



## William E. Meess

February 9, 1940 - January 16, 2026

With great sadness, the family announces the passing of William E. Meess, 85, of Chatham, New York.

He is survived by his wife Patricia, daughter Linda, grandchildren Fred, Erich and Bryanna and brother Ronald “Rocky”. He was predeceased by his sister Marsha, and granddaughter Valeska.

Bill was a loving husband, a proud father, and a deeply cherished grandfather (PopPop). He was the kind of man who showed up—always there when needed, always ready to lend a hand, always steady in the moments that mattered most.

His story began in Yonkers, NY but he spent his high school years in North Bellmore, NY where he ultimately met his soulmate, Patricia. After school, Bill joined the United States Marine Corps and served his country with honor. That service shaped the quiet strength, discipline, and integrity he carried throughout his life. Hard-working and devoted, he provided for his family with determination and pride. To his friends, he was loyal, genuine, and always ready with a story, a laugh, or a helping hand.

Bill was a partner at S-K Speed, where he excelled at making fast engines go even faster. A renowned machinist, he had an extraordinary gift for finding

ways to improve the efficiency and performance of any racing motor placed in his hands. His skill, intuition, and relentless pursuit of perfection earned him deep respect among racers, builders, and fellow enthusiasts.

A gifted mechanic with a lifelong passion for Corvettes, Bill poured his heart into restoring them, judging restored Corvettes, and sharing his knowledge of engines with other Corvette owners. He served as a judge at local chapters and national conventions of the National Corvette Restorers Society. He was a former member of both the Metro-Long Island and Adirondack chapters. His expertise was widely respected, and he took great pride in leading Tech Sessions at National Conventions, where his skill and generosity helped countless others broaden their understanding of restoration.

Bill's love of the outdoors was just as strong and he shared that fondness with friends and family. As a former member of the Long Island Black Powder Rifle Association and an avid hunter, he found peace and tranquility in the quiet solitude of the woods.

Over twenty years ago, Bill and his wife retired to Chatham, where they quickly built a new circle of friends and community. There, he continued to share, spread, and deepen his lifelong love of cars, engines, and hunting. His enthusiasm was contagious, and his knowledge was something he offered freely to anyone eager to learn.

He leaves behind a legacy defined by craftsmanship, service, friendship, and love. Those who knew him will remember his steady presence, his mechanical brilliance, and the unmistakable sparkle in his eye whenever a Corvette engine roared to life.

Each person is a storyline written in the great book of life. William's final chapter on this earth has come to a close, yet the imprint he left on our hearts

remains vivid and enduring. Though we say farewell for now, deep within us lives the quiet certainty that this parting is only temporary. Until we meet again.

Visitation will be held at Bates & Anderson Funeral Home on Thursday, January 22, 2025 from 10am until 12pm. Immediately following will be a brief service and then he will be laid to rest at Spencertown Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Alzheimer's Association or another dementia charity in his honor.

# Previous Events

## Visitation Hours

JAN 22. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler  
110 Green Street  
Hudson, NY 12534  
(518) 828-3371  
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

## Funeral Service

JAN 22. 12:00 PM (ET)

Bates & Anderson - Redmond & Keeler  
110 Green Street  
Hudson, NY 12534  
(518) 828-3371  
<http://batesandersonredmondkeeler.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *I will always have fond memories of Bill as he was a great man and a great boss. Rest in Peace* ”

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**Kathy** - January 19 at 09:32 AM