



William "Billy" Bates

July 13, 1964 - February 12, 2026

Billy, age 61, went to his heavenly home Monday, February 9, 2026. He was a true outdoorsman his whole life. Billy earned his living crabbing these Louisiana waters, however he could be found fishing and trapping for many other critters. Turtle fishing was perhaps his favorite. Billy was a big man with an even bigger heart. He is already dearly missed by all who knew and loved him.

Billy is survived by his father, Charlie W. Bates; siblings, Carla Drury (Steve), Chuck Bates, and Dawn Graves (Mike); along with numerous nieces and nephews.

Billy is preceded in death by his mother, Sandra Bowman Bates.

Relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend a Graveside Service in Wetmore Cemetery in Ponchatoula, on Thursday, February 12, 2026, starting at 10:00 a.m.

Cemetery Details

Wetmore Cemtery

14706 Hwy 22
Ponchatoula, LA 70454

Previous Events

Graveside Service

FEB 12. 10:00 AM (CT)

Wetmore Cemetery
14706 Highway 22
Ponchatoula, Louisiana 70454

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Tribute Wall



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of William "Billy' Bates.*



February 11 at 02:12 PM



“ *Brande C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Billy' Bates.*

Brande C. - February 11 at 02:12 PM



“ *Go rest high on that mountain, Billy. You were always a kind and helpful person every time I'd see you in Manchac. Always happy to share your knowledge of the seafood in the local waterways and those "down below." You will be missed. Prayers for all of your loving family and friends.*

Brenda L Gainey - February 11 at 10:51 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William "Billy' Bates.*



February 10 at 10:32 PM

SW

“ Sweet Billy. Many an afternoon conversation at The Beacon. You will be so dearly missed my friend ❤️

Sue Wilson - February 10 at 09:49 PM