



Benjamin F Donaldson III

March 12, 1963 - July 13, 2018

Benjamin F. Donaldson, III, 55, of Stevensville died Friday, July 13, 2018, at his home.

Family services celebrating his life will be held at a later date. Cremation has taken place. Arrangements are by the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Township. Memorials may be made for his son, Joseph's education. Please share memories, messages or photos at www.florin.net.

Ben was born on March 12, 1963 in St. Joseph to Benjamin and Alice Donaldson. He owned Donaldson's Building Service in the area for over 25 years and was a contractor for many homes and remodelings. He was hardworking and conscientious about his business. Ben was a big Cub's baseball fan and enjoyed baseball. He also enjoyed music and loved to go to concerts. Ben loved the outdoors. He also had a great sense of humor and was a loyal friend to his good friends. Ben was a devoted father and was a "Guy's Guy".

His family includes his son, Joseph, of Stevensville; his sisters, Laura Donaldson of Fennville, and Lisa Donaldson of St. Joseph; Joseph's mother, Angela, of Benton Harbor and several nieces and nephews.

Tribute Wall

TB

“ *The last time I saw Pez was at a Lakeshore Choir event with his sister Lauri. He appeared to be doing well, and things were going good for him. Life is a funny thing, and sometimes one can go to heaven a bit early. I believe that Pez is in Heaven looking down on us with his parents. Pez was a wonderful man, and great Father. He will sorely be missed that's for sure. God speed my friend.*

Terry Burns - July 18, 2018 at 07:17 PM

TS

“ *It had been a while since we saw each other but I always had a good time working with you, and an even better time sharing a few drinks. Gonna miss you.
Tom Sturgeon your plumber*

tom sturgeon - July 17, 2018 at 09:15 PM

MA

“ *I never met Ben, But I know his nice sister Lauri, and wishing and hoping the best for her and all of Ben's loved ones, This is without a doubt a sad and emotionally very tough time due to Ben's sudden death. We all must believe in the power of prayer because in these tough times, it is All We Have along with our Loved Ones left....."Eternal Rest grant unto Him O Heavenly Father and let the Perpetual Light Shine upon Him, May all the souls of our dearest departed from this life rest eternally in Your Heavenly Paradise, Amen."*

martin anders - July 17, 2018 at 05:50 PM

FB

“ Pez old buddy,
I refuse to say goodbye. So I'll just say " until we meet again" . We
had some great times and a lot of laughs.
Take care FAT FREDDY

Fred Beckman - July 17, 2018 at 05:25 PM

CS

“ I met Ben around 1994 through the Gym And watched him build
West Coast Gym with Al. I can still see them digging out the
plumbing in the bathroom! Good times. Pez's light hearted nature,
laughter and willingness to help everyone is what we all fondly will
remember. I bought a house in 2004 he willingly stopped by when I
need help to figure something out, and if I need him to do the work
he always made the time. Ben you will be missed by all of us.

Charles Stohrer - July 17, 2018 at 10:03 AM

TI

“ I always had a great fondness for Pez and
recall his sense of humor and great smile. the
first time I met Pez was at the 1874th Battalion
Reunion 2004 in Corpus Christi. What fun we
boomers all had across the border that night
and into the morning as we all snuck back into
the hotel thinking our elders were none the wiser for our
shinanigans. I am beyond sadness that his young life on earth is
over and can only pray that the memories he left with me and the
other boomers of the 1874th, and Laurie, Lisa and little Joe, will
keep the sadness at bay as we move past this during the many
days ahead our loss . The legacy he left, was that so many loved
him and were privileged to have known him.



