

William Hamilton Lewis

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA - William Hamilton Lewis (“Bill,” “Billy,” “Uncle Boo,”) age 65 of Upper Arlington, Ohio passed away at his home in California on May 16th, 2025. Born in Columbus, Ohio, Bill graduated from Upper Arlington High School in 1977. He then moved to the California coast in hopes of studying oceanography, a passion he developed spending his childhood and teen summers in Naples, Florida, with his family and family friends. Ultimately, Bill lived the majority of his life in sunny California, close to the ocean and the sea life he loved. Once in California, he



worked at a marina, lived on a sailboat and started a small business working on boats. He was an entrepreneur at heart, independent, free-spirited and self-taught. He studied at the University of Southern California (USC) and graduated from Ohio State University, majoring in Business Administration. In addition to his business, he followed in his father’s footsteps owning and managing several apartment buildings. He enjoyed getting to know his tenants and they liked his old school nature, the landlord next door, always available when needed.

Bill had a beautiful home life in California, making lifetime friends and eventually meeting his lovely wife, Vivian Dea, and getting to know her large extended family. He was a loving husband, brother, uncle and nephew. He often made trips back to Ohio to see his Columbus family, close friends and “1977” high school classmates.

Bill was a force of nature, funny with a dry sense of humor, outspoken and a friend to all. His interests were many: the ocean, nature, boats, sailing, politics, history and military history, especially World War II, college football and golf. His humorous side always made family and friends laugh. During their years together, Vivian and Bill enjoyed sailing to Catalina Island and traveling to Japan, Santa Fe, and France, visiting World War II landmarks.

He was preceded in death by his parents William E. Lewis and Anne H. Lewis. Surviving family members include his wife, Vivian Dea, and her large extended family: Kathy, Jean, Seth, David, Linda, Mimi, Brendan, 16 nieces/nephews and their families; sister, Jessica Lewis Tomasek; brother-in-law, Randy Tomasek; nephew, Mitchell Tomasek; Uncle Jim and Aunt Merry Hamilton and Uncle Walter and Step Aunt Millie Hamilton including 15 cousins and their families.

A Celebration of Life gathering will be held in Los Angeles this summer. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to: Battleship Iowa at <https://pacificbattleship.com/donate/donate-online/>.