



Walter Sleasman Bradley

October 7, 1947 - January 17, 2020

Walter S. Bradley

Walter Sleasman Bradley of Tilghman, MD formerly of Severn, MD died at his home in Tilghman, on Friday January 17, 2020. He was 72.

Born on October 7, 1947 in Hagerstown, Md. He was the son of the late Charles and Stella Sleasman Bradley. Mr. Bradley grew up in Hagerstown following his graduation from High School, he went on to attend Duke University, graduating with a B.S.E. with Honors in Electrical Engineering 1969. He furthered his studies working towards a graduate degree in MSEE at Johns Hopkins and George Washington University. Following his formal education he began his career in July 1969 with Westinghouse Electric of Baltimore where he worked for 23 years. He then worked for various companies. At the time of his death he was employed with Northrop Grumman Innovative Systems (Orbital ATK) in Greenbelt, MD.

In 1992 he meet the love of his life the former Erika Skrenchuk, they made their homes in Pasadena and Severn, MD. Later they continued their journey towards retirement by falling in love with Tilghman where they spent their weekends and spare time until moving there permanently in 2019.

In addition to spending time with his lovely wife, Mr. Bradley enjoyed his work, sailing on his "Bay Tardis", reading and watching sunsets at their home on Tilghman.

In addition to his beloved wife, Erika, he is survived by his sister; Barbara "Barbie" Reuter (David), and two nephews; Daniel and Jeffery Nolte.

A viewing will be held from 1:00 until 2:00 at the Tilghman United Methodist Church, 5731 Tilghman Island Road; on Saturday January 25, 2020 where Funeral Services will begin at 2:00PM.

Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers Memorial donations may be made to: Tilghman Vol. Fire Dept. Station 70, P.O. Box 297 Tilghman, MD 21671, or the Tilghman United Methodist Church, P.O. Box 192 Tilghman, MD 21671.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Framptom Funeral Home by the Coales, Ostrowski Chapel, St. Michaels, MD. (www.framptom.com).

Cemetery Details

Mid Shore Cremation Center

2272 Hudson Road
Cambridge, MD 21613

Tribute Wall

“Walt and I met during the beginning of an intense aerospace program eleven years ago. He was designing an instrument that my design had to interface to, and we had our first meeting in a large conference room, spreading out on the huge table all of the requirements we had to design against. After a few hours of intense study and organization, Walt took a ‘chance’, by broaching a sensitive subject about some controversial scientific ideas in electromagnetism. He mentioned a retired Lt. Colonel who was proposing some of these theories, and asked if I had ever heard of him. “Heard of him?” I said, “I know him personally and he spoke at a conference I sponsored!”.

That was the door opener to an intimate and close relationship that would last over a decade. Walt and I found a common interest in novel ideas, and I gained an inquisitive confidant who was not afraid to expand his mind into unknown territories of professional thought. Believe me this was very unique within the professional engineering world, and Walt was a wonderful companion to share avant-garde ideas with. I had the pleasure of spending many an hour with Walt talking about taboo subjects with great objectivism: radical ideas of tapping energy from the vacuum of space, existence of the human soul & spirit, unidentified flying objects, time travel, and many exciting things more. Walt was always dropping me articles, websites, and books to read that his hungry mind could not stop delving into. I could not keep up with him.

As our academic discussions unfolded, we also found a core common philosophy of a shared belief in things that mattered in life: family, truth in science & politics, treating folks in the work place with respect and kindness, and maintaining a modicum of peace in the work place and our personal lives. This intimacy between us created a close friendship and a brotherly love for one another, where I looked forward to seeing and speaking with Walt whenever possible.

This closeness bestowed a great honor to me 5 years ago when Walt asked me to become his Best Man at his wedding with Erika, and invited our autistic daughter (then 11) to be their Flower Girl. It was a wonderful and memorable experience for me and my family, and brought Walt and I even closer.

Walt was always thinking of me and the welfare of my family. When I ran into hard times after a layoff, Walt worked diligently to help me find a place to land. He was instrumental in getting me my interview at the governmental institution at which he was a contractor, at which I was hired on the spot and where I was able to work again closely with Walt with great pleasure for another 5 years. He and Erika also became Uncle Walt and Aunt Erika to my daughter, with loving tender gifts that ALWAYS made her heart glow on special occasions.

