



# William Henry "Bill" McDonald

SEP 17, 1945 - JAN 12, 2017



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# William Henry "Bill" McDonald

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**W**illiam Henry "Bill" McDonald passed away peacefully on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at his home in Mandeville, LA. The beloved husband of Debby Ferguson McDonald, he is survived by his daughter - Jennifer McDonald Ditson; one son - Jordan Ferguson McDonald; and one sister-in-law - Sheila Ferguson Leatherwood. His parents, Margaret Davidson and Robert McDonald both of Northern Ireland, precede him in death.

Mr. McDonald joined E.N. Bisso & Son, Inc. in September, 1996 as Vice President (Marketing and Sales). With more than 100 years of service on the Lower Mississippi River, E.N. Bisso & Son, Inc. has a long history of leadership providing ship assist, harbor tug, offshore towing, and heavy lift derrick services.

In March 2004, Mr. McDonald was promoted to Executive Vice President. In that capacity, he performed all work necessary for promoting the value of the company to a global shipping community, with particular attention to attracting and maintaining relationships with European, Asian, and South American ship owners and charterers. In July 2011, E.N. Bisso & Son, Inc.'s Board of Directors appointed Mr. McDonald as President of the company.

Prior to joining E.N. Bisso & Son, Mr. McDonald held the position of Vice President/General Manager of Bay-Houston Towing Company in Houston, where his knowledge of the worldwide shipping industry began. Born in Belfast, Northern Ireland and schooled in Toronto, Canada, Mr. McDonald entered Her Majesty's service in the Household Cavalry Regiment, known as the Royal Horse Guards. Mr. McDonald served as a Director of the New Orleans Board of Trade and as a member of the New Orleans Port Safety Council. Bill was also a member of the Connecticut Maritime Association, New York Athletic Club, and the World Trade Club. When not promoting the benefits of calling on the Lower Mississippi River, Bill enjoyed spending time as an avid outdoorsman, hunting, fishing, and playing golf. Bill



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was especially proud of his son, Jordan's graduation from Texas A&M Maritime Academy in Galveston, TX and their shared love of the maritime industry.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend memorial services at 11:00 AM on Monday, January 16, 2017 at St. Timothy United Methodist Church, 335 Asbury Dr. Mandeville, LA 70448.

Visitation at the Church on Monday will begin at 10:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Shriner's Hospital For Children, [www.shrinershospitals.org](http://www.shrinershospitals.org) or by calling 855-401-4897.



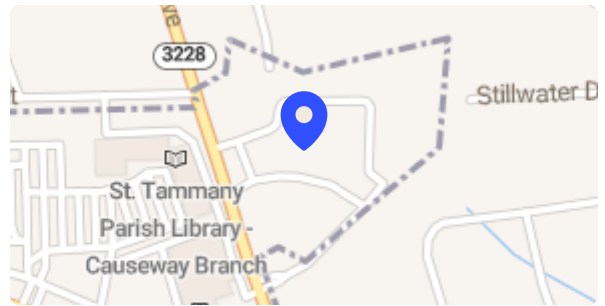
# Events

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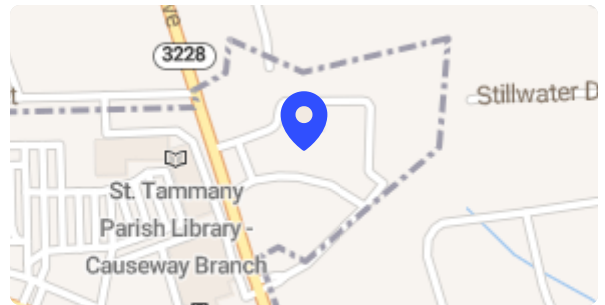
## Visitation

- Monday**, January 16, 2017
- 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM CT
- St. Timothy on the Northshore**  
335 Asbury Dr., Mandeville LA 70471



## Memorial Services

- Monday**, January 16, 2017
- 11:00 AM CT
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335 Asbury Dr., Mandeville LA 70471





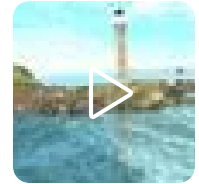
## Tribute Wall

**William Henry "Bill" McDonald**

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**E.J. Fielding Funeral Home & Cremation Services** shared a **Tribute Video**.



January 13 at 12:50 PM



**Colin McDonald** posted:

So sorry to hear about our cousin Bill passing on. I just heard last week. My thoughts and prayers are with Debby, Jennifer, Jordan and the rest of the family. Colin McDonald (Portadown, Northern Ireland).

