



## Mr. Percival L. Williams Jr.

November 6, 1929 - September 18, 2021

Percy was born in Adams, MA on November 6, 1929.

He was a member of the high school band and orchestra, played basketball and baseball and was active in gymnastics with the Adams Turners. He was active in Scouting and rose to the rank of Eagle Scout and additionally earned the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Palms.

He graduated from Adams High School in 1947. He went on to college in Boston and graduated as an electrical engineer in 1951.

He joined General Electric's System Test Engineering and in 1953, moved to Field Engineering.

He served in the U.S. Army from 1955 through 1957. He was discharged at Fort Bliss, Texas and upon his discharge was presented with a Meritorious Service Award.

He returned to GE's Field Engineering and in 1958 returned to Pittsfield and joined the Fleet Ballistic Missile Program.

He led the development of the Training Systems Business and later was additionally assigned to serve as Vice President of a small GE subsidiary, Management and Technical Services Company (MATSCO) for six years. In 1988, he also assumed the leadership of the Submarine Combat Systems business at Ordnance. He retired from G.E. in January of 1990 as Manager of Training Systems and Submarine Combat Systems Programs.

Since retirement, Percy and his wife Dawn devoted their time to their family, been and continued to be active volunteers, travelled extensively, and

pursued their respective hobbies. Percy was an active nature, wildlife and landscape photographer and presented many slide shows on those subjects. His other interests included woodworking and always maintaining an interest in evolving technology.

Percy has served on the American Cancer Society Board, the Trinity Episcopal Church of Lenox Vestry, the St. Helena's Episcopal Church Chapel Committee, is a member of the Lenox Historical Society Board, a Registrar for the Town of Lenox, and when time permits, a volunteer at the Mass Audobon Society.

Preceded in death by Dawn to whom he had been married for 68 years.

Percy is survived by his children: Gary A. Williams (Tammy) of Butler, PA., Eric E. Williams (Julie) of Shaftsbury, VT., and Rana M. McCarthy of North Adams, and his Grandchildren; Lyndsey, Clayton, and Williams, Amanda Adornetto, Paige and Evan Williams.

Besides his wife Dawn, Percy is predeceased by his parents; Percival L. Williams in 1986 and Blanche (Wasilewski) Williams in 1996.

There will be graveside service held on Friday, October 1, 2021 at 11am in Bellevue Cemetery in Adams, MA. Calling hours will be held on Thursday, September 30th from 5:00pm-7:00pm at the Roche Funeral Home, 120 Main Street, Lenox, MA 01240. Memorial donations in Percy's memory may be made to the Berkshire Humane Society in care of the funeral home.

# Cemetery Details

## Bellevue Cemetery

Adams, MA 01225

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP **30**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Roche Funeral Home  
120 Main Street  
P.O. Box 152  
Lenox, MA 01240  
(413) 637-0699  
eroche120fh@gmail.com

## Graveside Service

OCT **1**. 11:00 AM - 11:45 AM (ET)

Bellevue Cemetery  
Adams, MA 01225

# Tribute Wall

DB

“ I’m sorry to hear about Percy. He’s one of the great senior guys I worked with at GE Ordnance in Pittsfield when I first arrived. They all gave me a hard time because I was the new kid, and not up to snuff on two important characteristics — I was one of the few high visibility women and worse, I had an MBA instead of an engineering degree. Percy was particularly good natured about his teasing.

He would sometimes come down to our offices in OP1 to do some legitimate HR work, and then hang around to incite controversies and sprinkle new ideas, always with a twinkle and a smile, and brilliant sharpness of mind. I remember when he cooked up a marketing course for design engineers, and invited me to participant so I could learn a few things about how the defense business really worked. One of my most cherished corporate knick-knacks is the Lexan artifact that he designed for people who completed the course. Out of his peculiarly complex mind came a solid object that contained the forms of equal sized circle, triangle and square, with a gold seal identifying the program and the name of the “graduating” participant. He made sure to put my entire name, even though he would tease me about having two last names. I think he had to have this special artifact molded in the lab, because there was surely nothing else like it in the world to communicate the essential integration of similarity and difference. To be legible, you have to look through the object at just the right angle. Lexan gets cloudy over time, and I just noticed that this object is getting cloudy so it is getting harder to read the small engraved print. Fortunately my memories of Percy remain vibrant, and cherished.

*My best to you, with your memories to enjoy.*

*Debbie FERRO Burke*

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**Debbie Burke** - September 24, 2021 at 09:45 AM

GK

“ My sympathy to all of Percys family. Percy had an impact on my life as one of his caregivers I totally enjoyed his company we too quite a few rides he especially liked to go through Adam's and show me all the places his family lived We traveled many miles together even though we didn't know each other very well We watched the geese in Cheshire and the views from Berry Pond The place he always wanted to be was with his wife Dawn I am happy for him in that he is finally with her RIP Percy your journey is finally over.

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**Gail Kearns** - September 23, 2021 at 02:02 PM

SC

“ My deepest sympathy to Williams Family to the passing of Percy. May he rest in peace. My husband ,Richard Chalupa. worked for many years for Percy at GE. WE have lots of good memories. You are in my prayers. With love Sabine Chalupa

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**Sabine Chalupa** - September 23, 2021 at 08:59 AM

LF

“ It seems only fitting that Percy has now joined his beloved Dawn, and they are together once again. We extend our sincere sympathy to the whole family in your loss. Percy and Dawn were such good friends over the years. Percy was Best Man at our wedding, he was Ray's boss at GE, and we were traveling companions to many destinations. We enjoyed many New Year's Eve parties at their house, and had many fun times in our Dinner/Bridge Group. Love and prayers to Gary, Eric, Rana and the whole family.  
Linda and Ray Fischer

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**Linda Fischer** - September 21, 2021 at 03:23 PM