Walt was well respected for his keen mind and engineering skills in the professional world. He was sought after for project after project, program after program for the insight and solutions he could quickly bring to the table to conquer extremely complex problems. He was explicitly an example of the humanity that can be brought into a work place that is often just the opposite with its sterility, uncompassionate demeanor, and disregard for the human condition. There isn't a person I can think of that did not reflect back on their encounters upon Walt with warm feelings, respect for his abilities, and a gratitude for having worked with him.

I'm saddened that my close friend and his spouse went through the struggle they endured for the last several months. I'm saddened that my close friend is no longer around me to share thoughts and conversation. The only way I can repay him for his kindness toward me is to continue to pay it forward to others I may encounter. However I do believe with all my heart and mind that Walt is in a realm in which he is joyful and is free from suffering. He and his family are forever in our prayers.

Joe, Laura, and Alie Jo Maize

Joseph Maize - January 24, 2020 at 08:20 AM

BM

I met Walter while we were both receiving radiation treatments in Easton, MD, at UMMS. He had started first, and he could see my nervousness. We struck up a conversation, and he let me know what to expect. He was getting more complex treatments than I was, but he held up through it all with good grace, and kindness to everyone. I am sad that he has passed. I appreciated his enjoyable company, as we waited in our hospital gowns for treatment. We were both engineers. He didn't say much about his programs, but I could tell that he had done some cool stuff.

He asked me to join him in his graduation photo from the radiation cancer center, and I did. I am the guy on the left side of the picture. I will always appreciate his kindness, his poise, and his courage. May he go on to design more terrific devices in his new life. My deepest condolences to his wife and family.

Bill Muller

Bill Muller - April 03, 2021 at 10:50 AM

JR

“ We shared many wonderful conversation and laughed at wildlife we shared in Severn as neighbors. When you relocated to Tilman Island, you were missed Walter. We will always have great memories of our dearly neighbor and friend. Janice and Neal Russell



Janice Russell - March 23, 2021 at 07:40 PM

JL

“ I met Walter in March 2018 during the hiring process at Orbital ATK. After talking to him during the interviews, I found that he was a very knowledgeable, insightful, and experienced electrical engineer who it would be a privilege to work with, and it was. I'm going to miss Walter, but his impact on my life will never be forgotten.

Jonathan Lee - January 24, 2020 at 08:52 AM

SI

“ *Shaw's Incorporated lit a candle in memory of Walter Sleasman Bradley*



Shaw's Incorporated - January 21, 2020 at 10:58 AM

DN

“ *Erika,
So sorry for your loss.
Sending prayers of comfort to you. He will Always be in our hearts and never forgotten.
Sending heart felt condolences.
The Netzer Family*

Dawn Netzer - January 20, 2020 at 04:00 PM

TN

“ *Sister, we want you to know how very sorry we are to hear about our sweet Walter. He was such a wonderful man, and he loved you with everything he had. He will be missed by so many people. Hugs and kisses. We all love you. Love the Niemeyer Family.*

Tina niemeyer - January 20, 2020 at 11:33 AM

KN

Walter was always a joy to talk to. He will be dearly missed. Thoughts and prayers for Erica and family. Love Kimberly, Charles, Cole & Kelsey

kimberly Niemeyer - January 20, 2020 at 11:40 AM

JM

Walter was an amazing man. Totally devoted to his loving wife. Hope all those wonderful memories of your life together will bring a smile to you often. Prayers sent and a big special hug. Mike and Jeannette McDevitt ❤️

jeannette mcdevitt - January 20, 2020 at 11:52 AM

HS

“ Erica -I'm thinking of you. I am so sorry for your loss <3 Prayers to you and your family.

"All of time & space; everywhere and anywhere; every star that ever was where do you want to start?" 11th Doctor

Rest easy my fellow Whovian <3

Heather Sharp - January 20, 2020 at 10:19 AM

SW

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Sherry Williams - January 18, 2020 at 05:18 PM

TF

I'm so sorry Erica for your loss. I know how much Walter meant to you. I miss you both so much when you moved. I was so glad that you two finally got together. Once again I'm sorry

Teri Fisher - January 18, 2020 at 05:36 PM

CS

*So sorry you lost your dear Walter. Maybe he will see Steve in heaven. Walter will always be with you
Oh, a story I could tell....RIP Walter!*

Cindy Sink - January 19, 2020 at 12:45 AM

SW

“ Erika, I was so sad to hear of Walter passing away. He was a great guy. He is now in a better place. I know Jerry is up there welcoming Woody 😊 with open arms! I know you will miss him terribly. My thoughts and prayers are with you.
Love you cuz!



Sherry Williams - January 18, 2020 at 05:06 PM