



## Keith Paul Benson

October 26, 1948 - July 23, 2025

Keith Paul Benson, 76, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, July 23, 2025, in his home. Keith was born in LaPorte, Indiana, on October 26, 1948, to the late Lee and Pauline (Harris) Benson. Keith was a 1966 graduate of North Judson High School. On September 18, 1971, in Medaryville, Indiana, he married the love of his life, Susan (Shortz) Benson. Keith started his career working at Brems in the Co-Op, where he earned the nickname "Swamper". In 1973, he went to work for the Howmet Company as a Laborer and retired in 2013 after 40 years of service. During their 53 years of marriage, Keith and Susan welcomed two children, their son Craig, their daughter Blair, and three grandchildren, Caden, Connor, and Teaghan Jo. Keith had a variety of interests. In his early years, he loved fast cars, particularly his 1968 Barracuda, and traveling around pulling tractors with his brothers and children. He loved pheasant hunting and raised many labs, which he trained to hunt. In his 50s, he developed a love for motorcycles and purchased his first bike. He loved riding his

motorcycle, exploring new places, and even convinced Susan it was her idea when he purchased his second bike. Keith never passed up an opportunity for an orange Hi-C from McDonalds or a cold brew from the nearest pub. If you were to stop in and visit him at home, you would probably catch him watching Gunsmoke or a favorite western on TV. Whether it was hunting, tractor pulling, watching westerns, riding his motorcycle, or drinking a favorite cold beverage, Keith found happiness doing the things he loved and recalling his adventures to anyone who would listen.

But what Keith loved most was his family. In Keith's early years, he loved playing and coaching softball. He loved coaching Blair in summer leagues, and then when his grandkids became involved in athletics, he could often be heard coaching them from the sidelines. If you ever doubted how good they were, Keith would be sure to set you straight. All his grandkids were superstars in his eyes, and he loved nothing better than being able to attend anything they were involved in.

Keith is survived by his loving wife, Susan, son Craig, and daughter-in-law Bethany Benson, Daughter Blair, and son-in-law Noah Hoppe; his grandchildren, Caden Benson, Connor Benson, and Teaghan Jo Benson, all of North Judson; His siblings, Alan Benson of Knox, Indiana, Gary (Gail) Benson of North Judson, Indiana, James (Ruth) Benson

of Culver, Indiana,  
and Marla Benson of North Judson, Indiana; Aunt, Clarabelle Troike of North Judson, and many  
cousins, nieces, and nephews. Keith was preceded in death by his parents,  
Lee and Pauline  
Benson, father and mother-in-law Frank and Mildred Shortz, brother-in-law  
John Shortz, and  
sister in law Emey Benson. Keith never knew a stranger and will be long  
remembered in the hearts of his family and friends by his stories, kindness,  
and love.

A Gathering of Family and Friends will be held from 2-4 PM CT Friday, August  
1, 2025, followed  
by a Celebration of Life Ceremony at the O'Donnell Funeral Home and  
Chapel, North Judson,  
Indiana.

# Previous Events

## Gathering of Family & Friends

AUG 1. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

O'Donnell Funeral Home, Inc.  
302 Lane Street  
North Judson, IN 46366  
(574) 896-2149

## Celebration of Life

AUG 1. 4:00 PM (CT)

O'Donnell Funeral Home, Inc.  
302 Lane Street  
North Judson, IN 46366  
(574) 896-2149

# Tribute Wall

ER

“ I'll miss my big bear hug when I return to North Judson.  
Cousin, Evonne (Leslin) Robertson

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**Evonne (Leslin) Robertson** - August 02, 2025 at 07:38 PM

CB

“ I have many fun memories of Keith. I remember when he came back from his road trip to California. One couldn't buy fireworks in Indiana back then. It seemed like he and his buddies were lighting fireworks for weeks after his return. As a little kid it was cool to watch. I remember how much he loved sweet corn and green beans from the garden. He could make a meal on sweet corn alone. When I was in high school he would walk over when visiting his parents to play basketball with me, and of course give me some lessons. It didn't matter whether it was summer or winter, that man could sweat! Probably my favorite memories of him were of hunting with him and his brothers. He was living in Laporte then. He didn't come down every weekend, but it seemed like he didn't miss many. We may not have bagged a lot of game, but we sure had fun walking around the farm trying. He always had a smile, at least when I was around. He will be missed. I am sorry for your loss.

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**curt bejes** - July 31, 2025 at 08:58 PM

DH

Keith “Swamper” worked at the Co-Op when my dad ( Bud Anderson) was the manager. My dad's thought the world of him. It brings back fond memories of those days. Prayers for strength and comfort for his family.

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**Diann Anderson Henry** - August 09, 2025 at 01:16 PM

GF

“ Garringer Family purchased the A Full Life for the family of Keith Paul Benson.



Garringer Family - July 29, 2025 at 06:53 PM

GF

“ Garringer Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Keith Paul Benson.

Garringer Family - July 29, 2025 at 06:53 PM



“ Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Keith Paul Benson.



July 29, 2025 at 10:46 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Keith Paul Benson.

July 29, 2025 at 10:46 AM

MP

“ Deepest sympathies to Susan and all of the family. Keith was always a nice guy. May God grant Keith eternity with Him ❤️🙏👍✝️  
🌹 Larry and Margie Pixey

Margie Pixey - July 28, 2025 at 04:27 PM

JK

“ Jim, Gladys, Joyce, Sarah, Jen and kids purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Keith Paul Benson.



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**Jim, Gladys, Joyce, Sarah, Jen and kids** - July 28, 2025 at 11:52 AM

TJ

“ The Klecka's - Betty, Joe, Emily, Joseph purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Keith Paul Benson.



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**The Klecka's - Betty, Joe, Emily, Joseph** - July 27, 2025 at 09:02 PM

BD

“ Brenden Danford purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Keith Paul Benson.



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**Brenden Danford** - July 26, 2025 at 10:46 PM