



Ben J. Gerdes Jr.

January 13, 1940 - April 3, 2023

Ben J. Gerdes, Jr., 83, of Milford passed away on Monday, April 3, 2023, at Lakes Regional Healthcare in Spirit Lake surrounded by his family.

A private graveside service will be held in the Lake View Gardens Cemetery in Spirit Lake. Arrangements are under the direction of the Robinson Funeral Home in Spirit Lake. Online condolences may be left at www.spiritlakefuneralhome.com

Ben was born on January 13, 1940, the son of Ben R. and Beneta (Swink) Gerdes, Sr. in Manson, IA. After graduation from Manson High School in 1958 he attended college for a brief time. He then enlisted into the US Army. After his honorable discharge, he returned home. He was united in marriage to Kathleen A. Junkman on January 13, 1963, in Rockwell City, IA. Ben and Kay moved to Milford where they started the family business of Graphic Designing, B&K Signs.

In his free time, he enjoyed antique cars, and motorcycles. He had a love for animals which included his beloved dog, Lacey. Ben was a member of the First Lutheran Church in West Okoboji.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of 60 years, Kay Gerdes of Milford; son Benjamin P. Gerdes, III. (Liz) Gerdes of Cedar Falls, IA; daughter Lisa (John) Becker of St. James, MN; daughter Lori (Dan) Raleigh of Cedar Rapids, IA; grandchildren, Andrew Gerdes of Cedar Falls, IA; Elsie Gerdes of Cedar Falls, IA; Zoie Becker of St. James, MN; and Ellie Becker of St. James, MN; Cami Burns (Becker) of Sioux Falls, SD and Katie Sherck (Becker) of

Independence, MN; brother Larry(Pat) Gerdes of McClelland, IA; sister Vickie (Dale) Buttloph of Winterset, IA,.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his sister Janice Maddy and an infant sister.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Ben's name and the family will donate the funds to Ben's favorite charities.

Cemetery Details

Lake View Gardens Cemetery

Spirit Lake, IA

Tribute Wall

FB

“ So sorry for your loss. Frankie Bailey

Frankie Bailey - May 05, 2023 at 10:41 AM

EG

“ I remember Ben and Kay from when I first moved to Spirit Lake. He was a hard working man who loved his family. We enjoyed sharing stories about Manson, his mom who knew my dad, and Vickie who was a classmate of mine. May many memories help all of you through this difficult time.

Elaine Greer - April 16, 2023 at 12:43 PM

ES

“ I remember Ben's cool motorcycles and fancy artwork. I couldn't wait to visit and ride the bikes on the path, or when I was really lucky, to get a ride with Ben. I also liked to peek in the shop for a chance to see his artwork on a semi. I'm thankful to have known him and that my dad had such an awesome brother. Rest in peace Uncle Ben. Love and peace to Kay, Ben, Lisa, and Lori and their families.

Erica Schnepel - April 13, 2023 at 09:39 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Ben J. Gerdes Jr..



April 13, 2023 at 09:25 PM

BM

“ All of us in the Walmart pharmacy at Spencer we're so sorry to hear about Ben he was such a nice man to wait on our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family



Barbara A Meyer - April 10, 2023 at 09:57 AM

BH

“ Bill And Annette Huse lit a candle in memory of Ben J. Gerdes Jr.



Bill and Annette Huse - April 07, 2023 at 12:05 PM

LB

“ Linda Wahlman Ballah lit a candle in memory of Ben J. Gerdes Jr.



Linda Wahlman Ballah - April 07, 2023 at 01:06 AM

RT

“ Ray And Diane Tucker lit a candle in memory of Ben J. Gerdes Jr.



Ray and Diane Tucker - April 06, 2023 at 06:21 PM



“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Lori Raleigh - April 06, 2023 at 02:20 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ben J. Gerdes Jr..



April 06, 2023 at 12:51 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Lisa Becker - April 05, 2023 at 09:10 PM



The epitome of pride on grandparents' faces

Larry and Pat - April 06, 2023 at 07:23 AM

LP

“ *Larry and Pat purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Ben J. Gerdes Jr..*



Larry and Pat - April 05, 2023 at 08:59 PM

CM

“ *Kay and family, You have our deepest sympathies on the loss of Ben. We wish you strength and comfort in the love that you are being shown today and in the days ahead. May you feel the peace of our Lord holding you close.*

Dale and Connie Mechler - Algona, IA

Connie Mechler - April 05, 2023 at 02:22 PM

LG

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Larry Gerdes - April 05, 2023 at 12:45 PM

LG

Junior in middle with younger brother, Larry, and older sister, Janice

Larry Gerdes - April 05, 2023 at 12:52 PM

KG

What a beautiful photo!

Kay Gerdes - April 05, 2023 at 02:17 PM

LG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Larry Gerdes - April 05, 2023 at 12:39 PM

LG

Junior on left with brother, Larry

Larry Gerdes - April 05, 2023 at 12:47 PM

JB

“ Jim And Annie Bauer lit a candle in memory of Ben J. Gerdes Jr.



Jim and Annie Bauer - April 05, 2023 at 10:36 AM



“ 3 files added to the album Visiting Iowa in 2010



Mike Swink - April 05, 2023 at 09:59 AM

AW

“ Your family has my deepest sympathy. What a nice man! I know he will be missed.

Ann Williams - April 04, 2023 at 05:39 PM

LM

“ Prayers for your family. Of course I haven't seen him for years ----
but always did so enjoy visiting with him
Lynne Moeller

lynne moeller - April 04, 2023 at 03:11 PM

RA

We are so sorry for your loss. Thoughts and prayers go out to you all.

Ray and Colleen Anderson - April 04, 2023 at 05:46 PM

TM

We are sorry for your loss! I ran into Big Ben this fall and as always he talked with pride about his family! Thoughts and prayers from Tim and Beth McCabe

Tim McCabe - April 05, 2023 at 04:30 PM

CT

Kay and family: We just heard about Ben. We are so sorry and you have our deepest sympathies on this loss. My my do we have wonderful memories of when our boys were growing up together. Ben was always so good to come and take care of us and always made sure our drive was cleaned out on those terrible winter snowfalls. As are families grew and we didn't see each other as often we still had our good visits. We will miss him but may he be at peace. HUGS

Chuck and Donna Tielbur - April 06, 2023 at 12:46 PM