

**WILFRED (BILL) J. BROOKS**  
**1942-2015**

**FAMILY**

Wilfred (Bill) J. Brooks was born in Troy, New York on August 11, 1942. He was the son of the late Wilfred J. Brooks and Edith (Frink) Brooks; and brother to Shirley DeSanto and Jimmy Brooks. He was predeceased by his sister Mary Belcher. At the age of two until twelve years old, Bill was in the St. Joseph's Orphanage. He then became a foster child and moved to Averill Park, New York. Bill later moved to Watervliet, New York and resided there until he passed away.

**HISTORY:**

**EDUCATION:**

Bill attended St. Jude's Elementary School and Catholic Central High School.

**HISTORY:**

Bill enlisted in the United States Army on May 18, 1962. While serving in the United States Army he was the recipient of the Good Conduct Medal, Marksman (Rifle) and Sharpshooter (Rifle M-14). Bill was honorably discharged on May 17, 1965.

**PERSONAL:**

Bill was married to Sandra Flanigan and later married his second wife, Jean Brooks. He is survived by his son David Brooks; and his daughters Christine (Robert Springer) Wescott and Lori Brooks; his grandchildren; Meghan Rosebeck, Michael Brooks, Kytair Conyers, Nikolas Brooks, Jenna Wescott and Tayah Conyers; and many nieces and nephews.

**WORK**

Bill began working for the United Traction Company in 1966 at the Albany location. In 1970, the company was taken over by Capital District Transit Authority when they built the Troy location on Hoosick Street. He worked full-time for CDTA until retiring in 2003 as number two in seniority with 37 years of service. During his career with CDTA, Bill also worked part-time as a security guard for both the Watervliet and North Greenbush Police Departments.

**EXPERIENCE:**

**COMMUNITY**

Bill was a member of the Rensselaer County Law Enforcement Association from

**ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS:**

**1977-2015. He was involved in securing two new Memorial Statues for members of the Association and the K9 Police dogs who passed. He also organized the Car Seat Program in several communities. Bill served as the President from 2010 until his passing.**

**Bill loved playing Santa Claus and he would also stop at Carroll Hill and bring the children gifts and candy canes. He would also dress up as Santa on Christmas Eve at Papa's Corner Restaurant in Watervliet, New York where he was a regular and loved spending time with Debbie and Rebecca Morton. He also had a love for decorating the CDTA Bus.**

**Bill loved traveling to Florida and Casinos, where he enjoyed playing the slot machines and visiting his friends. He always looked forward to having dinner with his friends MaryAnn and John DeMio on Friday nights. He enjoyed sitting in the yard with his daughter Christine and drinking Dunkin Donut coffee. He also liked his liver and onion sandwiches that he had at his brother Jimmy's house, which were always prepared by his wife Diane. Bill loved being a police officer and always helping others; but most of all, Bill cherished spending time with his family, friends, and his dogs; especially Flash.**