



## William A. Tzanakis

August 1, 1929 - December 26, 2022

William (“Bill”) Tzanakis, 93, passed away on December 26, 2022, in his home surrounded by loved ones. He was born on August 1, 1929, in Toledo, Ohio to Anthony and Olga Tzanakis, immigrants from Greece. Bill met Angeline (Svingos), his wife of 52 years, met at a Greek dance in Toledo, Ohio. They were married in 1961.

Bill was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio where he graduated from the University of Toledo. He was drafted into the US Army and served during the Korean War. Upon his return, he worked as an accountant. A true entrepreneur at heart, he then focused on investing in and buying and selling businesses before ultimately opening the Stein ‘N Pitcher in 1968, a restaurant and pub adjacent to the University of Toledo and popular venue for the college students. In June of 1987, Bill sold his businesses and retired. Upon his retirement, he continued volunteering and cultivating his love of cooking. He worked to perfect many of his favorite recipes and was especially known for his rice pudding and variety of soups and chili.

Bill was a life-long active member of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral where he devoted his time participating in numerous organizations and events including AHEPA, GAPAA, Young at Heart and the Greek American Festival. He served on Parish Council for many years as Assistant Treasurer. He enjoyed putting his journalism skills to work as a Hellenic Echo Staff member. His list

of volunteer activities was long, varied and distinguished by service to his church and parish. In January 2005, Bill was awarded the Philoptochos Certificate of Merit for his many contributions to the parish.

Bill is survived by his daughters, Maria Tzanakis, Tina Tzanakis, Toni Tzanakis; his Niece, Becky (John) Skiadas, Nephew, Tony Arvanitis, many special great and great-great nieces, nephews and dear friends. He was preceded in death by his wife Angeline, sister Mary (Peter) Arvanitis, brothers James, Homer & Harry Tzanakis.

A special thank you to many family members and friends, the staff and caregivers at Ohio Living Hospice, Promedica Home Health and Comfort Keepers for the excellent care he received.

Friends are invited to visit on Thursday, December 29 from 9:00-11:00AM at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral. The funeral service will begin thereafter at 11AM with Reverend Larry Legakis, officiant. Interment at Toledo Memorial Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers her family asks that donations be made to Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral Memorial Fund <https://www.holytrinitytoledo.com/donate/>.

# Cemetery Details

## Toledo Memorial Park

6382 Monroe Street  
Sylvania, OH 43560

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 29. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral  
740 N. Superior St  
Toledo, OH 43604

## Memorial Service

DEC 29. 11:00 AM (ET)

Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral  
740 N. Superior St  
Toledo, OH 43604

# Tribute Wall

JC

“*Condolences to Marie, Tina, and Toni. My life is greater for knowing TZ. To this day I cannot put oregano in my palm without his voice telling me to crush it to release its flavor. Thank you Bill.*

*James B. Cozad*

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**James Cozad** - December 30, 2022 at 06:10 PM

MT

*Thank you! I never knew the “oregano” story.*

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**Maria Tzanakis** - January 02, 2023 at 09:34 AM

BS

“*My condolences to the Tzanakis family. I worked for Bill at the Stein 'n' Pitcher while going to college. Bill was a great guy and I'm glad I had the opportunity to know him. Rest in Peace, Bill.*

*Bruce Scott*

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**Bruce Scott** - December 30, 2022 at 01:53 PM

MT

*Thank you Bruce!*

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**Maria Tzanakis** - January 02, 2023 at 09:37 AM

FD

“*Maria, Tina, and Toni, please accept my condolences as you lay your dear father to rest. May he live forever with our Savior Jesus Christ!*

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**Fr. Seraphim Dedes** - December 29, 2022 at 08:09 PM

MT

*Thank you Fr!*

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**Maria Tzanakis** - January 02, 2023 at 09:41 AM

GA

“ *Maria, Tina, and Toni, I am sorry for your loss. Reading your Dad's obituary brought back good memories from the Stein. May his memory be eternal.*

*Greg Andrews*

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**Greg Andrews** - December 29, 2022 at 08:34 AM

MT

*Thank you Greg!*

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**Maria Tzanakis** - January 02, 2023 at 10:13 AM

WH

“ *Maria, Tina & Toni: Our deepest sympathies for the loss of your Father. We pray that the Lord will grant you strength in this time of sorrow. We are fortunate to have over 50 years of fond memories of your parents/family. Your Dad was a kind, hard working gentleman who led by example and has left a lasting legacy with you and the Greek community which he truly loved. May his memory be eternal!*  
*William & Eva Hadgigeorge*

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**William Hadgigeorge** - December 28, 2022 at 09:23 PM

MT

*Thank you William and Eva! Your family and ours definitely have many great memories.*

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**Maria Tzanakis** - January 02, 2023 at 10:14 AM

MK

“ Bill will be missed by many. Rick said it was Bill who taught him to pour a proper beer- he should know! I’m certain there is one “heavenly” party going on now! Rest in Peace, Bill. May his memory be eternal. Malla Skoulis Kolhoff and Rick Kolhoff

Malla Kolhoff - December 28, 2022 at 04:44 PM

SS

Wish I could be there, may fond memories bring you all comfort! Shelli & family

Shelli Snead - December 28, 2022 at 09:24 PM

MT

Thank you!

Maria Tzanakis - January 02, 2023 at 10:15 AM

EB

“ Bill was a wonderful man who loved and shared his family to many. I was hoping he would stay with us longer as he meant so much to the wonderful group he belonged to in the Greek community. May his memory live in his loved ones hearts! I’m sorry I can’t not be with you all at this time. Love, Eldora

Eldora Brogan - December 28, 2022 at 04:12 PM



And Heaven just became a little bit better!

Mark Scharlow - December 30, 2022 at 01:23 AM

MT

Thank you!

Maria Tzanakis - January 02, 2023 at 10:16 AM