



## Obituary

**Died:** Thursday, December 26, 2013

William Joseph Falsey III, 60, of New Haven entered into eternal rest with Our Lord on Dec. 26, 2013 in Bridgeport Hospital after a long illness surrounded by his loving family. Born in Milford on March 21, 1953, he was the son of the late William J. Falsey Jr. and Laurene Burns Falsey. He was the beloved brother of Marilyn Falsey Hanley of Framingham, MA and her husband John J. Hanley, loving uncle to CJ Hanley of Northampton, MA, Melanie Beaudet of Hopkinton, MA and Jennifer Hale of Salem, MA., and great uncle to Luke and Shelby Beaudet and Amiel Hanley. He leaves behind his aunts and uncles, Robert P. and Kay Burns, Ronda Burns, and Jerry and Mary (Falsey) Dwyer, and 37 cousins. He was predeceased by his grandparents, the late William J. Falsey, Loretta Higgins Falsey (of New Haven) and Edward J. Burns and Judith Palm Burns (of Torrington). Billy's passion was advocating and counseling people in the mental health profession for over 30 years. With his brilliant mind and caring heart he helped many people get their lives back on track. Before retiring several years ago, he worked at the Birmingham Group Health Services in Ansonia for several years ensuring that clients got the best services, counseling, education, and referrals. He also worked at the Parents Foundation for Transitional Living in New Haven, as recreation director, the Guenster Rehabilitation Center in Bridgeport and at APT Residential Services – Daytop in Newtown. He was a Board Member of the Connecticut Legal Rights Project, and well-respected for his knowledge, insights, and advocacy. He attended St. Aedan's School and Hopkins School where he played football, and graduated from Hillhouse High School. He majored in Economics at Merrimack College in No. Andover, MA, received an AS from South Central Community College, and attended Southern CT State University School of Social Work. Bill loved New Haven and had many fond memories of his Westville days and friends and summers in Pine Orchard. He was active in AA and would have celebrated 34 years of sobriety on Dec. 28. He strongly believed the program was important to his own continued recovery and a way to help others. He was also a member of Fellowship Place in New Haven. Like his grandfathers, he was a leader in his community-though quietly known for working in countless AA meetings and encouraging people through his words and prayers to find their hope in God. Similarly, his family and close friends know well the notes he would send urging them to pray for help, to trust God, and thanking them for being there for him. More recently, they looked forward to Uncle Billy's voice messages and calls. He had been a godfather and Confirmation sponsor to his niece and nephew and Santa Claus in charity functions in Framingham, MA. He also believed in living one day at a time and he prayed and lived the "Serenity Prayer"

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## Service Summary

### Visitation

2:00 PM to 6:00 PM, Sat Jan 04, 2014

### Celentano Funeral Home

424 Elm Street  
New Haven, CT 06511

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### Mass of Christian Burial

9:00 AM Mon Jan 06, 2014

### St Bridget's Church

830 Worcester Road  
Framingham, MA

throughout his life. He will be remembered for his strong Faith, giving spirit, and love of his family, great sense of humor and his warm smile. He is deeply missed by his family and friends who knew Bill as a man of tremendous courage, compassion, humility, and love. He was unique and was there for others despite his many health problems which he battled daily through prayer and his strong spirit. He never gave up and fought hard to survive -- miraculously beating the odds many times. No matter how sick he was with kidney failure in the last several years, he worried about his family and others. He was the hero in his family. Rest in Peace and Welcome Home Billy. Friends may call at The Celentano Funeral Home, 424 Elm St. (cor. Dwight) New Haven Saturday from 2 to 6 pm and at the Eugene McCarthy Funeral Home, 11 Lincoln St., Framingham, MA. Sunday from 1 to 5 pm. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at St. Bridget's Church, 830 Worcester Road, Framingham Monday morning at 9:00. Interment in Edgell Grove Cemetery, Framingham. In lieu of flowers, donations honoring William Falsey's memory may be made to the Yale Section of Nephrology. The family thanks Dr. Rex Mahnensmith and his staffs there and in the New Haven DaVita center who compassionately provided abiding clinical and personal care to Billy over the final years of his life. Please send your donations by check, noting his name on the check/note to: Zsuzsanna Somogyi, Office of Development, Yale School of Medicine, P.O. Box 7611, New Haven, CT 06519-0611.