



Gerald "Willie" Williamson

January 14, 1931 - September 8, 2022

Gerald "Willie" Williamson formerly of Cortland NY, husband, father, veteran, coach, mentor and lifelong Notre Dame, Yankees, and NY Giants fan, passed away

on the afternoon of September 8, 2022, at the age of 91 in Warner Robins, Georgia

where he and Barb have lived since 1996.

Born on January 14, 1931, in Cortland, New York to his parents, the late Gerald

and Ruth Williamson, Willie devoted his life to the service of others. He proudly

served his country in the Air Force during the Korean War from 1950-1954 and

went on to be an extremely dedicated and inspiring Coach. He was a great athlete

in High School in Cortland and that drive, and competitive spirit served him well

throughout his life. He coached and mentored youth through physical education

and in sports from 1970-1984 at St. Mary's School in Cortland New York and continued his servitude as Lee County Recreation Director upon moving to Sanford, North Carolina.

During his career, Coach Willie impacted the lives of all those around him. He

was

an encourager, a role model, a father-figure, a leader, and he truly had a passion for

his players and their well-being beyond the field or the court. His dedication and

mentorship extended beyond his years of service as a coach. He is one of the winningest high school coaches in New York State history. The influence of him as

a person helped shape the futures of countless people, including his own children

and grandchildren.

He is survived by his loving wife of 64 years, Barbara, his sons Dean of Mattydale

NY, Mark (Angela Lawson) of Butler KY, Todd (Cindy) of Birmingham AL, and daughter

Cathy Lee (Keith – deceased) of Boylston MA, as well as ten grandchildren, and

six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service honoring his life will be held October 15, 2022, from 1-5 at Wright Beard Funeral Home in Cortland, New York as they will be handling the arrangements. The family will be gathering from all over the country to pay their

final respects and honor the life of such an influential man. Coach would be honored if your attire would include Blue and Gold colors, or anything Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.wright-beard.com. In lieu of

flowers, contributions can be made to St. Mary's School, 61 North Main Street, Cortland, New York 13045, or St. Jude Children's Hospital in his honor.

Tribute Wall

MH

“ *Thoughts to Williamson's
As long as I have a mind to remember, I will always think of my
years with Willie, Johnny, and Steve. Some of the greatest times in
my life!*
Thanks for the memories
Mike Hall 42 - Crusaders 81'

Mike Hall - September 15, 2022 at 12:11 PM