



William F. Owens

December 3, 1942 - May 27, 2017

William F. Owens "Bill", 74, of Sopchoppy, died at his home at the Ochlockonee River, May 27, 2017. He was a native of Valdosta, Georgia and lived most of his life in Moultrie, Georgia, where he owned and operated Napier Flower Shop for 24 years. He retired January 1, 2009 and he moved to the cul-de-sac in Sopchoppy, Florida. Bill loved life and enjoyed being with his friends, including everyone at Ochlockonee State Park where he volunteered for the last several years.

He is survived by his brother Olon L. Ruis and his many friends, whom he loved dearly. He was predeceased by his parents Sylvester & Verdie Littleton. A Memorial Service will be held at the river at a later date. Donations may be made to feedthechildren.org and/or to one of your favorite State Parks in Florida.

Arrangements are under the care of Skip Young with Family Funeral Home & Cremation Services. 850-926-5919 Familyfhc.com

Tribute Wall

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“ *This is my story. I promise to tell the truth. for as far as I know, nothing but the truth is told by the natives of The River. My good friend, Mark Fender, invited me and my friend Jason Welchel to stay at Bill's house for a long weekend. The whims of Mercurius did not cooperate. A hurricane was barreling our way. We listened to the rain ping off the metal roof while watching endless radar loops of the impending doom. We all helped put up barricades that Mother Earth could destroy at will. I was thrilled to be part of something big. We had very little time to round up the gators in Bill's boat and transport them to safety. Here is the spoiler alert, obviously we all survived. (That part is true.) I will always remember the two guys we almost killed who were fighting in the middle of a two lane. I will especially remember Bill's warmth, generosity, hospitality, and sense of humor. If life were a series of successful gestures there was something astounding about him. He was a brilliant conversationalist. The River's loss is the Creator's gain. We will miss him greatly. The poet Aeschylus said it best:*

*He who learns must suffer
And even in our sleep
Pain we can not forget
Falls drop by drop
Upon the Heart
In our own despair
Against our will
Comes Wisdom to us
By the awful grace of God*

*Regards,
Timothy J. Brown*

Tim Brown - May 31, 2017 at 12:53 PM