



Mr. Stephen Phillips Wesley Gilbert, Sr.

August 12, 1958 - January 4, 2023

Stephen Phillips Wesley Gilbert Sr., a commercial real estate broker and nature lover who sailed the Assawoman Bay in Ocean City, died of multiple causes related to heart disease Wednesday at University of Maryland St. Joseph's Medical Center. He was 64 and lived in Towson.

Born in Baltimore, he was the son of Charles Gordon Gilbert Sr., a commercial real estate appraiser, and Cordelia Phillips, a homemaker.

A 1977 McDonogh School graduate who played soccer and lacrosse, he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at what is now Towson University.

While in college, he was a Rusty Scupper cook at its Timonium location and at the Inner Harbor, where was part of the team that opened its raw bar.

He remained an accomplished home chef and regularly roasted Thanksgiving turkeys for his extended family. He steamed hard crabs and made his own gravies.

Mr. Gilbert met his future wife, Joan "Jodie" Foster, while in high school. Their first date was a McDonogh dance.

He initially became a Bill's Carpet Barn sales representative and earned

awards for his ability to connect with customers.

“He was the life of the party. He was the guy who was the center of events in the kitchen, where the whole family gathered. He had all the family recipes,” said his sister Caroline Gilbert Moore. “He knew the formula for oyster stuffing. It was a labor of love and it took him half a day. He involved the entire family in this production.”

“He was stubborn and ruled the roost in the kitchen,” she said.

Mr. Gilbert joined his father at C. Gordon Gilbert & Associates in downtown Baltimore. Family members said he learned the real estate business and gained an interest in the brokerage side of commercial properties.

He worked for the Manekin real estate firm from 2001 to 2008.

Mr. Gilbert then joined the Commercial Brokerage Group in Towson and spent the remaining part of his career leasing and selling retail shops and offices in the Baltimore area.

“He was a funny and a jovial guy who was a people person,” said his brother, Charles Gordon “Gordie” Gilbert Jr.

Mr. Gilbert owned the Bay Woody, a vintage wooden boat that he maintained and sailed for nature watching and family outings.

His sister Caroline Moore said his favorite place was their family house at Ocean Pines.

“He was never happier than when he was cooking up crabs for a family feast on the porch, fishing in the hideaway tributaries of Assawoman Bay and riding

his bike around the water's edge or body surfing in Ocean City. Then he came home for a long outdoor shower," Moore said. "He was an avid bird watcher and never tired of the Nature channel."

She also said, "He had a hummingbird that would come and visit him and hovered by his face. This brought him so much joy."

"He was good at sales, cooking and family events," his sister said. "As a seller, he knew how to put together a package that would answer his client's needs. And when cooking a meal he would improvise on recipes to serve up a combination of ingredients. I always thought he should have been a chef."

Survivors include his wife of 39 years, Joan "Jodie" Foster, a homemaker and Johns Hopkins Hospital volunteer; three sons, S.P. Wesley Gilbert Jr. of Jarrettsville, Charles Grayson Gilbert of Towson and Harrison Brown Gilbert of Towson; two sisters, Phyllis Smith of Upper Arlington, Ohio, and Caroline Gilbert Moore of Baltimore; a brother, Charles Gordon "Gordie" Gilbert Jr. of Baltimore; and two grandchildren.

A celebration of life will be held Thursday at 11 a.m. at the Mitchell-Wiedefeld Funeral Home at 6500 York Road in Rodgers Forge.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Children's Miracle Network, <https://hopkinschildrens.childrensmiraclenetworkhospitals.org/> Johns Hopkins Hospital on behalf of Stephen's son, C. Grayson Gilbert or to the Audubon, https://act.audubon.org/a/memorial-gift?ms=digital-fund-web-website_nas-memorial-formquestions_20201200

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Funeral Service

JAN 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

Mitchell - Wiedefeld Funeral Home, Inc.
6500 York Road
Baltimore, MD 21212
(410) 377-8300
general@mwfuneralhome.com

Interment

JAN 12 (ET)

Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens
200 E. Padonia Road
Timonium, MD 21093
<http://www.dulaneyvalley.com>

Tribute Wall

RM

“ Jody, we are very sorry to hear of Steve's passing. I meet Steve in 1986 in an appraisal class, I took an instant liking to him and maintained a friendship ever since. He was so much fun and was full of life. I will miss him deeply.
Rick Maher

Rick Maher - January 24, 2023 at 10:59 PM

KG

“ Jody, I'm so sorry to learn of Steve's passing. Steve's vibrant personality is one I will always remember. Sending much love.

Kate Goldstein - January 19, 2023 at 06:02 PM

DS

“ I knew Steve from McDonogh School days. He was as happy and outgoing then as he was in all the times I dealt with him as a McDonogh alumni and in our real estate dealings. Just a great guy who was a pleasure to know. My sincerest condolences to Jodie and his family.

Doug Silber - January 10, 2023 at 12:00 PM

DS

“ Jody and family Steve was a great guy. Jody you love for Steve was all your life very much like Tom and I . We danced at your wedding and watched your family grow. Treasure the memories and know your circle of family and friends will keep you close always. Love
Debbie Swisd

debbie swiss - January 10, 2023 at 09:29 AM



“ I am a classmate of Steve's from McDonogh. What a great guy and a genuine character. Such a loss for us but especially for his family. Jodie - you are in my thoughts.

David Smith - January 09, 2023 at 12:55 PM



“ I will always remember his big smile and his awesome personality.

Helma OKeefe - January 08, 2023 at 11:40 AM



“ I am so deeply saddened to hear of Steve's passing. Steve was a top notch guy who was always so kind and genuine. His love for his family was very evident. Every conversation we had began with Steve proudly talking about his family. His love for Jody was a love that ran so deep. His sons were his greatest joys. And becoming a grandfather made him proud. All of this from simple conversations as neighbors several times a year. I am going to miss those conversations and the friendly neighborly wave. Steve thank you for your friendship. You certainly will never be forgotten. Jodi, Grayson, Harrison,
Wesley and family you are a strong family and together will get through this monumental loss in your life. Your father/husbands love will guide you. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Much love,
Adrienne Porcella

Adrienne Porcella - January 06, 2023 at 11:23 PM