April 4 at 7:12 AM



**Sue Ann Studdard** posted:

Debby, We are so sorry to hear of Bill's passing. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and Jordan at this difficult time. Much love - Earl and Sue Ann Studdard

January 16 at 2:25 PM



**Scott St. Romain** posted:

We are so saddened to hear of your loss Debbie. We will miss Bill. What a wonderful person to have the privilege and honor to know. We know your heart is broken. Scott St. Romain and Staff

January 16 at 9:22 AM



**Joe Finneman** posted:

Debbie, I'm so sorry to hear about Bill. What a nice guy, Always a gentleman with a good sense of humor. My deepest sympathies. Joe Finneman

January 16 at 6:48 AM



# Tribute Wall

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**Edward A. Keane** posted:

It is easy to remember Bill as a "man's man", surely he was, and he could even look like Hemingway when he wanted to; but the quiet authority, great sportsman, sailor, equestrian, and the rest, only captured one facet of the man. His dry wit was not an inconsiderable a part, but to me his optimism and genuine generosity of heart to all he encountered were the most precious part of him. He will be missed here and by many others, the world diminished by his leaving. Hopefully, his fine example of what it is to "be a man" as Rudyard Kipling put it, will bear fruit in others and help fill the void. My sincere condolences,Edward A. Keane

January 15 at 3:17 PM



**Richard Enright** January 16 at 3:17 AM

My wife, Monette, and I had only met Bill and Debby a few weeks ago but had heard of him for years from our daughter and son-in-law. Their visit with us was a pleasure and left us with desire to enjoy their company more in the future. The above tributes to Bill are spot-on and we echo them, Our prayers are with him.



**Susan Allbright** January 15 at 5:17 PM

I never had the opportunity or pleasure to know Bill. However my family has known Jordan for many years through our son, Ben Allbright. We have always been proud of Jordan for staying focused and following his dream. That discipline is taught over a child's life. Bill showed his children what the way to live. "Do onto others as you would have them do onto you." Jordan is a beautiful shining example following his dad's footsteps. I know he will pick up where his dad left off. God bless your family. Sincerely, Susie allbright



**Anonymous** sent a Pretty Please to the McDonald family.



January 15 at 7:19 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Gift of Grace Bouquet to the McDonald family.



January 15 at 6:47 AM



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**Debbie Bowie** posted:

i was so saddened to hear of Bill's passing. I know that he will be greatly missed. Earl and I just had a delight visit with him at Leslie's party. He was so upbeat and had a big smile on his face and he spoke so beautifully of his family. Debby, I will keep you and Jordan in my prayers at this difficult time. May God grant you both peace and strength at this time. Debbie Bowie

January 14 at 10:22 AM



## Media

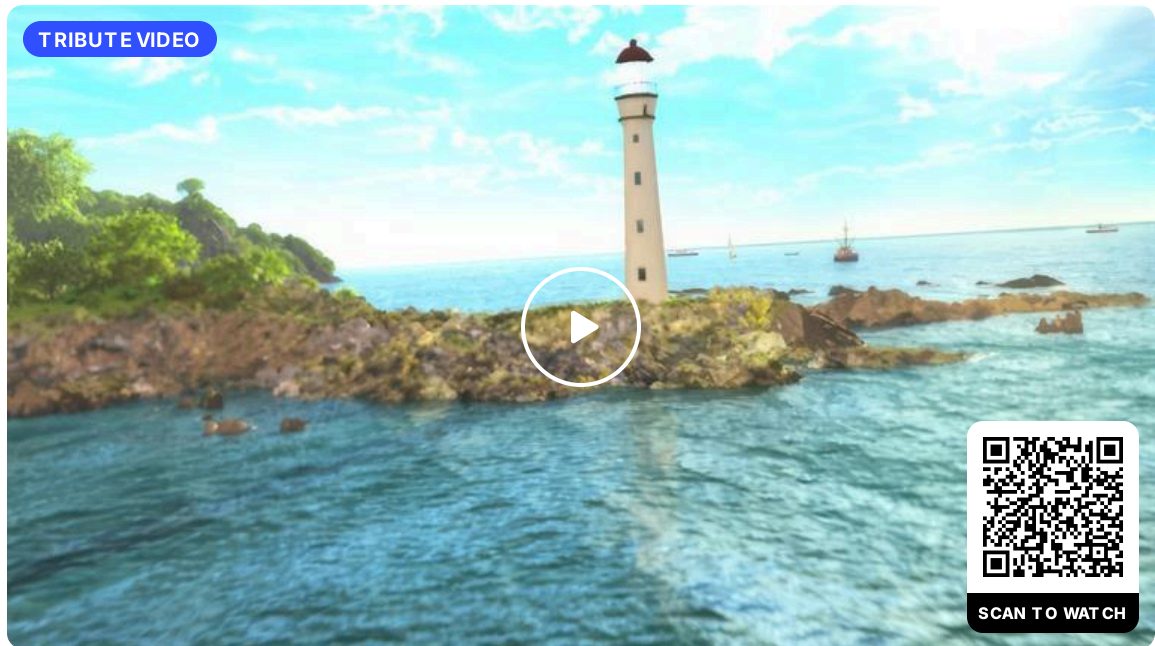
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January 13 at 12:50 PM



**Lana K Mason** January 17 at 8:07 PM

So beautiful Jennifer. ....



**Diane Unbehagen** January 17 at 3:02 PM

Jennifer McDonald Ditson, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family! I am so very sorry for your loss.



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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