



William W. Bain Jr.

January 24, 1948 - March 8, 2026

William W. Bain, Jr., “Rusty” “Bill,” of Wenonah, passed away on March 8, 2026. Beloved husband of Sharon Bain (née Snow), loving father of Joel R. Bain (Kathleen), Janet Bain, Lisa Wright (Tyrone), Lori Bain, Howard Gwin (Michelle), Sandra Ferris (Mark), Diane Snow, Nicole Sutton (Jason), and the late Kristy Gwin.

Devoted grandfather of Brittnie Jones (James), Keenan Bain (Tonya), Sandra Shevlin (Mike), Janelle Menzel (Andrew), Joel Bain (Jillian), Christopher Bain (Alyssa), Eddie Hutchinson (Dana), Mackenzie Gwin, William Bain, Isabel Ferris, Mark Ferris, and Maddie Ferris, and great-grandfather of 13. He was predeceased by his granddaughter, Ashleigh Ryan Gwin. Bill is also survived by many loving nieces and nephews.

Bill’s life was defined by service, dedication, and a larger-than-life spirit. A proud veteran of the U.S. Navy (1965–1967), he went on to serve as a firefighter for the City of Camden for 30 years. His commitment to the well-being of his fellow firefighters extended into Union leadership, including service as Vice President Emeritus of Local 788 and a variety of board and committee roles, helping to protect labor rights and benefits for decades.

Following his fire service, Bill continued his career as Assistant Superintendent of the Gloucester County Department of Buildings and

Grounds, a position he held with distinction from 2000 onward.

A devoted public servant, Bill was a pillar in local government. He served as Mayor of the Township of Deptford (1996–2005), Township Councilman (1989–2005), and held numerous positions, including President of the Gloucester County New Jersey Mayors Association, Commissioner and Chairman of the Gloucester County Housing Authority, Delegate to the Democratic National Convention, and Executive Board member of the New Jersey League of Municipalities. Through every role, he championed initiatives to improve his community, guided local policy, and supported residents with fairness, compassion, and unwavering commitment.

Bill's civic engagement extended beyond government. He was deeply involved in community organizations, from the Deptford Elks Lodge #2708 and the Army & Navy Garrison 51 to the Gloucester County Animal Shelter, where his love of animals led him to rescue and find homes for countless pets. He created several scholarship funds, chaired benefit events including the Firefighters' Bed Race, and famously sat atop Sam's Club to raise money for Make-A-Wish and other charitable causes for children. Always one to blend fun with purpose, he officiated weddings, asking couples to make donations to charity in lieu of fees, leaving a lasting mark on families throughout the county.

Family was the heart of Bill's life. Known for his joyous spirit, he sang to all his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, often performing "I Can Sing a Rainbow" and filling birthdays with music, laughter, and love. He delighted in photography, cheered loudly for the New York Yankees, and had a special fondness for giraffes, which never failed to bring a smile to his face. Friends and family remember him as the "toughest guy with the greatest heart," a man whose humor and wisdom were captured in his signature Bill-isms.

Bill's lifetime of dedication earned him numerous honors, including the

Firefighter-Statesman Award from the Professional Firefighters Association of New Jersey, citations from the New Jersey General Assembly and U.S. Congress, and honorary life membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. His legacy of service, leadership, humor, and love will be remembered by all who were fortunate to know him.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a viewing on Friday, March 13, 2026, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon in the Chapel at Boucher Funeral Home, 1757 Delsea Drive, Deptford, NJ 08096.

A funeral service will begin at 12:00 Noon in the Chapel of the funeral home.

Interment to follow at Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery, Williamstown.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Breakthrough T1D, formerly Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, by accessing: https://www2.breakthrough1d.org/site/Donation2?2376.donation=form1&df_id=2376&mfc_pref=T OR the Gloucester County Animal Shelter by accessing: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=6KMEMLR32UEY2 OR Partners in Learning by accessing: <https://www.partnersinlearningnj.org/wishlist>.

