



Byam Whitney, Jr.

February 14, 1927 - April 25, 2011

Byam (Bing) Whitney Jr., 84, of Nashua, died peacefully on Monday, April 25, 2011 at St. Joseph hospital in Nashua, New Hampshire after a brief illness.

“Bing”, as he was affectionately known, was born in Boston February 14, 1927, the son of the late Byam Whitney and Madeleine Brewer Whitney Russell. He had resided in Milton, Massachusetts for most of his life before moving to Nashua in 2001.

Byam graduated from Milton Academy in Milton Massachusetts, class of 1945. He went on to Harvard where he earned a Bachelor’s Degree; class of 1949 and 1979.

On October 20th, 1956 Byam married Miriam Jeffries at the First Parish Unitarian Church in Milton, Massachusetts.

Mr. Whitney served in the US Army from December 27th, 1951 until December 4th, 1954, when he was honorably discharged as a Sargent. During the Korean War Byam was stationed in Japan for two years during which time he developed a passion for the Japanese culture and language.

Mr. Whitney enjoyed a successful career as a stockbroker for many years in Boston, where he consistently exceeded sales goals resulting in many wonderful trips with his wife around the world.

Byam had many interests which included playing the bagpipes. He wrote a song, “The Pipers’ Salute to his Daughter”, after the birth of his first born daughter, Laura. His daughters lovingly remember the story their father told of briefly capturing the attention of Queen Elizabeth while playing the bagpipes along the route of her procession through Boston.

Byam and Miriam enjoyed singing in both the Milton and Quincy, Massachusetts Choral Societies. Both had a love of classical music and actually first met while singing. His

daughters fondly remember their parents rehearsing their singing parts for Handel's Messiah at home during the Christmas season, taking turns accompanying each other on the piano.

Byam had a lifelong love of learning and remained "teachable" right up until his passing. He was a student of history and the classics who also enjoyed the study of various languages including Greek. Even in his later years, he could easily recite from memory long passages of Shakespeare, Kipling, and others. He always had the appropriate words for an occasion or situation. He enjoyed studying Naval and Civil War history. He loved classical music. One of the proudest moments of his life came in 1979 when he completed his Harvard degree after four years of night school while working full time and supporting his family.

The family enjoyed many summers on Naushon Island, off Cape Cod, where Byam taught his daughters to sail Herreshoff 12 footers. They also vacationed in Chatham, Massachusetts and enjoyed time spent at his mother's summer home in Princeton, Massachusetts. Other fond memories include a trip to Nova Scotia in the 70's to see the total eclipse of the sun.

Byam was an avid fan of Harvard Football, having held season tickets for many years. While living in Massachusetts, the license plate on his car read "HY2929", a reference to the famous Harvard Yale game of 1968 when Harvard "beat" Yale 29-29.

Prior to moving to Nashua, Byam was a lifelong member of the First Parish Unitarian Church in Milton, Massachusetts. While living in Nashua Byam attended the Church of the Good Shepherd. He was a member of the Harvard Lodge where he was a Freemason for over 50 years. He belonged to numerous other societies, clubs and groups, including The Society of Colonial Wars and The Milton Hoosic Club.

Mr. Whitney was predeceased by his sisters Jane Van Voorhis, Dorcas McGoodwin, and Rosamond Whitney Kelsey. He is survived by his wife Miriam to whom he was married for 54 years; three daughters, Laura Fidone and her husband Joseph, of Amherst, New Hampshire, Heather Whitney of Framingham, Massachusetts and Gwendolyn D'Amico and her husband Michael of Nashua New Hampshire; 5 grandchildren; Rachael Cooper, Madeline Cooper, Anthony D'Amico, Zachary D'Amico, and Elizabeth D'Amico, and many nieces and nephews.

The daughters wish to extend their heartfelt thanks to their Dad's caregivers and staff at Langdon Place of Nashua, Greenbriar Terrace Healthcare of Nashua, and St. Joseph hospital.

Byam had been a friend of Bill's since July 6th, 1963; over 47 years.

Visiting Hours will be held on Friday April 29th from 5:00pm-7:00pm with a Prayer Service at 7:00pm and a Masonic Service at 7:30pm in the DUMONT-SULLIVAN FUNERAL HOME, 50 FERRY ST. (Rte 111) IN HUDSON, NH. Burial and a Memorial Service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers the family requests donations be made in Byam's loving memory to The Wilson House, P.O. Box 46, East Dorset, VT 05253.

Events

APR **Visitation** 07:00PM - 07:30PM

29

Prayer Service in the Funeral Home
US

APR **Visitation** 07:30PM - 08:00PM

29

Masonic Service in the Funeral home
US

Comments



“ uncle Byam was a pleasure to know and always a lot of fun. lots of memories Byam means; by the Home, which is the heart.

Byam McGoodwin - May 01, 2011 at 06:14 PM



“ Laura and Joe,

So sorry for you loss, we will always remember Bing from the on Tuesday night AWOL in Milton. He was an inspiration.

Love Rob and Peggy

Rob & Peggy Solari - May 01, 2011 at 12:19 PM



“ My deep sympathy on the loss of your loved one, Bing. Another friend of Bill W...

Connie Owen - April 30, 2011 at 02:16 PM



“ Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. I often sat next to your Dad at the Looney Nooney and he always said: JUST GIVE THIS A SHOT-COULD VERY WELL SAVE YOUR LIFE." Bing was a power of example to me. God Bless, Kim

Kim Manheck - April 29, 2011 at 07:57 AM



“ I will very much miss Uncle Bing. He always had a kind word, and his bagpipes will always echo fondly in my memory. His music and striking silhouette was the most memorable part of family gatherings at my parents' house in Peterborough when I was a child.

