Gilbert J. McWane Sr.

June 23, 1946 - April 25, 2020

Gilbert Joseph McWane Sr.
(Mac McWane)

Gilbert Joseph McWane, Sr. (Mac) transitioned from this life on April 25, 2020 at Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington, Virginia. Mac was recovering from a stroke and passed away from complications caused by the novel COVID-19 pandemic. He was 73.

Mac was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on June 23, 1946 and was the fourth of four children born to Walter and Nancy Mae McWane. He spent his early years in Philadelphia before joining the Navy in October 1965. His loving wife of 40 years, Chieko Elizabeth McWane, preceded him in death on June 22, 2010. He was also predeceased by both of his parents, brother Walter Jr. and sister Annabelle. A brother, Odell McWane, of Fresno, California and son, Gilbert Jr. (Taneil) of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania survives him.

Mac and his family were long-time residents of West Springfield and Fairfax Station, Virginia, settling in the area in 1982. Prior to that, the family maintained homes in Hawaii, Alaska, Japan, Philadelphia, California and Virginia Beach.

Mr. McWane served twenty years in the U.S. Navy retiring in October 1985 as a Commissioned Warrant Officer in the Navy Supply Corps. His initial tour in the Navy was aboard an Ocean Minesweeper (MSO) operating in and around the coastal waters and harbors of Vietnam as part of that conflict during 1966-

1967. The sailors on these ships were referred to as the “Iron Men on Wooden Ships” because the ships were constructed of wood for mine countermeasure purposes. Subsequent tours included duty aboard diving and rescue ships, an aircraft carrier, overseas afloat staffs and various shore installations that included Adak, Alaska, east and west coast locations and deployments to Southeast Asia and the Mediterranean.

Mr. McWane earned an MBA from George Washington University and a BS in Management from the University of Maryland. After retiring from the Navy, he worked as a management consultant specializing in Navy Logistics for Advanced Technology Incorporated. In 1990 he started his first management consulting firm (MACI), providing logistics, information management, and management services in support of a number of federal government agencies across the nation and overseas. The company at its peak employed 400 full time personnel and was recognized by INC 500 as the 117th fastest growing small private company in America. In 2003, he started a second company, Compass Solutions Corporation and merged the two companies in 2005, supporting new government clients in addition to the agencies supported prior to the merger.

Mac is also survived by his grandchildren Marcel McWane (Monae), Kaliyah McWane, Kamiko McWane, and Davon Cross; great-granddaughter Makyla (Kai) McWane; great-grandson Malachi; niece Tifani McWane and her four children as well as a host of loving cousins, relatives, and friends.

Memorial and Inurnment with Military Honors will be held at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery where he will re-join his beloved wife, Chieko.

Cemetery Details

Arlington National Cemetery

1 Memorial Drive
Arlington, VA 22211

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall

Gilbert J. McWane Sr.

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM

TP

Mac and I had a shared history as we both retired from the USN and were/are members of the world's most exclusive fellowship: the Navy's Chief Petty Officer Mess.

Max hired me in 2015 to manage a Navy contract his company, Compass Solutions. For the next five years, we worked closely together providing our government customer with excellent service.

When he suffered a stroke in February 2020, I visited him several times, first in the hospital, later while he was reconvening in a rehabilitation facility. His courage and unwavering desire to regain full health was and always will be an inspiration.

You'll be long remembered shipmate, fair winds and following seas.

Tony Palm - August 24, 2022 at 10:58 AM

HE

Mac will be missed. Our condolences to the family. We attended to burial remotely.
Helena and Tony Goodlette

Helena - April 21, 2021 at 12:25 PM

AD

Mac was the most honest man I've ever known, and one of the most business savvy when dealing with Uncle Sam. I discovered Mac and his company through a friend near Mac's neck of the woods in Virginia. My friend made the introduction and Mac and I worked very professionaly together for almost a decade and a half. Never did we disagree with any animosity. We always found ways to not disagree as business professionals and laugh alot in the process.

I miss the friendhsip we had. I miss his laugh and the way he put things to always give people the benefit of the doubt, no animosity ever.

I shall look for you my dear friend on the other side when I am called home to the Lord;s Kindom in the sky. Rest in peace Mac McWane. I will never forget you.

Your Friend, Keith Dixon

A friend of Mac's, Keith Dixon - February 08, 2021 at 12:03 PM

JU

1 file added to the album Tribute wall

Julie - August 25, 2020 at 07:38 PM

OM

Goodbye little brother. Have fun on your new journey in the spirit world. And don't forget to stop by and talk from time to time. I love you. I miss you.

Odell

Odell Mcwane - June 14, 2020 at 03:29 PM

NF

Card from Natasha Edwards & Family💙

Natasha Edwards & Family - June 14, 2020 at 10:58 AM

SR

My deepest condolences. Mac was the sweetest man I've ever known. He and Richard were shipmates in the mid-70s; we visited Mac and Chieko whenever we passed through DC. Richard and Chieko were taken from us only a month apart. Afterwards, Mac and I became a two-person email grief group as we navigated the transition to our "new normal." Each time I visited Mac, our first priority was to visit Chieko and Richard in Section 59 at Arlington. I felt privileged to have Mac as a friend; my life is emptier without him in it. Mac is happily reunited with Chieko, but I will miss him. Fair winds and following seas, my friend -- Stella Reitz

Stella Reitz - May 31, 2020 at 02:11 PM

ME

My deepest condolences and prayers for the family. Mac gave me my first job when I retired from the Navy in 1992 which last for ten years with his company.
Michael H. C. Edwards

Michael H. C. Edwards - May 30, 2020 at 07:22 PM

VC

Sorry to hear of Gilbert's passing. We were childhood friends from South Philly. He was a very kind soul just as some of the memorials describes. I don't know any family members since its been awhile since I have seen Gilbert. However my condolences are being sent.

Valerie Carr - May 29, 2020 at 05:34 PM

SR

My condolences to the McWane family. I have know Mac through (Helena) a friend and he will be missed. Prayers and thoughts.

Savatri Ramsamooj

Savatri Ramsamooj - May 30, 2020 at 04:44 PM

JS

Thoughts and prayers to family and so many life-long friends. He left the world a better place, for sure.

Julie S. - May 29, 2020 at 03:25 PM

CG

I will deeply miss my cousin Gilbert. Lovingly known to many as Mac. A kind and gentle soul with a quiet strength that always lifted our family. I'm so thankful for his life and his love of family. He was our superhero. Always there for us. Never wanting the light on him but instead wanting us to shine. Thank you for your love encouragement and unwavering support. We got you cuz! We'll take it from here...Your legacy will continue and you'll forever live in our hearts❤️ Love you so much cousin. Rest in Paradise.

Cheryl

Cheryl Grant - May 29, 2020 at 12:56 PM

Valerie Driscoll

My thoughts and prayers are with the McWane family. Mac was such a lovely man that I met when I visited with my sister Helena. He and chieko will always be in my thoughts x Valerie O driscoll

Valerie Driscoll - May 29, 2020 at 06:30 AM

MP

My thoughts & prayers are with Mac's Family & friends during this difficult time. Mac was such a kind person. I was so blessed to know Mac.

Michele Parker - May 28, 2020 at 10:10 AM

HD

My thoughts and prayers go out to the McWane family. Mac was a major part of my life, and I will miss him every day.

Helena Dalton

Helena Dalton - May 28, 2020 at 09:26 AM