



Bryan Benson

June 21, 1957 - November 4, 2022

Bryan Paul Benson died on Friday, November 4, 2022, in Cedar Falls, IA after a long struggle with alcoholism. Bryan had a notorious love of laughter, friendship, and a story told well and repeated often. Bryan was anything but subtle, from his fashion sense to his devotion to the Green Bay Packers, he was all in.

Bryan was born on June 21, 1957 in Fargo, ND, but his most treasured memories were from his childhood in Rushford, MN. He graduated from Rushford High School and later from Waldorf College. Bryan met Janice (Johnston) in 1987, charming her into an Oldsmobile and in 1991, a marriage, though they later divorced. Bryan loved his long career in auto sales management where he honed his craft as an amateur comedian, much to the chagrin of his family who often had to endure the first retelling of a punchline he mostly remembered.

He is survived by Janice Benson of Independence, IA; son Luke Benson of Iowa City, IA; daughter Angie Swope of Seattle, WA; sisters Jaine Benson of Cedar Falls IA and Carrie Kaub of Key West, FL, and many beloved nieces and nephews. Bryan was preceded in death by his parents, Howard and Janet Benson, of Cedar Falls, IA and his brother Bernt "Bernie" Benson, of South Haven, MI.

Despite our constant hope that he could overcome addiction, Bryan ultimately lost the battle. If you or someone you know needs help, contact the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration through its national helpline at 1-800-662-HELP (4357) or visit findtreatment.samhsa.gov.

Funeral services will be at 2:00pm on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at First United Methodist Church in Cedar Falls with visitation at 1:00pm. Online condolences may be left at www.richardsonfuneralservice.com

Previous Events

Gathering of Family and Friends

NOV **16**. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
718 Clay Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
<http://aboutfirst.com>

Memorial Service

NOV **16**. 2:00 PM (CT)

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718 Clay Street
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Tribute Wall

JB

“ Remembering my little brother. Photos from when we were in Rushford, Arcadia and Crosby. Bryan Paul! I wish I had a photo of him ski-jumping!



Jaine Benson - November 10, 2023 at 09:06 AM

RL

“ Bryan's dad and my dad were friends at Luther Seminary in the 50's. Our families often got together in our younger years but then didn't see each other much until Bryan's dad moved the family to Rushford in 1970. A year later I was in college and we drifted in different directions.

I enjoyed reading of Bryan's love of humor.

(I was a stand up comic until I got tired of standing and took my show on the road.)

As a part-time Uber driver for 5 years, I told jokes and heard more back from my riders.

In parentheses above was one of the many jokes I loved to share and I'm sure Bryan loved to hear his customers laugh as much as I did. Laughter makes everyday better.

Bryan, one day in the not too distant future, you and I will tell Jesus jokes together, ok?

Blessings!

Rodne Livdahl

Rodne Livdahl - November 23, 2022 at 08:45 PM

JB

Rodne let me know that 'tell Jesus jokes' means to tell Jesus some jokes, knowing that Jesus has a sense of humor. (The mystery of the English language is that some words take on different meaning when the noun becomes an adjective, and when the emphasis is on a certain syllable, but that is not the case here. There are no Jesus jokes.) To make people smile is an act of love. Count it all joy (James 1:2), the fruit of the spirit is joy (Galatians 5:22), that my joy may be in you (John 15:11) are only three verses of many, that tell us to make joy the goal. Bryan made people smile. Bottom line. He will be missed! And Rodne no doubt will love to add to the joy when the day comes to meet the Good Shepherd in glory and to see Bryan again. These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. Joy is a gift from Jesus! As the Desiderata poem says; With all its sham, drudgery and broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be cheerful. Strive to be happy.

Jaime Benson - November 24, 2022 at 08:17 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bryan Benson.*



November 15, 2022 at 02:12 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Bryan Benson.*



November 14, 2022 at 09:17 PM

J(

“ Jerry Hamlin (Jari) & Kathy Crum (Mike) purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Bryan Benson.



Jerry Hamlin (Jari) & Kathy Crum (Mike) - November 13, 2022 at 10:43 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Bryan Benson.



November 10, 2022 at 03:09 PM

JV

“ Lisa and I send our heartfelt condolences to Jan, Angie and Luke. There was no one in this world more friendly or dedicated to making you feel on top of the world than Bryan. His infectious smile and compassionate attitude always put you first in any conversation. He would always go out of his way to please his friends and acquaintances. We were so fortunate to have the opportunity to know Bryan and spend time with him throughout his lifetime. His friendship has been paramount to us and we will treasure all the times we spent together. From the automobile showroom floor bickering over mud flaps, to dollar beers at the Waterloo Bucks, to attending Florida Georgia Line concerts or numerous Green Bay Packer/Chicago Bear debates, Bryan was as classy and pure as you could get. Rest In Peace my good friend!

Jed Vorba - November 06, 2022 at 07:50 PM

GG

“ My condolences to the Benson family. Bryan was my best friend when we lived Arcadia WI. My fondest memories of Bryan could go on & on, even if it was over 55 years ago. But the two I remember the most is when we 1st met, he would tell me that Bryan is spelled with a "Y" not the "I " and when Bryan's birthday was, the 1st day of summer June 21st. I truly missed my friend when he moved away from Arcadia. R.I.P Bryan

George Glanzer - November 05, 2022 at 06:11 PM

JW

So sorry for your loss, 😞😞. Our deepest sympathys to the Benson family. His journey in over! And now has gone HOME to be with our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen!!!

James A Wahner - November 10, 2022 at 06:01 PM

DS

So sorry there are no words that can express my grief. He will be truly missed by all.

Donna Schrader - November 13, 2022 at 11:24 AM

HS

“ 1 file added to the album Bryan



Heather A. Steen - November 05, 2022 at 05:37 PM

JB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jaine Benson - November 05, 2022 at 07:36 AM

JB

*Tusen hjertelig takk! Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the beautiful gathering for Bryan. The flowers, the fellowship of family and friends and the minister, Karen Nelson, the music, the Methodist church and those who served us coffee and cookies, the ushers, and greeters, I thank you all. My heart goes out to Jan, Angie and Luke, to the Rushford band of brothers, and for all who cherish Bryan so much, for we know that when someone has died suddenly, the grief and shock is so difficult, and so we will continue to lift you all up in prayer because Jesus is the way and his living word in us is where and how we can rise above all sham drudgery and broken dreams. Many thousand thanks, mange tusen takk for all the friends and family gathered for final goodbyes for my dear little brother. Takk for alt dear Bryan, I say in Norsk because you were the most Norwegian of us all. Thanks for everything; your laughter and smiles and stories will continue to unite us all together. I found a prayer in Dad's archive file. I will leave this with you all, because we pray i Jesu navn:
Almighty God our Heavenly Father, from whom we have come and unto whom we return, in whom we live and move and have our being; we praise Thee this day for the gospel which brings hope in time of despair. For the life of this departed friend, we praise thee O God. Today we come to thee mindful of the fact that some day we too must depart this earthly life. We come to thee because of our need of thy love and understanding. Without thee we are poor and weak; with thee we can be brave and strong. Grant us sure confidence in Thy care and blessings. Complete reliance upon thy grace. Graciously forgive us all our sins and strengthen us by unmerited love. In Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.*

Jaine Benson - November 17, 2022 at 06:31 AM