Jennifer Jeffries - April 29, 2011 at 07:47 AM



“ Aunt Mim, cousins Laura, Heather and Gwen, it is with sadness that I write this. Uncle Bing's warmth and passion for life are part of the lifeblood of my childhood. His big voice, lungs to fill an even bigger musical instrument and still bigger heart.

I will be there in spirit tomorrow.

Ben Jeffries - April 28, 2011 at 11:13 PM



“ im very soory for your lose, whitney familey, mr. whitney theated me warmly and fatherly as young man in high school when i dated heather. i rememer asking byam about his bag pipes one evening when i stoped to see heather and he whent to get them and discovered a water pipe leaking and causing damage. he credited me with saving his bag pipes from water damage,whitch made me feel like a hero, thats how he was , warm and thoughtful . ill remember him with great affection .

michael t mcMahon - April 28, 2011 at 03:48 PM



“ I'm very grateful that I knew Byam Whitney. His vibrant wit, booming voice and height made him hard to miss. A gentle, compassionate and gregarious man, he extended himself to everyone he met and generously shared his rich and varied life experiences. He was a Boston Bramhin and with family roots that spread out all over New England but he was down to earth and could relate easily to anyone. He embraced my family and included us in many wonderful times including at least one wonderful Christmas parties at his mother's house on Canton Avenue.

Byam Whitney led a good, moral, and responsible life one that made the lives of people he came in contact with better in a myriad of ways. I know he considered himself a lucky to have been surrounded by four exceptional and beautiful women – Mim, and his three daughters Laura, Heather and Gwen who loved him as much as he loved them.

Now that his life is over I hope his spirit will remain with those he loved to guide and protect them. Thank you for everything Byam; we will miss you. Rest in peace.

Eileen McMahon - April 28, 2011 at 11:52 AM



“ Dear Laura and Family, Bing is now in a better place and probably playing the pipes as folks enter the big meeting in Heaven. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I sat at the Noon time table with Bing many a day, he was & will be a power on example. I now live in Lincoln, NH & babysit my grandson on Tues & Fri. so I can't make it tomorrow but I did speak with Joe earlier this am.

Sincerely, Tony Ehrman... if you're ever near Ex32 please give us a call C# 494-2498 or H# 745-9861

Tony & Polly Ehrman - April 28, 2011 at 11:23 AM



“ Dear Gwen & Family, What a great legacy! He certainly lived life to the fullest and spread his knowledge to his family, friends and co-workers. He is "a part of all that he has met".

Please support each other at this time and share the memories.

Simonne Perry - April 28, 2011 at 08:41 AM



“ Dear Girls and Mim,
I loved reading your beautifully composed obituary, and learning of Uncle Bing's many achievements. He was always a gentle and loving presence -- and so supportive when I became a friend of Bills also. He's playing Danny Boy in heaven!

We send you love and hold you all in the Light.

Robin

Robin Swift Webb - April 27, 2011 at 06:33 PM



“ To Bing,

May the pipers in Heaven have a spot just for you. With affection, Kay

Kay Kenyon - April 27, 2011 at 02:56 PM



“ what wonderful memories of your dad and so many things i have learned about him with your memories. he and chuck huntington took me to my 1st harvard football game. i sat between them and froze as they passed a flask back and forth. i was 8 or 9 years old! so much love to all of you. kitty

kitty van voorhis carlson - April 27, 2011 at 12:32 PM



“ We are saddened to learn of Byam "Bing" Whitney's passing. We remember when he played the bag pipes at family gatherings. We know he will be sorely missed. He had a fine career. We know we send the regards of the Jeffries family.

Peter & Jeanne Jeffries - April 27, 2011 at 12:29 PM



“ Gwen, my sympathies to you and your family. I hope you are well.

John Grady - April 27, 2011 at 12:00 PM



“ It truly is sad news, but in these times of great sorrow we need to remember the long, wonderful, fun life, and legacy he has built and created. For he is never truly gone. They say that just the mention of someones name is to live forever. So in this family we'll always keep him alive... "We all will TRULY miss his presence"....

Beverly Hazuka - April 27, 2011 at 11:25 AM



“ Dear Laura and Family,

I'm terrible sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Sincerely,

Heather Regan & Family

Heather Regan - April 27, 2011 at 09:09 AM



“ Dear Gwen, I wish to extend my sympathy to you and your family. I know what a very difficult time this can be for a caring family.

Your father was such an accomplished man. You must be so very proud of him and all that he had done in his life.

My dad was a friend of Bill's also. My prayers are with you , your family and your father.

Love, Laurie

laurie Colaneri - April 27, 2011 at 07:35 AM



“ During the early 70's at the brokerage firm of FLPutnam in Boston,I sat behind Bing for 3=4 years. I enjoyed our many chats about our experiences in life and about investments.Condolences to the family. I will remember our experiences forever.

Josweh Antognoni - April 27, 2011 at 06:50 AM



“ Dear Aunt Mim, Laura, Heather and Gwen,
I loved reading Uncle Bing's obituary. I always knew he was an amazing man but I learned even more wonderful things about him from your tribute to your 'Daddy'. Of all the Whitney siblings of his generation I am certain he was the most loving. In the last 6 years or so he would call almost every other month just to check in and to send his love to us all. I will certainly miss him and his 'checking in' phone calls. My love goes to all of you at this very sad time. XXOO Joney Swift

Joney Swift - April 26, 2011 at 08:16 PM