



## William Edward Betts

January 8, 1928 - June 29, 2019

William Edward Betts, age 91, passed away on June 29, 2019. Beloved husband of the late Arlene. Loving father of Thomas W. (Paula) and the late Barbara Arlene. Dear grandfather to Michael (Martha) Scituro, William (Deborah) Scituro, Heather, and Christopher. Great grandfather to Kaia, Rylin, and Aubrey.

William was a veteran of the United States Navy. He retired from the Detroit News Circulation Department after more than forty years. He and his beloved Arlene retired to Boca Raton, Florida in 1989 where they loved walking the beach every day.

A memorial remembrance will be held for immediate family on a date to be determined. Donations may be made in memory of William to the American Cancer Society or to Angela Hospice.

# Comments

---



“ Our deepest condolences, we've shared many memories and a long time friendship.

Richard and Astrid crowton and Yvonne DeMorrow.

**Astrid crowton** - July 08, 2019 at 06:17 PM

---



“ As a young man, I was a Detroit News carrier from 1967-1971 and Mr. Betts managed the paper station on Puritan near Hubbell. I recall Mr. Betts came off initially as a gruff man but that he was truly a wonderful man once he "broke us in". I still fondly remember him lighting his cigarette with a match pinched between his fingers as he cupped the flame to keep the large heater/blower behind him from blowing out the flame. Now some 50 years later I still use that technique. Just three weeks ago at my daughter's high school graduation some young graduates were trying to light cigars out at Pine Knob. I showed them the "Betts technique" and told the story of this man and how he taught us young boys how to be better carriers. It was quite a skill that taught me well in life: being able to know how long to trust someone to pay you if they strung you along for weeks without paying, being on time, and most of all being reliable.

If the memorial is in the area here in Michigan, please let me know. I would like to attend.

-Paul Russo

**Paul Russo** - July 07, 2019 at 05:17 PM

---



“ Was station captain for him in the 1960's. Great guy, cool and calm. Taught me a lot. Treated me real nice. Glad he was able to have such a long life. Too bad about his daughter, Barbara

Kenneth Borg

**Kenneth Borg** - July 07, 2019 at 12:56 PM

---



“ Like Bill, I am also a retiree of over 40 years from The Detroit News. I was his relief man way back when he had a station at Fort Street and Livernois. It has been many years since I have seen Bill, but I have fond memories of him, and those years working in the Districts at the News. Thoughts and prayers are with the family.  
Jack Saunders

**Jack Saunders** - July 07, 2019 at 07:49 AM