



William Patrick Tschida

October 28, 1944 - March 25, 2026

Bill Tschida, a native Vallejoan, passed away peacefully at home after a short illness. Bill was born to William Charles Tschida and Katherine Mary (Healy) Tschida and grew up in his Indiana St. neighborhood. Bill attended St. Basil's Elementary School as a member of the first kindergarten class. At St. Vincent Ferrer High School Bill graduated in 1962, having served as Student Body President, played varsity baseball and basketball, and fully participated in the life and activities of the school.

Bill went on to graduate from Saint Mary's College in Moraga and was a devoted Gael for the rest of his life. He attended Humboldt State College and San Francisco State to obtain his teaching credentials in both elementary and secondary education. Bill later earned his master's degree in education from University of San Francisco.

In June of 1967 Bill married his high school sweetheart, Paula Cavanagh. They embarked on a two-year Peace Corps commitment in Sierra Leone, West Africa. Bill founded and taught in the first secondary school, Shenge Secondary School, in Kagboro Kingdom. Bill loved living in a different culture and became a curious and adventurous traveler.

Upon his return to the United States, Bill began a career of 27 years with the Vallejo City Unified School District. He taught at Lincoln and Steffan Manor

Elementary Schools, was principal at Cooper and Highland Schools, and served as Assistant Superintendent. Prior to his retirement from the public schools, he also was principal at Northwood Elementary School in Napa.

In Bill's later part-time careers, he worked for the Association of California School Administrators as a Professional Standards Advocate, assisting school administrators across California. He taught in the Educational Leadership Program at Saint Mary's College, where his students frequently commented on how much they learned from his anecdotes, examples, and wise advice based on his extensive experience as an educator.

Bill is survived by Paula, his wife of 58 years; his daughters and sons-in-law, Noelle and Greg Fetters, and Mary Kate and Sean Whall; his grandson and granddaughter-in-law, Patrick and Ashlee Lago, and his great-granddaughter Lucy Jane Elizabeth Lago. He is also survived by his brothers-in-law, Leo (Sandy) Cavanagh, and Tom Fong; his sister-in-law Mary Jo (Ron) Teplitz; nieces Rose Teplitz and Patricia (Danny) Nelson; his great niece, Natalie Nelson, and many beloved cousins and dear friends. Bill was predeceased by his parents and by his sister Mary (Tom) Fong.

Bill will be remembered for his devotion to his wife, Paula, and their family; for his deep commitment to his faith; for his integrity in all matters, personal and professional; and for his quick-wit Irish humor that brought laughter and perspective no matter the circumstances.

Visitation will be at Twin Chapels Mortuary, 1100 Tennessee St. at 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, April 7th, followed by a vigil service at 6:00 P.M. The Funeral Mass will be at St Basil's Church, 1225 Tuolumne St., at 11:00 A.M. on Wednesday, April 8, followed by the committal service and burial at All Souls Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

All Souls Cemetery

550 Glen Cove Road
Vallejo, CA 94591
(707) 644-5209

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Twin Chapels Mortuary
1100 Tennessee Street
Vallejo, CA 94590
(707) 552-6696
twinchapels@aol.com

Vigil Service

APR 7. 6:00 PM (PT)

Twin Chapels Mortuary
1100 Tennessee Street
Vallejo, CA 94590
(707) 552-6696
twinchapels@aol.com

Funeral Mass

APR 8. 11:00 AM (PT)

St. Basil's Catholic Church
1230 Nebraska Street
Vallejo, CA 94590
(707) 644-5251

Tribute Wall

BL

“ Bill and I both took accordion lessons from Francis Conley, who gave squeezebox and musical writing instruction in the basement of his home on Broadway. Mr. Conley was known to accompany his students by playing on a saw.

Bob Lawson - April 07 at 05:20 PM



“ 145 files added to the album Life Tributes



Twin Chapels Mortuary - April 06 at 07:52 PM

FF

“ From The Thurin Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Patrick Tschida.

From The Thurin Family - April 06 at 07:34 PM

FF

“ From The Thurin Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of William Patrick Tschida.



From The Thurin Family - April 06 at 07:34 PM

RT

“ Robert and Tim purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of William Patrick Tschida.



Robert and Tim - April 05 at 10:04 AM

LM

“ Love Ross, Nola, Tim, Stacey and Melinda purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of William Patrick Tschida.



Love Ross, Nola, Tim, Stacey and Melinda - April 04 at 10:06 AM

JN

“ Thank you for being a great principle at Northwood School in Napa where 4 of our grandson's attended " The Nunn Boys ". You were so special and kind. May you rest among your old students in Heaven. Judy Lopes Nunn and Jerry Nunn

Judith Lorna Nunn - April 03 at 05:21 PM

RJ

“ Randy and Janie purchased the *Beautiful in Blue* for the family of William Patrick Tschida.



Randy and Janie - April 03 at 10:40 AM

TF

“ The Williams Family purchased the *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* for the family of William Patrick Tschida.



The Williams Family - April 02 at 09:45 PM

TF

“ The Williams Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William Patrick Tschida.

The Williams Family - April 02 at 09:45 PM

SB

“ My heart aches for Bill's family. I am so grateful for the friendship of the Tschida family in my life.

Sister Patricia Boss - April 02 at 12:09 PM

DT

Paula & girls, I am so sorry for your loss. Bill was truly a great man—kind, strong, and deeply respected by all who knew him. His presence made a difference, and he will be remembered with great admiration and love.

Thinking of you and sending heartfelt sympathy during this difficult time.

Debbie Deliman-Trujillo

Debbie Trujillo - April 02 at 11:25 PM

RS

*Ronda and I are devastated by this news.
Bill was principal at Highland Elementary when our babies went to kindergarten there.
He left an indelible mark on the slate of who they are.
Bill and I shared 3 "almae matres".
I treasure our conversations. Full of laughter and good will.
Paula ... girls ... our deepest sympathy.
Love you Brother!
Sons of the Red and Blue!
Go GAELS!!!*

Rich Curtola SBS'64; SV'68; SMC'72 - April 03 at 01:10 AM

JP

Principal when our daughter was at Highland. A GREAT Vallejoan!

John Parks - April 03 at 08:01 AM



*Paula, I am so sorry to hear this news. I have so enjoyed seeing both Bill and you out at City Lights when I came in for lunch when I was visiting Vallejo. I have probably told you about how rapt I was, sitting on the floor of your parents' living room with your sister MaryJo, in what - 1963 or 64? - listening to tapes that you and Bill had sent from Africa when you were there in the Peace Corps. I am so glad I have gotten to know you both in the past few years! Sending sympathy and love,
Megan (Riley)*

Megan Riley McGilchrist - April 03 at 04:50 PM

BN

A life well-lived, devoted to education, fairness, and family. Rest in peace, Bill.

Bill Nachbaur - April 05 at 04:25 PM