

A Tribute to William Allen Spry

by Peter Monari, with input from Charlotte Azocar, Peggy Lane, Martha Reyes, Ruth Muliand Raphael Muli

It was Monday, November 6, 2017, when we learned that things are never the same again as we learned that we have lost a young brilliant and ever happy young man, William Allen. For the short time William worked at Facilities, he proved to be an ever consistent young man. He made sure that he never missed a day at work and was always on time. Will (as most called him) was the first to arrive in his building, Gore Hall, in the morning. He would open the break room, lay his pack bag under the table, and put his favorite lunch (turkey sandwich and chocolate milk) in the refrigerator before he hung his jacket. Then he was set for his early morning routine on the 3rd floor of Gore Hall.

William was a good friend, team player, and a gentle man who was not very talkative. He had a big heart full of love for all. The word “no” was not in his vocabulary. He was always ready to help and would do whatever you asked him to do with the same response, “I don’t care, I can do it,” and with a smile on his face, he went off to complete the task. He also loved sharing and would offer his snacks to his co-workers.

One of William’s high moments was just October 27, 2017, when he joined his co-workers at a birthday gathering for Peter, one of his co-workers. Charlotte, Martha, Peggy, Raphael and William had a great time together in the breakroom during lunch, of course. On that day, he looked very happy with ear-to-ear smiles and laughter we celebrated in style! We have pictures, too!

Peter and Raphael will never forget Will, he was a true friend at work and outside of work. We both called him “young man,” a beautiful name acquired from our facility manager (Sharon Melvin), as she always called him.

Every day before we left the shift at 1:30 p.m., Charlotte, our senior custodian in building, would caution us, “Peter, Will, you be careful driving home.” Will always responded back, “You, too!”

We can’t believe that Will did not live to see another Monday after that last Friday when we said “Good-bye” to each other. Unfortunately, Will’s life was cut short through a tragic accident...

William’s family needs our prayers as they bear the pain of this very significant loss of life. We believe that Will has gone to a better place that has been prepared for us...and one day, we shall join him to celebrate together that eternity.

WILLIAM ALLEN SPRY is greatly missed by his University of Delaware family--especially those with whom he worked, shared the break room, and broke bread together. This group includes: Charlotte, Peter, Peggy, Ruth, Raphael, Martha, and many others. Not to forget his manager, Sharon Melvin, who felt from the beginning that he would be a great worker and got to witness it firsthand. She often assigned him extra duties because she knew he would handle it well--and he did--he controlled the responsibility of Gore on the third floor.

MAY THE SOUL OF OUR CO-WORKER, FRIEND, AND BROTHER REST PEACEFULLY