



## William F. Ruthkay

October 26, 1934 - February 18, 2025

William (Willy) F. Ruthkay, age 90, of Merrillville, IN, passed away on Tuesday, February 18, 2025. William was born in Gary, IN, on October 26, 1934, and was a graduate of Calumet High School and served in the U.S. Navy. Willy enjoyed car racing, attending car races, skiing, traveling, golfing, and spending time with family, and all his friends. He belonged to the Sports Car Club of America, Gary Ski Club, and many golf leagues. Willy was a retired PBX installer with Indiana Bell/AT&T. He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Mildred Ruthkay; first wife and the mother of his two sons, Marlys; second wife, Pat; and brother, Robert Ruthkay. William is survived by his sons, Mark Ruthkay (Sue Riley) and Mitch (Shelly) Ruthkay; grandchildren, Alyssa, Mitcheal, and Lindsey Ruthkay. A memorial visitation to celebrate Willy's life will be held on Sunday, February 23, 2025, from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. at Burns Funeral Home & Crematory, 10101 Broadway, Crown Point, IN. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Hospital. [www.burnsfuneral.com](http://www.burnsfuneral.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

FEB **23**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Burns Funeral Home & Crematory - Crown Point

10101 Broadway

Crown Point, IN 46307

(219) 769-0044

[info@burnsfuneral.com](mailto:info@burnsfuneral.com)

<https://www.burnsfuneral.com/>

# Tribute Wall

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“ We have so many happy memories of going racing with Bill and Marlys.  
Mark and Mitch came along too and in my mind I can see the white and green VW bus  
Waiting for us at the Portage exit.  
Our sympathy for your loss, Mark and Mitch and family  
Jim and Trudi Mckamey

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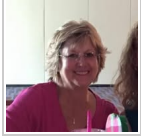
**Trudi Mckamey** - June 22, 2025 at 02:36 PM

SD

“ Bill was a friend of mine. A great friend.  
We met when he was an AT&T rep, who came to my office to install my office telephone system. We started talking and we became quick to realize we both liked cars. (He was a very friendly person.)  
He invited me to join a regional SCCA car club which attracted "car nuts" like me, who could get together and bench race. The club would hold solo timing events monthly in N.W. Indiana. I as hooked!  
Bill was a child man in a good way! He was always the life of the party, a great mechanic; well maybe a good mechanic! I am honored to be counted as one of his friends, of which there were many in all walks of life. He was comfortable in any situation. I can't count the times we laughed so hard! There will never be anyone like Bill Ruthkay! He was one of a kind. Rest in peace, my friend! Love,  
Jerry, Sandy and Angie DeGrazia

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**SANDY DEGRAZIA** - February 22, 2025 at 10:15 PM



“ *One of a kind..You will never be forgotten. Prayers to Mark and Mitch and family*  
*Love*  
*Don and Cathy Larson*

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**Cathy Larson** - February 21, 2025 at 10:43 AM

AK

*Bill was a good man and enjoyed life. He will be missed. Prayers to the Ruthkay family.*  
*Elsie and Alex*

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**Alex Koleff** - February 22, 2025 at 11:07 AM