



Bennie M. Williams

March 20, 1958 - March 13, 2024

Bennie Myles Williams, the beloved and only child of Maj. Bennie Mathew Williams and Wilhelmina Toney, was born on March 20, 1958, and entered peacefully into eternal rest on Wednesday March 13, 2024. He was loving, kind, generous, loyal, supportive, and faithful. He will be missed beyond measure.

Bennie was born in Heidelberg, Germany during one of his father's tours of duty. He was the center of their world, and they were his. From a very young age Bennie enjoyed being outdoors and learning about nature. His family's vacations to the beach and their many fishing trips ignited a passion in him that would last a lifetime.

After graduating from the Sidwell Friends School, Bennie attended both Dartmouth College and Morehouse College before earning his B.S. in Environmental Science with an A.A.S. in Marine Science from the University of the District of Columbia. Later he would venture into the wilderness with the moose, the bears, and the salmon to attend the University of Alaska at Fairbanks to pursue a graduate degree in Fisheries Management.

During his career as a Fishery Biologist Bennie worked for the D.C. Department of Environment, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. He was dedicated to maintaining healthy aquatic ecosystems and preserving vulnerable species. Bennie had a passion

for and was extremely proud of his involvement with programs regarding aquatic resource education, public outreach, boating safety and youth angling. He loved encouraging people, and especially those of color, to get involved in the sciences and enjoy the outdoors. His work with youth fishing programs brought him great joy. Bennie's career would culminate with 20+ years of service as a Fishery Biologist with the Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

However, knowledge of fish wasn't the only thing Bennie acquired throughout his life. From his beginning until his end, Bennie collected friendships. Lifelong friendships. Friends that became his Brothers and his Sisters, and cousins that became his siblings. He was always there with a shoulder to lean on, or a shoulder to cry on, a joke to make you smile and words of encouragement to help you push through. He prayed with you when he had no answers and he hugged you when he had no words. Always willing to share the life lessons he learned from his parents and the wisdom from his own experiences. His generosity knew no limits, always going above and beyond to help those in need.

Bennie was preceded in death by his beloved parents and a host of family and friends who have welcomed him into glory with loving arms.

He is survived by two uncles: Herbert O. G. Williams and Christopher T Williams. Cousins who loved him like siblings; Friends who loved him like a brother; God Sons whom he loved and cherished. And many, many others for whom his booming laugh and giant bear hugs, will never be forgotten.

Cemetery Details

Lincoln Memorial Cemetery

4101 Suitland Rd
Suitland, MD 20746

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 13. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Liberty Baptist Church
527 Kentucky Ave SE
Washington, DC

Service

APR 13. 11:00 AM (ET)

Liberty Baptist Church
527 Kentucky Ave SE
Washington, DC

Tribute Wall

RL

“ Dear Williams Family, I was devastated to learn this evening that Bennie had passed back in March. I had been trying to contact him and didn't understand why he wasn't responding, because he always DID respond promptly. FWS colleagues didn't let me know, until tonight. I am one of his USFWS colleagues who truly felt that Bennie was my "big brother" from another mother, as he always used to say. How I loved working with him during the course of my USFWS career, and even after I retired, when our paths continued to cross professionally. We worked together on Striped Bass Reports to Congress, and on other projects. Know that I am truly devastated to learn of his passing, and will miss him horribly, but as you state in his obituary, I KNOW that is is with his parents and other family members who passed previously, and that provides great comfort to me, and I hope to you as well. Please accept my deepest and most profound condolences, and know that I share your grief.

Reid Wilson Laney - September 26, 2024 at 10:21 PM

MA

“ I am heart broken. Bennie worked with my brother Richard for years. They were dear friends. Bennie became my brother when Richard was ill and passed last year. Bennie prayed me through it and wept with me. I'll never forget his kindness and love. Rest in peace. I hope the two of you are fishing together again.



Mary Bohn Anderson - June 05, 2024 at 10:13 PM

GW

“ Bennie and I were pledged into the Theta Zeta Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha at Dartmouth College. He was a great big brother, a heck of a basketball player and an even better man. I was blessed to have spoken to him in recent years and am stunned by his passing. He will be missed!

— Mr. Tibbs (Gary Witherspoon, TLS '81)

Gary Witherspoon - April 19, 2024 at 02:14 PM

JJ

“ It was an honor to work with Bennie. A truly wonderful gentleman. My sincere condolences to the family of Bennie Williams.

Julie Jackson - April 12, 2024 at 10:49 AM

RM

It was a pleasure talking to Bennie. He was always an upbeat to an end of the day when I passed his desk to chat with him. My condolences to his family.

Rodecia mcknight - April 15, 2024 at 03:08 PM

JJ

“ Julie J. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Bennie M. Williams.

Julie J. - April 12, 2024 at 10:39 AM

FF

“ Frances Cannady & Family purchased the Enduring Grace for the family of Bennie M. Williams.



Frances Cannady & Family - April 12, 2024 at 10:20 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Bennie M. Williams.*



April 10, 2024 at 03:32 PM



“ *I knew Bennie through my friend, his cousin, Leigh Ane Williams. Rest in him Bennie. Your cousin Leigh talked of you often and the love she had for you. My condolences to Leigh, the Williams family, extended family, and friends. May you all be surrounded by beautiful memories of Bennie, and that love comfort you today, and in the days to come. With love, Cheriss May and the May family*

Cheriss May - April 10, 2024 at 12:52 PM



“ *We the March Family and Marshall-March Staff wish to extend our deepest and heartfelt sympathy in the passing of your loved one. Our prayers go out to you and your family in your time of loss. We know and understand that you have received many expressions of love and we will continue to lift you up in prayer. May the memories you cherish of brighter and happier days help to ease your sorrow and comfort you always.*

Marshall-March Funeral Homes - April 03, 2024 at 04:13 PM