



Riley "Craig" Williams

February 13, 1957 - December 26, 2023

On the morning of December 26, 2023, Riley "Craig" Williams, of Clermont, FL died at the age of 66. He was preceded in death by his parents Earl J Williams Jr and Loyce J Williams (nee Williamson) and his brother, Stephen C Williams. He is survived by his brothers, Earl "Judson" Williams III (Leslie) and Richard B Williams (Diana). His brother Judson died the day after Craig on December 27, 2023.

Craig was born in Biloxi, Mississippi but spent most of his life in Clermont, FL.

While working at Walt Disney World for over ten years, he earned his BA from the University of Central Florida in Film (RTV). He spent three years in Morioka, Japan teaching English at a Christian School where he embraced their language and culture. Also, this young man from Mississippi learned and loved to ski the beautiful mountains of Japan. He worked briefly as a history teacher in Lake County and then became a property manager for residential and corporate properties. His amiable personality was a great fit for the frequent challenges this job presented.

Craig was a man of many passions and talents.

He loved music and enjoyed playing flute and guitar regularly with a group of musicians, and became known in some circles as "The Flute Man."

He was a scholar. Many friends have had existential “discussions” with Craig regarding Taoism, Buddhism, physics and sometimes even a little politics.

He became an expert on Lewis and Clark and WW2 with plans of writing screenplays.

As an environmentalist, he was instrumental in the Florida Renewable Energy Association (FREA) becoming a 501(c)(3) organization. In 2005, he organized and implemented the very first Solar Tour in Orlando.

In addition, he was a health advocate who helped friends understand the importance of a healthy microbiome, vitamins and exercise. Leading by example he was an avid bicyclist, able to go 20 plus miles at a stretch (becoming a seasoned bicycle repair specialist, looking to help his friends keep safe). He loved hiking and mountain climbing, traveling all over the USA, including Grand Teton National Park, Glacier National Park and the Appalachian Trail.

Finally, Craig was known for his self-deprecating humor and gentle laugh. Craig left behind many devoted friends and family who miss him dearly.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Leslie Williams - July 09, 2025 at 04:14 PM

GC

“ Craig has been my friend for 45 years. We met while working at the Contemporary Hotel at Disney World. We have solved many problems over glasses of wine, usually sitting on the back porch. Pictured are photos from a very special Thanksgiving circa mid 1980's. It was not considered a costume party at all, but rather something close to an authentic 18th Century Thanksgiving gathering, everyone appreciated the theme. Craig, my wife Lisa and her family, myself, my mother, and our friend Les and his wife attended. As you can see, we had a great time, taking turns firing Craig's muzzle-loading rifle. The last time I saw Craig was around 1990 when he once again came to the Space Coast to visit me at home as he had done many times. No truer friend ever existed in my life. A very kind soul, and even though we hardly got together in recent years, now, I shall really miss him. God bless you Craig. – Your friend, Gary.



Gary Corfitzson - July 03, 2025 at 09:14 AM