



John E. Wilson

March 30, 1927 - August 13, 2020

John was born on March 30th, 1927 in Keene, New Hampshire to John Benjamin Wilson and Evelyn Louise Wilson (formerly Evelyn Louise Kerr). He was the oldest of three children. He had two younger sisters, Marion Florence Wilson and Barbara Mae Wilson. He grew up in Keene and graduated from Keene High School in 1945. Because his Father's name was also John, he was always known to his parents and sisters as Ernest or Ern. He was drafted and entered service into the United States Navy in July of 1945, serving aboard the battleship USS Iowa as a Seaman, Second Class at the tail end of WWII. He was honorably discharged in July of 1946. He worked at his Dad's grocery store for a short time before and while attending Northeastern University where he earned a bachelor of science in business administration in June of 1952. He was also a member of the Alpha Kappa Sigma fraternity while there. He later enrolled into the University of Maryland at College Park and attended classes in 1954 and 1955, working toward a graduate degree in business administration, but left school before his thesis was completed to work for the National Security Agency at Ft. Meade, MD. He moved to Falls Church Virginia in 1955 where he made Northern Virginia his new home. In May 1963 he was married to Dolores A. Bulinsky who he had met at a dance in Washington D.C. several years earlier. They moved into a house in the Groveton area of Fairfax County and he resided there until his death. He worked at the NSA from 1956 until 1966. He left the Government and went into private business forming a partnership with several acquaintances,

purchasing and managing investment properties including several motels, trailer parks and a nursing home in the Northern Virginia area. He sold his share of the partnership in 1974 and started a mobile home sales and rental business which he ran into the early 80's when he retired. He later bought an Auto Body shop in Clinton, MD in 1982 which he ran until selling it in 1999 when he again retired, this time for good. One of his passions was dancing, especially ball room. He and Dolores were members of the Friday Nighters dance club and the Falls Church branch of the Elks lodge and routinely went dancing several times a week until he was in his late 80's. His other passion was restoring, collecting and showing antique and classic cars.

John started to develop Dementia in 2015 and soon after was forced to give up dancing and driving. In August of 2020 he was hospitalized with Pneumonia, a complication of the Dementia. He succumbed to it on the evening of August 13th while hospitalized at the Mt. Vernon hospital, age 93. John was always known for being a soft spoken and a kind hearted, easy going sort with an enormous sense of humor. Fortunately, even as the dementia progressed, his sense of humor never wavered.

John was survived by his wife of 57 years Dolores, his son David M. Wilson, daughter Linda Wilson Wong, grandchildren Colin N. Wong and Gillian A. Wong, Sister Marion Wilson Puetz and niece Debbie Puetz Miller. He was preceded in death by his youngest sister Barbara Wilson Morse in 2016.

Cemetery Details

Mt. Comfort Cemetery

6600 South Kings Highway
Alexandria, VA 22306

Tribute Wall



“ *John E. Wilson*

October 27, 2022 at 09:45 PM

DW

“Collecting and showing his classic cars was Dad’s true passion. Dad’s love for cars started when he was in high school. He often told us of his first car, a 1939 Plymouth four door that he had fixed up himself and had painted using a vacuum cleaner. He had driven to and from College in that car and to Florida during the summers off to pick fruit. He had thought so highly of the car that he bought another 1939 Plymouth, this time a 2 door convertible, in 1972. The car had a rumble seat in the back and my sister and I rode back there when he took the car to shows. I vividly remember one trip we took to Ocean City when I was about ten years old. Linda and I rode over the Bay Bridge while sitting in the rumble seat in the open air, without a seat belt and looking down over the railing of the bridge. It was both exhilarating and frightening at the same time. Dad’s first new car was a 1959 Plymouth Sport Fury convertible that he bought new on July 3rd of 1959. He and Mom had taken that car on their honeymoon to Daytona Beach in 1963. I would say that of all the cars Dad owned, the Sport Fury convertible was truly Dad’s favorite car. He hung on to that car and we still have it to this day. I have many fond memories of me and my sister going to car shows with my Dad in that car when we were little kids. Dad loved the car so much that he bought another 1959 Plymouth Sport Fury, this time a hardtop in Newport News in 1979. I can remember that he and I took a Trailways bus down to Newport News and the owner of the car picked us up at the bus station and took us to his house. Dad bought the car on the spot and drove us home in it. Dad also had a 1956 thunderbird that he bought from the original owner in the mid 1960’s. He and I restored the car, doing a complete “frame off” restoration at his auto body shop in 1987. I can remember that for a time when I was in elementary school, Dad had 13 cars and trucks which seemed amazing to my classmates. Dad’s love for cars drove him to buy an auto body shop in Clinton, Maryland in the early 1980’s as a sort of out of retirement hobby business. He never really made much money there, but it allowed him a place to work on and restore his classic and antique cars. He had run that business for nearly twenty years and sold it in 1999 to retire for good this time, so he could spend more time with his family.

