

## Bill Sherry Tribute Bio

Had a very rare, aggressive liposarcoma (soft tissue tumor). Had surgery in September at Sloan Kettering where the surgeon removed 3 tumors in Bill's abdominal cavity. Was on the road to recovery but at the end of November, tumors reappeared that were very fast growing which caused complications that took Bill's life on Dec 15.

In 1978, Bill and friend Steve Marek ran in a 10k race in Central Park and being April Fool's Day, Steve dressed as Superman. People loved it and were asking what club they were from and where their next race was. The next day they formed a running club in Westchester County and started putting on races for the club.

Soon thereafter, Super Race Systems was formed. The running boom was just getting started and Bill was at the forefront of timing. Because there were few timers back then and races across the country that needed timing, he traveled coast to coast timing races.

In 1984 he met Gail while timing a race in Gail's home town of Grand Rapids, Michigan. Gail was a volunteer that day but soon thereafter became part of the Super Race Systems team as well as Bill's wife in 1988.

Bill had been a middle school English teacher in Westchester County. It was the perfect job for him. He took pride in working with young students and he loved anything to do with the English language – reading, word etymology, solving crossword puzzles. But probably the best part of the job was that he had summers off to time races!

Upon retirement from teaching after 32 years at the same school, Bill began working the race business full time. He enjoyed every aspect of the business from race logistics to learning race timing computer software. He started out the manual way with stopwatches and clipboards and finish chutes, then bar code scanning the pull tags, then the chips that had to be returned, and now the RFID disposable chips. He always invested in the latest technology to stay up to date.

Bill was involved in timing the Classic races back in its early days. He helped grow the race by providing accurate times to the participants year after year.

The other aspect of the race timing business that kept Bill interested was the fact that he got to be a part of helping raise money for so many different charities. Bill was always willing to do what he could to help out, whether it be to share his resources or volunteer his time.

Bill loved being involved in a business that centered around physical activity. He himself ran in ten marathons. In addition, Bill was an avid golfer and you would often find him participating in charity golf outings as well as amateur and senior amateur golf tournaments.