



Willis (Bill — a.k.a. Henger) Joseph Hengy, 52, of Caseville, died at home on July 22, 2015, after his second but brief battle with cancer while under hospice care.

He was born Jan. 16, 1963, in Pigeon, to Willis M. and Joanne E. (Russell) Hengy, and attended Caseville High School. On Aug. 30, 2014, he was engaged to Tami Brown.

Bill lived and worked in the Caseville community most of his life. His family owned and operated the Michigan Directory Company in Pigeon for many years, where Bill was the distribution manager. After selling the Directory, Bill developed the Caseville Resort and Marina, and owned and operated the business with his father.

As a child, Bill was always on the water either fishing or skiing. He loved hunting with his grandparents up north at their Deer Camp and trapping animals with his friends. He also enjoyed snowmobiling, riding/racing dirt bikes, ice fishing, and just about anything outdoors.

In his spare time, Bill loved to golf and fish (then grill the fresh fish, which I understand was very good). He owned his own boat called Wild Cherry and fished many tournaments, often taking first or second place. He also golfed in many tournaments, and usually placed in those too.

Anytime you wanted to find Bill and he wasn't at work, you could always find him on his boat or the golf course. And, of course, anyone who knew Bill knew that he would not be doing these things without his beloved dog, Cloie. She went everywhere with him, including riding in his golf cart and his Harley.

More recently, Bill was not able to do many of these things, but loved to spend time at home with Tami. They would cook together, plant a garden, do things around the house, grill in the back yard, and most importantly, watch football every Sunday, especially the Minnesota Vikings (Bill's favorite team) and the Detroit Lions (Tami's favorite team). When he was able and not sick, Bill also loved spending time with his grandchildren.

Let's not forget how much Bill loved his 80s rock music, which probably stems from the 80s when he was in a three-man band in Florida. Even today, he still listened to this great music and would always know the name of the band, the song, and often, the names of the people in the band. He had a brilliant mind when it came to his 80s hairband music.

Bill always believed in having fun and lived a very full life. He did many things that some of us will never do, including escaping death on a couple of occasions. He always talked about living his "dash," and it was important to him that he accomplish this. I think he did. He was always a very kind person and would help a friend in need without question. When he was a strong member of the community and owned his business, he would always be willing to hire his friends before anyone else. He had a very big heart and I am hoping this is how Bill will be remembered to many of you. He was taken from this world way too early and will be missed very much.

He is survived by his fiancée, Tami Brown of Caseville; his sister, Susan Hengy of Florida; children, Shar Ann (Jason) Mohr, Willis Hengy, and William Hengy; and six grandchildren.

He is predeceased by his father, Willis M. Hengy; and his mother, Joanne E. (Russell) Hengy; his paternal grandparents, Willis A. Hengy and Melrine (Elles) Hengy; and his maternal grandparents, Joseph E. Russell and Marjorie (Cousins) Russell — affectionately known as Bompie and Gramzie.

A gathering to celebrate Bill's life will be held from 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 29, 2015, at the Caseville Township Hall.

Memorials can be donated to the American Cancer Society.