

*GRAND CHAPTER OF DELAWARE
ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR*



IN MEMORIAM

BROTHER WILLIAM ELLIOTT EDWARDS, PAST GRAND PATRON
WORTHY GRAND PATRON 2010-2011

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Brother William Elliott Edwards, 84, Past Grand Patron, Sunday, April 11, 2021. Brother Bill was born October 16, 1936 in Washington, DC to Elliot and Viola (Brann) Edwards.

In 1954 Brother Bill graduated from Coolidge High School in Washington, D.C. where he played football. After graduation Brother Bill began working at the Washington Gas Light Company where he was employed for 40 years. On June 9, 1956, he married his high school sweetheart, Sister Barbara Jean Donohue. They lived in Adelphi, MD where they raised their three daughters. In retirement, Brother Bill and Sister Barbara moved to Milton, Delaware. Brother Bill and Sister Barbara visited all 50 states, Canada, Spain, France, Bermuda, Australia, and New Zealand. Brother Bill was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, and friend.

Over the years, Brother Bill was actively involved with masonic organizations in Maryland and Delaware. Brother Bill joined Chillum Castle Lodge No. 186 in Hyattsville, MD in 1972. He served as Master of Birmingham Lodge No. 26 in 1981. On June 7, 2000 Brother Bill joined Jefferson Lodge #15, Lewes, DE. Brother Bill served Job's Daughters International as Associate Grand Guardian of Maryland 1986-1987 and Associate Bethel Guardian of Bethels 6, 10 and 34 in Maryland and 5 in Delaware.

Brother Bill began his journey as a member of the Order of the Eastern Star joining Birmingham Chapter No. 188 on December 3, 1996. Upon moving to Delaware, he and Sister Barbara joined Unity Chapter No. 16 where he served as Worthy Patron with: Sister Sandra Sahutsky, PGM in 2003-2004; Sister Teresa Shearon in 2013-2014; and Sister Nichole Pantuliano in 2015-2016.

Brother Bill served the Grand Chapter of Delaware on several committees including the Printed Program Committee for the Benefit for Children with Special Needs. Brother Bill and Sister Jane M. Morris, PGM, presided over the 90th "Beacons of Light" Annual Session in May of 2011.

Brother Bill served the General Grand Chapter on the Youth Committee during the 2015-2018 Triennium for Sister Barbara "Bobby" White, PMWGM (WV) and Brother John E. Grobler, PMWGP (WA).

Brother Bill is survived by his beloved wife Sister Barbara (Donohue) Edwards; his three daughters: Janet Hans and her husband John, Jane Edwards, and Joan Manchon and her husband, Eric; his grandchildren: Samantha Spellicy, Rachel (Hans) Perlak and her husband Andrew, Alexandra Spellicy, Michelle (Hans) Pestik and her husband Benjamin, Christopher Manchon, Matthew Manchon and Natalie Manchon; his siblings: James Edwards, Louise Layne and her husband Charlie, Joyce Bartz and Doris Clark; and his great-grand son, Hunter Perlak.

A viewing was held Friday, April 16, 2021 at Parsells Funeral Home, Atkins Lodge Chapel, 16961 Kings Highway, Lewes, followed by Masonic and Eastern Star Services. Graveside services were held Saturday, April 17, 2021 at Fort Lincoln Cemetery, 3401 Bladensburg Road, Brentwood, MD.

Donations in Brother Bill's memory may be made to Delaware Hospice, 100 Patriots Way, Milford, DE 19963.

After the clouds, the sunshine, after the winter, the spring,
After the shower, the rainbow for life is a changeable thing.
After the night, the morning bidding all darkness cease,
After life's cares and sorrows, the comfort and sweetness of peace.

From Sister Jane M. Morris's Worthy Grand Matron's Report May 2011

Donna S. Hiddemen
Worthy Grand Matron

Thomas J. Morganstern
Worthy Grand Patron

Barbara F. Lott, PGM
Grand Secretary

