



Benjamin D. Carpenter

April 27, 1938 - December 4, 2020

FAIRFIELD- Benjamin D. Carpenter, age 82, of Fairfield, passed away on Friday, December 4, 2020. He was born on April 27, 1938, to John and Florence (Commers) Carpenter in Hudson, MI.

A graduate of Sand Creek High School with the Class of 1956, Ben went on to attend Michigan State University where he graduated with a degree in Agriculture. On November 26, 1959, Ben married Bonnie Lee Runals; having just celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. Ben served in the United States Army where he was stationed in Germany.

Family was very important to Ben; and you could count on him to be one of the first parents sitting in the bleachers to watch his children and later grandchildren, play in the band or participate in a sporting event. His one-liners and jokes had his children rolling their eyes and their friends laughing.

Farming has always been a part of Ben's life; he has especially enjoyed farming with his nephews, Matt and Jake Carpenter, over the last twenty years. Ben retired from Tecumseh Products after thirty years. During the summer months, Ben and Bonnie would often go to various Steam Engine shows, as he was a member of the National Threshers Association for over fifty years. He looked forward to each show; and no matter what the weather was like, it was a great day when the steam engines were running. Ben was a

member of Fairfield Baptist Church for many years and treasured his friendship with Rev. Lloyd Jewett. Later in life, Ben decided to embrace traveling as he and Bonnie ventured to Hawaii multiple times, Florida in the winter season, and cruising whenever he got a good bargain.

Ben is survived by his loving wife Bonnie; children, Betty Jo (Andy) Zenk of Jasper and Brian Carpenter (Doug Reed) of Toledo, OH; grandchildren, Ryan Zenk, Alex Zenk, PFC. Nick Zenk and Kathryn Zenk; brother, Wayne (Cecilia) Carpenter; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and nephew, Bruce Carpenter.

All services are private at this time and have been entrusted to Wagley Funeral Home, Adrian. Burial will take place at Fairfield Cemetery. A Celebration of Life will be held later in the Spring of 2021. A recording of the service will be accessible from Ben's tribute wall Wednesday afternoon at www.WagleyFuneralHome.com, where a link to view the recording will be available for 90 days. Online memories and condolences may be shared at www.WagleyFuneralHomes.com

Cemetery Details

Fairfield Cemetery

7011 S. Adrian Hwy
Fairfield Township, MI 49221

Tribute Wall



“ *Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service created a Webcast in memory of Benjamin D. Carpenter*



Wagley Funeral Home - December 06, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ *Benjamin D. Carpenter*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *So sorry for the your loss.Mr Carpenter was always a hard working man and very tolerant with Brian and me getting in trouble all the time ! He will be missed*
Tye Vogel

Tye Vogel - December 16, 2020 at 09:34 AM



“ *Dear Carpenter family,*
So sorry to hear about Ben's passing. He always seemed like such a happy man and he had a nice family and farm. I visited the lady across the hall at Brookdale, but never saw Ben or Bonnie. Hope Ben can find a nice tractor in Heaven. Take care and God bless all of you this season of our Lord's birth!
Barb Sell

BARBARA SELL - December 11, 2020 at 08:48 AM

CV

Our deepest sympathies to all of Ben's family. It seemed Ben always had a smile for everyone! We didn't know Ben well, but have fond memories, especially from our Sand Creek High School days.

Claude & Joyce Vandevender - December 13, 2020 at 11:31 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Benjamin D. Carpenter.*



December 09, 2020 at 09:09 AM



“ *7 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Wagley Funeral Home - December 07, 2020 at 02:09 PM

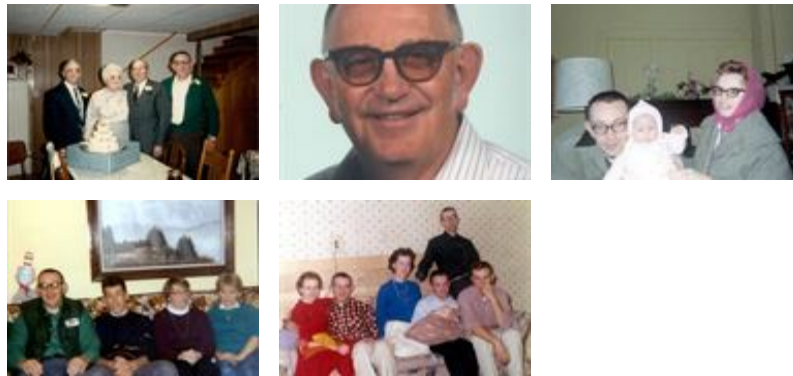
SP

“ Sorry to hear of Ben's death. Of course, I remember the family from growing up in Fairfield. I remember sitting in my room in the mornings and looking to the west as I waited for the school bus. I could spot it about the time it reached John and Florence's house. I have lived in Atlanta for many years but still make it up to Lenawee occasionally and drive through Fairfield. My condolences to you.

Steve Phenicie - December 07, 2020 at 01:13 PM



“ 22 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wagley Funeral Home - December 07, 2020 at 10:01 AM

JH

“ I knew Benny from having been his inspector at Tecumseh Products Co. Benny was well- respected was a very good worker, and hardly ever made a mistake in his work. My condolences to the family.

James Hannah - December 06, 2020 at 11:01 PM

RR

“ Robert & Teresa Runals lit a candle in memory of Benjamin D. Carpenter



Robert & Teresa Runals - December 06, 2020 at 11:15 AM

DG

“ 1 file added to the album Life Tributes



Dennis Gibbs - December 06, 2020 at 10:21 AM

BE

thanks Dennis, this made me smile. He sure did look like Santa Clause with that beard

betty - December 06, 2020 at 01:23 PM

DG

“ Dennis Gibbs lit a candle in memory of Benjamin D. Carpenter



Dennis Gibbs - December 06, 2020 at 10:17 AM

AS

“ Sending prayers to Bonnie and family. Ben loved to talk about his adventures and share his pictures. Condolences also to his brother Wayne and family.

Alice Stiekes - December 06, 2020 at 05:05 AM

WR

“ Ben and I ran together many Sunday afternoons. Always a good time! RIP my friend!

Wayne Roback

Wayne Roback - December 05, 2020 at 07:02 PM



“ 63 files added to the album Life Tributes



Wagley Funeral Home - December 05, 2020 at 04:28 PM