For condolences, please visit www.boucherfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Viewing

MAR 13. 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

The Chapel at Boucher Funeral Home, LLC
1757 Delsea Drive
Deptford, NJ 08096
(856) 464-1097
staff@boucherfuneralhome.com
<https://www.boucherfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR 13. 12:00 PM (ET)

The Chapel at Boucher Funeral Home, LLC
1757 Delsea Drive
Deptford, NJ 08096
(856) 464-1097
staff@boucherfuneralhome.com
<https://www.boucherfuneralhome.com/>

Interment

MAR 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

Gloucester County Veterans Memorial Cemetery
240 S. Tuckahoe Road
Williamstown, NJ 08094
(856) 401-7660

Tribute Wall



“ *Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & Gloucester County Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of William W. Bain Jr.*



Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & County Cremation Service - March 13 at 07:55 AM

GS

“ *Joel, family and extended family. Our most sincere condolences to you and your families. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. Gary, Kellie and Aiden Sklar*

Gary Sklar - March 13 at 03:59 PM

FC

“ *I was so sorry to learn of the sudden passing of Bill Bain, a dedicated community leader and fine Chairman of the Housing Authority of Gloucester County. He advanced work of the Authority for the benefit of the elderly and disabled residents and his leadership will be missed and long remembered. I send my sympathy to the family. Frank C. Cossaboon, Former Authority Director*

Frank Cossaboon - March 13 at 10:18 AM

CS

“ Charlotte S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William W. Bain Jr..

Charlotte S. - March 13 at 10:04 AM

CS

“ Charlotte S. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William W. Bain Jr..



Charlotte S. - March 13 at 10:04 AM

MC

“ I'll remember Bill as a Dedicated lifelong public Servant. Warmest Condolences.



Michael Cavallo - March 13 at 09:38 AM

EO

“ Mr. Bill Bain served as our Chairman at the Housing Authority of Gloucester County and during the last 13 plus years I had the pleasure to be part of the work that he was doing to make HAGC better for our employees, residents; community. Words cannot express your loss, My hear felt, sincerest condolences Mrs. Bain, familyGod bless ... may you rest in peace.

E Ortiz - March 12 at 04:44 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William W. Bain Jr..

March 12 at 01:58 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of William W. Bain Jr..



March 12 at 01:58 PM



“ 263 files added to the album LifeTributes



Boucher Funeral Home, LLC & County Cremation Service - March 12 at 01:39 PM

PL

“ I have known Chairman Bain for the last 10 years, while working at the Gloucester County Housing Authority as the Affordable Housing Director. My contact with Bill was mostly limited to our monthly Board of Commissioners' Meetings. Bill was the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners and ran the meetings that oversaw the entire operations of the Housing Authority. He always had the best interest of the tenants and the employees at the forefront of his decision making. Bill had the wisdom to hire good employees and let them do their job under his watchful eye. Bill's obituary read that he was a "tough guy with the greatest heart". Truer words were never spoken. Bill will be greatly missed at the Authority and we will think of him often. Bill's contributions to the Authority will never be fully recognized. My heartfelt condolences to the family. Paul Letizia

Paul Letizia - March 12 at 12:48 PM

ST

“ Steffen Torres purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William W. Bain Jr..



Steffen Torres - March 11 at 10:18 AM

SW

“ I knew Bill when I worked at the Deptford Police Department from 1989-2006, and it was an honor to know and work with him. He was always pleasant and kind and always took the time to talk to anyone who approached him. At one point he noticed that we shared the same birthday, and he would make it a point to wish me a happy birthday just about every year. He had said that birthdays are a time to celebrate yourself. And occasionally he would send me a birthday card. My husband works for the County of Gloucester and has also been fortunate to have worked with Bill for a number of years. Our condolences and prayers go out to Sharon and the Bain family. God bless and may he rest in peace! 🙏

Sandy Wurtz - March 11 at 09:50 AM

SW

“ Sandy Wurtz lit a candle in memory of William Bain



Sandy Wurtz - March 11 at 08:30 AM

CS

“ Carla stillwell purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William W. Bain Jr..



Carla stillwell - March 10 at 02:42 PM

CS

“ Carla stillwell planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William W. Bain Jr..

Carla stillwell - March 10 at 02:42 PM

MM

“ I’m deeply saddened by Bill’s passing. He was a wonderful caring man whose friendship I truly treasured. If there was something that needed to be done, it was Bill that made sure that it was. My friend, I pray that you rest in eternal peace, and I thank you for all your support, guidance and loyalty during our entire friendship. 🙏🙏
MaryBeth

MaryBeth Monroe - March 10 at 01:22 PM

RC

“ Sending heartfelt condolences to Howard, Michelle, and Mackenzie Gwin. Very sorry for your loss. - Renee Chapman

Renee Chapman - March 10 at 10:17 AM

JG

“ It was a honor to know and serve with Bill on the Gloucester County Housing authority, he brought great leadership to the housing authority. Bill devoted his life to his family and public service. As a Mayor I would seek Bill’s advice on the duties of Mayor. It was a true role model and will be missed. Prayers to his family and friends.

John Giovannitti - March 10 at 10:00 AM