



## Bruce Billos

March 22, 1956 - August 1, 2014

Billos, Bruce of Moorestown, NJ, passed away suddenly on August 1, 2014, at age 58. Predeceased by his parents, Livio and Rowena Robinson Billos. He is survived by his daughters Rachel Billos, Mariel Billos, and Emily Miller. He leaves behind his faithful Labrador Retriever, Cooper.

Bruce attended high school at Doane Academy, Burlington, NJ; and college at Gettysburg College, Gettysburg PA. For many years, he jointly owned and operated Billos Boat Store with his father Livio Billos.

Bruce was an active, social, fun loving guy who enjoyed sailing, skiing, music, reading, and playing his guitar. Family and friends were always very important to him; and he greeted each day with a twinkle in his eyes, smile on his face, and a song in his heart. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Relatives and friends are invited to Bruce's Life Celebration on Wednesday at Inglesby Givnish of Maple Shade, 600 E. Main Street from 5-9pm and again on Thursday 9-11 with his Life Celebration service to follow. Interment will be private.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 6. 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (ET)

Givnish Funeral Home Maple Shade  
600 E Main St  
Maple Shade, NJ 08052  
(856) 779-7900  
info@givnish.com  
<https://www.givnish.com>

## Visitation

AUG 7. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Givnish Funeral Home Maple Shade  
600 E Main St  
Maple Shade, NJ 08052  
(856) 779-7900  
info@givnish.com  
<https://www.givnish.com>

## Funeral Service

AUG 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

Givnish Funeral Home Maple Shade  
600 E Main St  
Maple Shade, NJ 08052  
(856) 779-7900  
info@givnish.com  
<https://www.givnish.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Bruce Billos*

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September 09, 2022 at 01:27 AM

“ Livio Billos, August 22, 1925 - September 2, 2006

*On Sunday, September 7, 2014, at 11:20 a.m. (the same time as his death eight years ago), the ashes of Bruce's father and our friend Livio were cast to the Chesapeake Bay just outside Annapolis Harbor, as was his wish. Small portions have been retained for return to his beloved Danube River and Hamilton Harbor, Bermuda. Aboard his Hunter 41 “Great Dane,” Captain Jens Glysing-Jensen began the ceremony with a few words to honor this great sailor and fellow-European, two men who have made this country great. I then gave the following tribute to Livio. (Since the sun had passed the yardarm 20 minutes earlier, we then toasted him with champagne.)*

*Livio Billos, sailor extraordinaire, who was born in Venice, went on to fight against the Nazis in World War II and against Soviet tyranny during the Hungarian Revolution before immigrating to the USA. He married Rowena Robinson and adopted her young son, Bruce, which act created a bond between us forever.*

*Livio was Commodore of the Cooper River Yacht Club, for many decades lived on Cooper Avenue, and had many faithful Black Labrador Retriever family companions named “Cooper,” one of which still lives on Cooper Avenue (albeit now singing soprano).*

*Moreover, he was a role model to three generations of Coopers: me, one of the last of the Billos Boys, who blindly followed Livio's lead; Ryan, who was instructed by his mother never to follow Livio's lead (except the part about not pissing into the wind from the bow, which we once actually saw Bruce attempt); and my father, who cringed at every story of a Billos outing. He was grandfather to Rachel, Mariel, and Emily, with whom I hope the older generation will share such tales as instructional devices.*

*Livio spawned another new race--of hybrid hot peppers, which he proudly cultivated and grilled in his back yard, to be served with the*

*famous Billos “killer sangria” (see Joe Sullivan’s memory at <http://www.snovergivnish.com/obituaries/Bruce-Billos/#!/TributeWall>). It was during these times that we would argue about the comparative influence of school instruction and home environment: he was sure that teachers such as myself at St. Mary’s Hall-Doane Academy had ruined Bruce forever, while I was pretty sure that it was whatever went on in the Billos household that had screwed up Bruce. We’ll have to see how Mariel turns out.*

*And so, I commend Livio Billos to the sea that he lived and loved, to meet again in the waters of the Danube and Bermuda. Sail on, Livio, Sail on!*

*I'm looking for a good time,  
Sail on down the line....*

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**John Cooper** - September 08, 2014 at 01:29 PM

JA

“*My first encounter with Bruce was in 1969 when we moved to Paul Drive. It was snowing and there was a knock at the door. There stands this stranger (Bruce) at the door on cross country skis greeting his new neighbors. In the years that followed he would regal us with endless stories of his life, some even based in reality. So many nights of Pinochle and Joni Mitchell with he and Susan. Good memories of great times. He will be missed but never forgotten. I still can't figure out how he got up the narrow steps on those skis.*

*Jan Applegate*

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**Jan Applegate** - August 07, 2014 at 02:37 AM

WF

“ I read the obituary about the loss of your loved one and I extend my sincere condolences.

Death is truly an enemy but there is comfort in the Bible that “God will actually swallow up death forever and certainly wipe the tears from all faces.” Isaiah 25:8

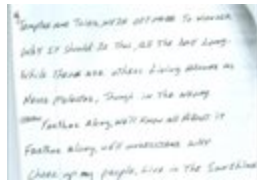
Hold onto the beautiful memories of Bruce and find comfort from loving family and friends.

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**Williams Family** - August 04, 2014 at 02:24 PM



“ 17 files added to the album Memories Album



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**Givnish Funeral Home** - August 04, 2014 at 12:07 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bruce Billos.



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August 04, 2014 at 09:30 AM

JS

“ Bruce was one of my oldest friends we were neighbors on Cooper Ave and had many great times. We skied at Haystack with the Ski Patrol and shared skiing, sailing and partied a bit too. Bruce always loved music and enjoyed playing especially going to festivals. Once I gave him money to pick up a pair of skis for me and he somehow came back with a 12 string guitar and over a bottle of whiskey convinced me it was not such a bad idea. Somehow he figured out how to get on Security for the Philadelphia Folk festival although I don't see how that made things more secure. One night at John and Peters Pub in New Hope Bruce introduced us to Stan Rodgers one of my favorite artists. We shared an apartment on Camden Avenue with our friend Dennis McCarthy and he was at my wedding and a lot of good family parties at the Billos and Sullivan houses. Bruce made a killer sangria. He always had a great smile and an infectious laugh. I will always remember him as a warm hearted and caring friend.

*Joe Sullivan*

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**Joe Sullivan** - August 03, 2014 at 05:19 PM

MT

“*Bruce was one of my best friends. We skied, sailed, rode motorcycles and shared an abundance of great times together. There are so many things to share, but my choice is to write about his infectious laugh and sense of humor.*

*We went together to a movie theater to watch Gettysburg when it debuted. In one scene a confederate commander was expressing regret about fighting a former classmate and friend on the Union side. There was another scene with Confederate General Hood who was in a field hospital severely wounded and had lost the use of one his arms. I leaned over to Bruce and mentioned that maybe the guy who was wining about his friend with the Union should go talk to Hood to get a broader perspective. Bruce erupted into an uncontrollable fit of laughter, and then so did I. The theater was crowded and probably no one appreciated the humor that we found in what was meant to be a very serious moment. Our laughter continued to spontaneously erupt until the end of the movie. We often recalled that day.*

*I will miss him, but I know that I am fortunate to have known him.*

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**Mark Turnbull** - August 03, 2014 at 11:32 AM