



## Byron W. "Buddy" Filben

June 4, 1963 - February 15, 2020

Byron W. "Buddy" Filben, age 56 of Glen Dale, WV passed away, Saturday, February 15, 2020 at Liza's Place in Wheeling, WV.

He was born June 4, 1963 in Wheeling, WV the son of Byron Hull and Rosalie Marie Burkle Filben of Glen Dale, WV.

Buddy was the Band Director and Dean of Students at Wheeling Middle School.

He was a member of Phi Beta Mu, NAFME, and PAS and St. Jude Catholic Church in Glen Dale.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his wife of 22 years, Tracey White Filben; a daughter, Kailey Marie Filben of Glen Dale; a sister, Leslie (Pat) Garrett of Glen Dale; two brothers, Greg (Kerry) Filben of St. Louis, MO and Matt (Jill) Filben of Alexandria, VA; and several nieces and nephews.

Family will receive friends on Tuesday from 2-4 and 6-8pm at Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory, 1 Ridgecrest Rd. Wheeling/Bethlehem, WV.

In lieu of flowers Memorial Contributions may be made to Kailey Marie Filben, 2229 Raleigh Drive, Glen Dale, WV 26038.

# Cemetery Details

**Mt. Rose Cemetery**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

FEB 18. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem  
1 Ridgecrest Road  
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003  
(304) 232-0400  
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

### Visitation

FEB 18. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Grisell Funeral Home & Crematory- Wheeling/Bethlehem  
1 Ridgecrest Road  
Bethlehem/Wheeling, WV 26003  
(304) 232-0400  
<https://www.grisellfuneralhomes.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Grisell Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben*



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**Grisell Funeral Homes** - February 17, 2020 at 12:03 PM



“ *I studied percussion under Buddy. He was an amazing teacher because he didn't put up with half measures and knew if you were not giving it everything you had. That is why he was the musician he was. He is a legend without a doubt.*

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**C.G** - January 10, 2022 at 06:22 PM



“ *A great friend and a wonderful man who will be sorely missed. My thoughts and prayers to Tracey and family.*

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**john haglock** - February 19, 2020 at 08:20 PM



“ *I met Buddy when I was a Tonette. I remember how fun he always was and a great drummer. Some people's memories just stick with. I never forgot him. He will be missed*

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**jennifer bernhard-smith** - February 18, 2020 at 02:19 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.*



February 18, 2020 at 11:03 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.*



February 18, 2020 at 09:42 AM



“ *I met Buddy at WVU. Such a talented musician. He had such a unique sense of humor. Always laughing. Buddy had a wonderful heart. Our condolences to the Filben Family.*

**Jeannette Albrecht Flowers** - February 18, 2020 at 08:17 AM



“ *U were a wonderful teacher and mentor.. Both of my daughters adored u.. Ivy said band will not be the same without u.. She said she will continue to play to make u proud.. Rest peacefully mr filben... Heather and ivy*

**Heather hollingshead** - February 17, 2020 at 08:35 PM

TC

“ I was shocked and deeply saddened to hear that Buddy had passed away. You are in my prayers and thoughts. My sincere condolences go out to Buddy's entire family.

*Teri Cesare-Bartnicki*

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**Terii Cesare-Bartnicki** - February 17, 2020 at 02:40 PM

WP

“ I am really saddened to hear of the passing of Buddy much too soon. Although I hadn't seen him in many years, he left me with fond memories of our short-lived friendship. Buddy was one year ahead of me in school, but because we went to both Union Junior High and John Marshall together, he made my transition into high school relatively painless. Because we were both percussionists, he was always looking out for me. Instead of being tormented by the upper classmen in the band at JM, I was immediately accepted in large part because Buddy knew me and considered me a friend. I always liked to think that it was because I was cool, but it was really because of Buddy. Some of my fondest memories come from performing and traveling alongside Buddy for the Toni Zeakes Dance Studio; we had a lot of fun on those trips, but we were also pretty darn good. The world has lost another good human, my thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. W.R. Poland

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**William Poland** - February 17, 2020 at 12:12 PM



“ 132 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



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**Grisell Funeral Homes** - February 17, 2020 at 12:02 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.



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February 17, 2020 at 11:22 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket* was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.



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February 17, 2020 at 11:00 AM

RS

“ I am in shock about the loss of Buddy. He was an amazing director and our region will never be the same without his help and guidance. Tracey and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers. God Bless you and keep you. In Christian love...Ray Seifert

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**Raymond Seifert** - February 17, 2020 at 07:14 AM

PW

“ Dear Tracey, Kailey, Leslie & Filben family,  
My heart breaks for the loss of this great man who has left so much good to this world in the relatively short time he was here. His influence will live on with all the students he has blessed with his great talents. Love & prayers for your peace & comfort. Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal. Patty Wylie

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**Patricia Wylie** - February 17, 2020 at 06:25 AM

JB

“ For years, I had heard stories about Buddy and the way he helped to shape my husband, Jason, and so many others under his tutelage.

