



## William Louis "Bill" Hilyerd

January 11, 1941 - September 28, 2018

William Louis "Bill" Hilyerd passed away September 28, 2018, at his home in Henderson, Kentucky. He was 77 years old.

Bill was born on January 11, 1941, in Louisville, Kentucky, to William George and Catherine Hess Hilyerd. He was a graduate of Butler High School and the United Electronics Institute. He joined the United States Army Reserves in 1965 and served until 1971, attaining the rank of Specialist 4th Class. While working as a cameraman for an educational television station in 1965, he saw Barbara Westerfield in a hallway at a school where the station was recoding a program. He and Barbara were married on August 12, 1967 and remained together until her death. They moved to Henderson in 1967 and raised one son. Bill worked as an engineer for WEHT from 1967 until 1977, then moved to WNIN for two years. He left WNIN to work for the Owensboro cable company for several years before returning to WNIN. In 1986, he moved to WEVV where he worked for over twenty years until his retirement. After the death of his first wife, he met Barbara Raber Reich and they were married November 7, 2010.

Bill was also an avid amateur radio operator. He obtained his amateur radio license in 1956 at the age of sixteen. Over the rest of his life, he obtained verified contacts with over 63,000 other amateur radio operators in over 360 countries. He was a member of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society and wrote a column for their newsletter for many years. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Barbara Westerfield Hilyerd. He is survived by his second wife, Barbara Raber-Reich Hilyerd, his son William A. "Will" Hilyerd, his daughter-in-law Cynthia Hilyerd, and his grandson, Eric Hilyerd.

Bill's Life Celebration will be from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 2, 2018, and from 9:00 a.m. until the service time on Wednesday, October 3, 2018, at Benton-Glunt Funeral Home in Henderson, Kentucky. The funeral service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday at the funeral home with Reverend Michael Erwin officiating. Burial will follow at Roselawn Memorial Gardens in Henderson, Kentucky.

Pallbearers will be Ken Morgan, Tim Raber, Bob Bock, Ron Cavins, Tony Johnson, Tim Sievers, Josh Case, and Monty Hall. Honorary Pallbearers will be Andy Mosier, Sr., Sarah Flach, Terry White, Marcia Morgan, Jeff Hueber, John Snider, Jerri Orr, and Allan Mears. Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to Christ Church United

Church of Christ Building Fund, 3601 Washington Ave., Evansville, Indiana 47714.  
Arrangements entrusted to Benton-Glunt Funeral Home, A Life Celebration® Home,  
online condolences may be made at [www.bentonglunt.com](http://www.bentonglunt.com).

# Cemetery

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**Roselawn Memorial Gardens**  
8136 Highway 2084 S  
Henderson, KY, 42420

# Events

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**OCT 2** **Life Celebration** 04:00PM - 08:00PM  
Benton-Glunt Funeral Home  
629 S. Green Street, Henderson, KY, US, 42420

**OCT 3** **Life Celebration** 09:00AM - 10:00AM  
Benton-Glunt Funeral Home  
629 S. Green St., Henderson, KY, US, 42420

**OCT 3** **Funeral Service** 10:00AM  
Benton-Glunt Funeral Home  
629 S. Green St., Henderson, KY, US, 42420

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Benton-Glunt Funeral Home** - October 23, 2018 at 12:30 PM

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“ What a deep sadness that has filled my heart, when just a few minutes ago after seeing his name in my phone contacts made me smile. Bill was such a great influence to not only myself, but many others, in the worlds of amateur radio and broadcast engineering. The Tri-state has now lost a lot of the knowledge and experience that have kept RF flowing through our airwaves.

I can recall him "chewing" me out that I did not have a tower/antenna up at my house to pursue a deeper meaning of amateur radio other than localized 2m FM. When I explained that I couldn't do that, he proceeded to send me all types of info about small hidden antennas and share stories of all the great friendships he had made with people he would never meet in person. A true ambassador of the hobby.

Mine, and Townsquare Media's deepest condolences to Bill's family who I know loved him greatly as he did in return.

Benjamin Davis, Chief Engineer - Townsquare Media (KC9FLC)

**Benjamin Davis** - October 12, 2018 at 11:20 AM

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“ So sorry to hear of Bill's passing. I appreciated his welcoming new members (me) to the TARS radio club and his willingness to pass on his knowledge. Missed having him at recent meetings. Always looked forward to his newsletter article.

**Chris Politano (KC9HWQ)** - October 10, 2018 at 10:43 PM

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“ I was so sad to hear of Bill's passing. We had such fun together working at the old transmitter site at the beginning of my TV career. He always asked me if I had gotten Troy in a "head lock" recently as I am a farm girl and sister to five brothers. Bill & I enjoyed the practical jokes and talking about his "super cat". Bill was like a really wonderful Uncle to me and I will always look back on those times with a smile. Many prayers to Barbara and Will & his family. Bill was a beautiful soul!

## Pam & Troy Towery

Pam Towery - October 10, 2018 at 06:31 PM

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“ My heart is sadden of Bill's passing. My 3 years at WEVV TV were 3 great years..and he was one of the reasons why. Great personality, fun - and just great to have around the station. Thank you Bill for who you were & are. I LOVE seeing the photos posted on here. Gives me a greater view of his life and family. Wonderful things indeed. Prayers to his wife and family...but I also know all of you will be reunited again someday. God Bless. Sincerely, Pete Grigsby

Pete Grigsby - October 03, 2018 at 11:34 PM

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“ 55 files added to the album LifeTributes



Benton-Glunt Funeral Home - October 02, 2018 at 08:56 AM