endless jokes, his love for Jesus, and his never ending love for his family.

Bill is survived by his loving wife Eleanor of 64 years, children Stephen (Linda) Hosterman, Randy (Catherine) O'Connor, James O'Connor, Donald O'Connor, Deborah (Randy) Swecker, and Sarah (Fred) Kading. Also survived by 21 grandchildren, 33 great-grandchildren, and 3 great-great grandchildren. He is also survived by siblings Edward (Beverly) O'Connor, Carolyn Koch, Clara (John) Will, Marion (Gerald) Hitchcock, and Wayne (Becky) O'Connor.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents J.Leo and Grace O'Connor, son Jerry L. Hosterman, grandson Michael R. Schmidt, and siblings Beatrice Norman, Marjorie Looney, Robert O'Connor, George O'Connor, Catherine Ireland, and Tommy O'Connor.

In Honor of Bill's life, there will be an outdoor celebration at son Jim's place at 3725 Old 51 in Croswell held on August 16, 2020 @ 4pm with dinner following.

In Lieu of flowers, any memorial donation can be made to Sanilac Medical Care Facility.

The Family would like to thank the following for making Bill's transition into Heaven unforgettable. Dr. Thomas Mullally and staff, Lake Huron Medical Center, Beacon Home Care, Tri-Hospital EMS, Blue Water Hospice, and

Jowett Funeral Home.

To view the obituary and share memories, please visit [www.jowettfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.jowettfuneraldirectors.com)

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

AUG 16. 4:00 PM (ET)

Jim O'Connor  
3725 Old 51  
Croswell, MI

# Tribute Wall



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Mr. William A. O'Connor.* ”



August 13, 2020 at 10:46 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. William A. O'Connor.* ”



August 12, 2020 at 08:39 PM



“ *Prayers for comfort in your time of loss. Love Anita* ”

**Anita Wating** - August 06, 2020 at 07:19 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mr. William A. O'Connor.* ”



August 06, 2020 at 05:41 PM

LW

“ Many, too many years ago; Bill or his son, Donny, asked me to help them bale hay. So I Did!

*The work wasn't really memorable and I've sworn many times over "to-never-do-it-again"... Except For Others, That Needed Really~Inexpensive~Labor While Still A Teenager!!*

*What sticks in my memory is what happened immediately after Don and I were finished on the wagon!*

*We found the properties pond and promptly stripped before diving head-first to cool and wash away accumulated chaff, sweat and other assorted irritants.*

*It was a fantastic relief and break from the miserable task known as "haying"!!*

*Sure enough Bill and another adult; now faceless, stumbled upon our location; where Donny promptly mooned his father and the guy with him... I'm laughing to tears even now as I think about that moment and others similar to it; while part of the O'Connor Clans' reach and time in Croswell.*

*Bill and Ellie; You've lived a blessed life and there's a world-full of Children, Grand-Children and Great Grand Children to prove it!!*

*Until We Meet Again... Lance*

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**Lance Weyeneth** - August 06, 2020 at 04:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. William A. O'Connor.*



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August 06, 2020 at 02:14 PM

CC

“ Christina “O’Connor” Cooper lit a candle in memory of Mr. William A. O’Connor



Christina “O’Connor” Cooper - August 05, 2020 at 09:16 PM

KO

“ We will miss you uncle Bill,tell dad hello for me,Loveyou, Kenneth O’Connor

Kenneth O’Connor - July 25, 2020 at 11:21 AM

CF

“ Carolyn Fuchs lit a candle in memory of Mr. William A. O’Connor



Carolyn Fuchs - July 22, 2020 at 02:23 PM

BE

“ Ellie and Clara y’all are in our thoughts and prayers. Our winters in Florida will never be the same. Bill was like a brother to us. Bingo and card games will forever be remembered fondly. We love the entire family. Rest In Peace Bill.....Gregg & Terri Bauserman

Bauserman Theresa E - July 19, 2020 at 04:40 PM

RA

Sure fo miss those daily phone calls.  
Remember, it's the 's' in safe and the 'f' in way.

Randy - August 05, 2020 at 05:20 PM

RW

“ Regina Pruett Whitt lit a candle in memory of Mr. William A. O'Connor



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Regina Pruett Whitt - July 18, 2020 at 11:17 AM

RW

“ I love you guys. Even though I am 800 miles away my heart is with my family. I love you Uncle Bill. Please give Aunt Eleanor an hug and my love. I will be praying for yall. Ally love, Regina

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Regina Pruett Whitt - July 18, 2020 at 11:16 AM

LD

“ So Sorry to read about the loss of your husband,dad , grandpa, friend Cherish your memories He will always be in your Heart From the family of John Goodwin

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Lori Peters (John Goodwin daughter) - July 18, 2020 at 08:18 AM

GQ

“ Some of my best childhood memories are of hanging out at the Croswell Stockyards with my Grandfather, John Radford. A big part of that was also spending time around Bill. Although I was a skinny little city boy, he always treated me like one of the guys. I sincerely hope that spending time around men like Bill rubbed off on me, at least a bit. Hard working, no-nonsense, super sense of humour. It was great to have been able to visit with him at the last O'Connor Family Reunion. He will be missed by anyone that had the opportunity to know him. My sympathies to his family. God Bless!

Gary Quaine

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Gary Quaine - July 18, 2020 at 07:40 AM

ME

“ I’m so sorry for you guys lost. I’ll keep you and your family in my prayers.

melissa - July 17, 2020 at 02:34 PM

HM

“ Bill, has been my neighbor for many years. He always had time to have a nice visit, give assistance or advice if it was needed. I know he has been struggling in recent years with his health. Will miss his smile and our chats. My sincerest regards to all of his family and friends.

Harry Mageski - July 17, 2020 at 12:28 PM

DB

“ My fondest memories of my childhood were spending time at the stockyards with my dad, and stopping at Bill and Eleanors house with my dad...Bill always had a smile and would play a coin trick with me that still to this day I never mastered. Loved your whole family. I am sure it is helpful to you all that he loved the lord and knew he was heading to heaven. Debbie Radford Belling.

debbie radford belling - July 16, 2020 at 07:42 PM

DD

“ Desi Lynn Duncan lit a candle in memory of Mr. William A. O'Connor



Desi Lynn Duncan - July 16, 2020 at 06:57 PM

LP

“ *I'm so sorry guys. Uncle Bill was very special to me. Love you all.*

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**Linda Pruett** - July 16, 2020 at 06:15 PM

DR

“ *Proud to call Bill O'Connor my cousin (2nd cousin); one of the nicest guys you'd ever want to meet.*

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**Dianne Sue Radford** - July 16, 2020 at 05:17 PM