David Wilson - August 29, 2020 at 11:58 AM

DW

“ My Dad did all the things you would think a good Dad should do. He taught me the importance of having a good work ethic, working hard and treating people fairly and decently. He taught me how to ride a bike, drive a car and shave and to use tools, do a brake job on the car and tie a neck tie. But, he also taught me the importance of having a healthy sense of humor. Perhaps that’s what I’ll remember most about my Dad. Dad had a wonderful sense of humor and was the perpetual jokester. He was always goofing around and cutting up. Mom wasn’t often amused, especially when we were out to eat at a restaurant and Dad was cutting up and carrying on. He loved gag gifts and always enjoyed dressing up in costumes or wearing goofy hats and glasses. One of Dad’s oldest friends who’s also now passed away, Howard Heller, often told the story of how Dad showed up to his wedding as best man, wearing a black tuxedo and bright red socks. That was Dad alright. Dad was also quite the dancer. He had started going to dances regularly in the 1950’s and had met my Mom at a dance in the early 1960’s. They started dating and were soon married. Dancing remained one of the constants in Dad’s life and he and Mom continued to go to dances weekly until about five years ago. They gave it up when Dad started forgetting dance steps. We now know this was the early signs of dementia. Labeling Dad as a dancer would be fitting, although more apt would be that he was a car guy. In later years, there was nothing Dad enjoyed more than washing and waxing his cars, except maybe eating ice cream. He even enjoyed washing and waxing his daily driver and would often wash and wax mine too, when he thought I wasn’t doing it frequently enough. Dad’s passion for Antique cars rubbed off on me and that allowed us to spend a great deal of time together. I have many memories of us going to car shows, automotive flea markets and junk yards all over the east coast and mid-west. Outside of my coworkers, I probably spent more time with my Dad than anyone else. I never really thought about it that much before, but he really became not only my buddy, but my best friend. I’d like to think he thought the same of me. Years ago, I had a co-worker who was astonished that I had such a close relationship to my Dad as he and his Dad had been at odds since he was a

teenager. We didn't always see eye to eye on everything, but we got along very well and were more alike than either one of us would have admitted. I'll forever miss my Dad as I feel like a big piece of me has died along with him. I know Dad knew I loved him, I just wish I had told him that more often. I'd like to remember Dad, driving his Sport Fury convertible to a car show with the top down, grinning ear to ear as he got a thumbs up or horn honk from passersby. Goodbye Dad, I love you and I'm going to miss you buddy!

David Wilson - August 29, 2020 at 11:56 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



David Wilson - August 18, 2020 at 07:27 AM

DW

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



David Wilson - August 18, 2020 at 07:01 AM

DM

“ To the Wilson & Wong families,
I'm sorry we can't be with you today, but our
thoughts and prayers will be. Love, Debbie,
Eric & Ashlyn Miller



Debbie Miller - August 17, 2020 at 01:08 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the
family of John E. Wilson.



August 17, 2020 at 05:31 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the
family of John E. Wilson.



August 17, 2020 at 12:04 AM

MG

“ I have many fun memories of the parties Uncle John and Aunt
Dolores used to host when I was a child. I remember swimming in
the pool and Uncle John cooking on the grill. I also remember how
he would make others laugh. I am so sorry for your loss. Know that
your family is in my prayers.

Love, Marianne Goodwin

Marianne Goodwin - August 16, 2020 at 11:54 PM

MP

“ My big brother Ernest was always easy going and funny and never let anything bother him. He was very laid back and just a great brother. He especially loved our dad and used to work at dad's small grocery store as he got older whenever he could to help out. There wasn't anything he wouldn't do for our dad. Ern was a hard-working, dependable man who was always there for his family. Our dad would have been proud of him and his grandchildren and it's a shame we lost him so early before he got to see everyone get further in their lives. It gives me peace to know that he is reunited with dad, mom, his sister, Barbara and her husband, Steve and my husband, Joe and son, John Wilson Puetz.

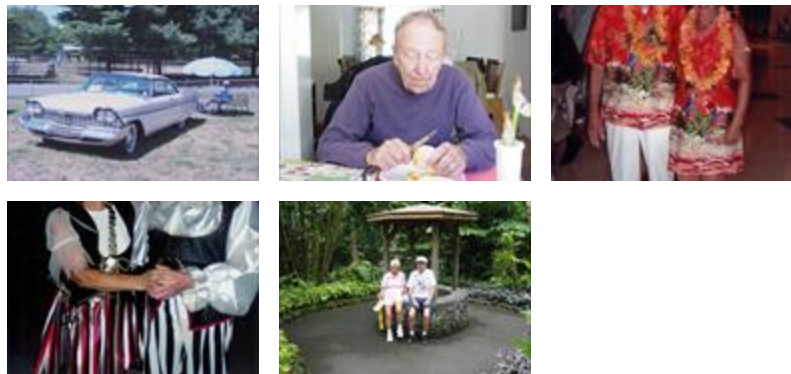
To my brother, I love you and you will be missed and to his family, I send my love and sincere condolences for your loss. Til I see you again...

All My Love, Marion Wilson Puetz

Marion Wilson Puetz - August 16, 2020 at 11:34 PM

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“ 47 files added to the album Memories Album



David Wilson - August 16, 2020 at 06:20 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Jefferson Funeral Chapel - August 15, 2020 at 05:15 PM