

William C. Kuchmas III

September 10, 1947 – February 21, 2018
(State Deputy 2012 – 2014)



William Kuchmas III was born in Baltimore to parents, Anna Catherine and William Kuchmas Jr.

He attended Little Flower elementary school and ultimately graduated from Archbishop Curley High School in 1966. He then attended the Community College of Baltimore where he graduated Cum Laude in 1972 with an Associate of Arts Degree in General Education. Bill continued his education, attending the University of Baltimore where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice in 1978.

It was Bill's cousin that first introduced him to a young Catholic lady she worked with, Donna Liberto. Bill and Donna were married at the Shrine of the Little Flower Church on September 25, 1971 and were blessed with three boys: Billy IV, Scott and Mark.

Bill joined the Baltimore City Police Department in 1971 but had to take an early retirement on disability after suffering an injury in the line of duty. After the police force, Bill remained in the work force with the State of Maryland as Investigator for Motor Vehicles, Investigator with the Board of Commission for the State Health Department, and in the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, serving as Supervisor of Appeals in Baltimore County, a position he retained until he retired in 2003.

During that period of time Bill also held two other jobs; as Vice President of United Driving School in 1973 – 1978 and as Vice President of Seward's Lawn and Garden 1973 – 1978.

In addition to his jobs, Bill was also someone who needed to stay active in his community; serving as a member of the American Legion, the Sons of St. Patrick, the Baltimore City Retired Police Officers Association and the Shrine of Little Flower Holy Name Society. After sons Mark and Scott were diagnosed with a form of Muscular Dystrophy, Friedreich's Ataxia, Bill took on another role as the Muscular Dystrophy Association Telethon Mail Room Chairman starting in 1993 until 2003.

In 1982, Bill co-developed the Archbishop Curley High School Alumni Association and served as Secretary to the Association, and then President from 1985 to 1987. From 1985 to 1990, Bill served as Assistant JV coach for baseball at Curley. From 1990 to 1993, Bill moved over to Loyola where he served as Assistant Varsity Coach for baseball.

Bill proudly carried the nickname "Kuch" a term adopted earlier by the men in his family.

Bill joined the Knights of Columbus in September 1984 as a member of Little Flower Council and took an active role almost immediately. He assumed chairmanships for events such as the Car Raffle Program, Tootsie Roll Fund raiser, council Bull Roast and Crab Feast, Children's Halloween and Christmas Parties, and Food Baskets. He was elected Warden in 1986 and quickly rose to Grand Knight in 1988 where his council earned the Star Council Award.

In 1985, Bill took an active role in the Baltimore Chapter of GKs working the Children's Christmas party and then being elected to Special Projects Chairman in 1991. From 1991 to 1997 he continued to move up the ranks finally serving as Chapter President in 1996.

Bill went on to supporting the Maryland State council in 1990 as a District Deputy under State Deputy James Olivarri. Following that, he continued his involvement as State Council Activity Director, Columbus Day Ball Chairman, State Youth Activity Director, Incentive Car Raffle Chairman, Executive Assistant to State Deputy, Special Projects Chairman, State Convention Chairman, and Coordinator for the Supreme Convention in Washington, DC.

Bill joined the 4th Degree in March of 1989. He took an active role both in his assembly and as a part of the Master's staff. In his assembly, he served in all of the chair positions and in 1987 as Faithful Navigator, earned the *Master's Bell* for highest membership percentage gain. He served on the Master's 4th Degree team and as Secretary to the Master. Bill became a charter member in the Christopher Columbus Assembly in 1992.

In 2004 Bill ran for and was elected State Warden under State Deputy Ronald B. White. He moved up through the chairs and assumed the duties of State Deputy in July 2012 where he adopted the theme: "Strengthen the Bonds of Faith and Fraternity". Under his leadership, along with many other accomplishments, sufficient funds were raised to purchase and donate two ultrasound machines to pregnancy centers, and provide 1,152 coats to needy children.

Following his term, in 2018, "The Kuch" finally lost his battle with ALS on February 21; predeceased by son Scott only two months earlier; and is survived by his wife Donna and sons Billy and Mark.

It should be noted Bill passed on the same day as another Bill: world renowned tele-evangelist Reverend Billy Graham. Those who knew "The Kuch" can only imagine who was preaching to whom as they arrived at the Pearly Gates together.