Tina Issette - July 16, 2018 at 11:37 PM

LM

I met Ben in 2016, when my Dishwasher malfunctioned, and water poured all over my hardwood floors, and dripped into my basement. Ben was the contractor I hired to do all the work to restore my home back to normal. I liked him instantly and he was the same age as my son, we formed a bond fast because of his kindness, and friendly nature. We talked a lot during his days working at my house. he shared some of his stories with me and vice versa. He talked about his son Joseph almost daily, and we would compare the things that Joseph would do with the things my GrandSon would do, they are close to the same age. we did a lot of laughing at those stories. I know Joseph was his life. The Spring of 2017, he brought a truck load of stuff for me to sell in my Garage sale. After the sale was over with I called him to come pick up his money and the stuff that did not sell. I never heard back from him, a couple weeks later I called him again, no response back from him again. Little did I know that the day he dropped all that stuff off at my house, was going to be the last time I would see or talk to him. When I read that Ben had passed, I was in shock he is only 55 I thought to myself, I still have his business card he gave to me. Ben you became a good friend to me in one winter in 2016, and it was a privileged to know you, even for that short of time. You will be missed by so many that loved you. I know you helped brighten an old woman's life for a season. RIP Ben.

Lou Ann McGregor - July 29, 2018 at 08:46 PM

TI

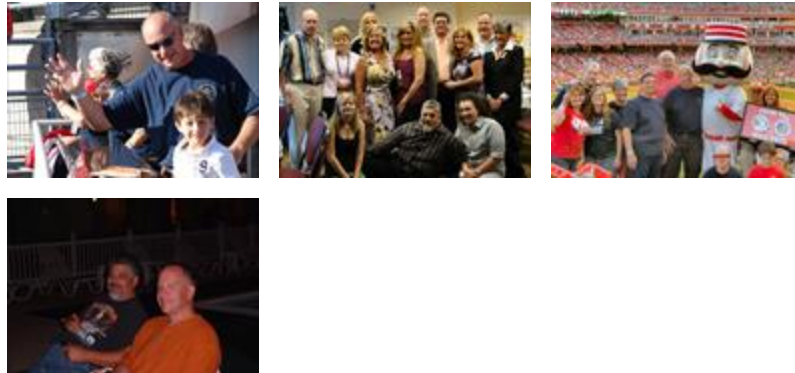
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Tina Issette - July 16, 2018 at 10:49 PM

MR

“ Pez, as we knew him, was a great Friend and attended many Annual Reunions of his Dad's 1874th Engineer Aviation Battalion - a World War Two unit serving in the Pacific Theater. Whether greeting recent arrivals, taking time out to share a cigar or enjoying the Cincinnati Reds baseball game that he helped to arrange for the group, he was a joy to be with. His death is a shock - for all of us - but his memory lives on with our group. Mike Rissien



Mike Rissien - July 16, 2018 at 08:59 PM

MA

“ I'm so very sorry to hear about Ben's passing. I'm at a loss for words, please know my thoughts & prayers are will you all. My heart aches, Ben was such a wonderful person, such a loss for us all. Milt Agay, SJHS Class "81

Milton Agay - July 16, 2018 at 02:24 PM

GB

“ I will always remember Pez's smile, and that great laugh that accompanied it.
Love and blessings,
Gina Balbo

Gina Balbo - July 15, 2018 at 10:26 PM

JC

“ I think that Dad admired Ben and his family as one of his favorite members of the 1874th group. His enjoyment of his final reunions were enhanced by Ben and Lisa and Lori. At an earlier reunion, I remember him sitting with Alice and sharing lots of memories. And no one will forget the game at The All American Stadium in Cincinnati all arranged by Ben. I especially enjoyed it as we had a great location in the stadium, and by getting to that stadium, Dad and I were able to say that we had been to all of the Reds' stadiums from Crosley to Riverfront to the All American. Dad and Ben will always be remembered by Barb and I as having a great relationship.

In our Prayers,

Jeff and Barb Clemons

Jeff & Barb Clemons - July 15, 2018 at 05:42 PM

BC

What a great coach to all the boys when they were young playing Tball. He'll be remembered as always having a smile on his face, kind, generous and fair. Our heart and prayers are with the family.
Sincerely,
Bruce and Brenda
Crossman

Brenda Kay Crossman - July 15, 2018 at 11:16 PM