*The stories made me laugh and made me understand the dedication Buddy gave which created that special place that Jason and Buddy's other students held for him.*

*When I finally met Buddy, the man of the stories, I immediately felt comfortable around him. His small remarks made me laugh, his mannerisms with so much personality, and in a world of so many caught up in themselves, he always asked how I was or how my children were. He always took the time. To make others feel important. To genuinely listen.*

*We have lost someone special, but I know he will live on through the "Buddy stories and memories" in my household, as I'm sure he will in so many others'.*



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**Jessica Broski-Birch** - February 16, 2020 at 09:19 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.



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February 16, 2020 at 05:37 PM

SH

“ *#Flyhighbuddy*  
*You were the best band teacher I could ever ask for. For his family always remember god takes the angels first. Best of luck for u guys. Your in my Prayers*

Sheridan - February 16, 2020 at 04:43 PM

MD

“ *Melissa Downie lit a candle in memory of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben*



melissa downie - February 16, 2020 at 04:09 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.*



February 16, 2020 at 03:57 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.*



February 16, 2020 at 10:53 AM

DR

“ So sorry of your loss Filben family my prayers are with you at this difficult time.  
*Debbie Randolph*



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**Debbie Randolph** - February 16, 2020 at 10:33 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.*



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February 15, 2020 at 08:20 PM

BH

“ *So sorry to hear of the passing of Buddy. He was such a nice young man whose passing was too soon. Sincere Condolences to Tracey, Kailey and the Filben family. He will be missed RIP Buddy.*

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**Bonnie Hartley** - February 15, 2020 at 08:08 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.*



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February 15, 2020 at 07:31 PM

PK

“ Buddy was an awesome guy. I have so many fond memories jammin in the steel band. He will be truly missed. I pray for peace during this grieving process for Tracy, the Garrett's and the rest of the family.

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**Patrice King** - February 15, 2020 at 06:30 PM

MG

“ I am going to miss you Bud. I remember playing cops and robbers on Lee Street with the gang, hanging out at the pool all summer long, and band camp. Love to your beautiful wife, daughter and family. RIP

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**Michele Hartley Gogolkiewicz** - February 15, 2020 at 05:31 PM

MP

“ So very sorry to hear of the passing of Buddy. I have known Buddy for many years, and he was such a great man and educator. He will be missed by so many. My condolences and prayers go out to all of his family and friends.

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**Mark Poole** - February 15, 2020 at 05:28 PM

MD

“ Such a funny guy in high school! So sweet and just a great human being! Prayers for his family and loved ones.

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**Margaret Decola** - February 15, 2020 at 04:18 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.*



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February 15, 2020 at 04:02 PM



“ *Buddy was the sweetest, funniest guy in high school, and so musically talented. We shared such great fun together during those years. Sincerest condolences and prayers to his family. RIP my friend ❤️*

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**Ann Coates** - February 15, 2020 at 04:00 PM



“ *I was in the band with Buddy at JM. RIP my friend.*

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**Angie Montes Simmerman** - February 15, 2020 at 03:56 PM



“ *Buddy, you always kept band camp fun and interesting. RIP my friend. Say hello to Mr Rose for me.*

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**George Berlenge** - February 15, 2020 at 03:32 PM



“ *I am so saddened to hear the news. Buddy left the legacy of music to many students. He will be missed.*  
*Lee Cunningham*

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**Lee Cunningham** - February 15, 2020 at 03:03 PM

SF

“ So very sorry. Loved working with Buddy and his crew during band camps and competitions! I'm sure if you listen carefully there's some wonderful music playing in the heavens! Love and prayers!

Sue Flesher - February 15, 2020 at 02:48 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.



February 15, 2020 at 02:06 PM

MS

“ He was such a nice guy in school. Prayers for the family.

Melinda Smith - February 15, 2020 at 02:05 PM

KC

“ Our deepest sympathy and prayers for the family  
Kathy and Kylie Clatterbuck



Kathy Clatterbuck - February 15, 2020 at 01:56 PM

SA

“ M prayers are with the family.

Sara Jo Anderson - February 15, 2020 at 01:47 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Byron W. "Buddy" Filben.*



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February 15, 2020 at 01:39 PM



“ *Matt,  
So sorry about your brother. My thoughts and sympathy go out to you and the rest of your brother's family and many friends. I'm sure he left this world knowing he made this small part of the world a better place. Helping more than he even realized.*

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**Jay Knapp** - February 15, 2020 at 01:10 PM



“ *We are so sorry for your loss. We pray that you find comfort in knowing that Buddy is safe in God's loving arms. And that the promise of eternal life has been fulfilled. He will always be with you watching out for you. We love you Tracey and Kailey.*

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**Greg and Jeanie Campbell** - February 15, 2020 at 12:56 PM