



Donald Benjamin Berry

October 27, 1958 - December 27, 2016

Donald Benjamin Berry passed away unexpectedly on December 27, 2016 at his home in Fort Jones, CA from complications with pneumonia. He was born on October 27, 1958 in Etna, CA to Mary and Richard Berry. He was 58 years old.

Donnie B., as he was affectionately known by friends and family, grew up in Fort Jones, CA. He graduated from Fort Jones Elementary School and Fort Jones High School (Go Cubs!). After high school, he attended Central Oregon Community College where he received an Associate's degree. He also attended Southern Oregon University. He began work for Timberline/Berquist, a manufacturing company in Fort Jones. After that business sold and was moved out of the area, he went to work for his father-in-law at Fort Jones Lumber Yard where he was employed for many years. He loved working with his customers and the local contractors.

Donnie married Yvonne LaMarr in 1990 in Fort Jones, CA. They had two children, Nikki and Melissa. Though divorced in later years, they remained close friends.

He loved the community of Fort Jones and showed his love by serving in many different capacities. Donnie B. was a member of the Fort Jones Volunteer Fire Department and served in many positions, including Assistant

Fire Chief. During this tenure, he was awarded Fire Fighter of the Year. He was also elected to the Fort Jones Elementary School Board for several terms.

Former FJE Principal, Gary Lampella said, "He was truly involved and invested in this community; from parent to school board president, nurturing FJE's recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School. Our community has been honored with his contributions to support all of us." In later years, he also served on the Fort Jones City Council. Donnie and Yvonne worked for many years as Tournament Coordinators for the Bev White Memorial Softball Tournament whose proceeds go to support Scott Valley Youth. He competed in this tourney as part of the infamous Funseekers team. Throughout his life, he enjoyed playing sports, hunting, fishing, NASCAR, watching sports (particularly the San Francisco Giants and San Francisco 49'ers), restringing ball gloves for anyone who needed it and serving his community. Friend Tyler Gausen perhaps said it best, "Donnie Berry was a legend in my book, and will be greatly missed."

He was preceded in death by his mother Mary Margaret Berry.

Donnie is survived by his daughter Nikki Huchinson of Richland, WA; his daughter Melissa Berry of Redding, CA; his daughter by choice, Prairie Spaulding of Yreka, CA. His grandchildren Ethan, Emmit, Lexie, and Kruz; His father Richard (Barbara); his sisters, Patty (Steve), Linda (Bill), and Barb (Scott); and his loving nieces, nephews and numerous other relatives.

A memorial service and reception will be held at Fort Jones Fire Department at 1:00 pm on Saturday, January 7, 2016.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial donations be made to Nikki Hutchinson to help with funeral costs, Fort Jones Fire Department, or Bev White Memorial.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 7. 1:00 PM (PT)

Fort Jones Fire Department
31 Newton Street
Fort Jones, CA 96032

Tribute Wall

JO

“ We are so sorry to hear of the loss of Donny, may good memories bring you comfort during this time of sorrow. With prayers, Jennie Onarheim and Lorri Gilley

Jennie Onarheim - January 13, 2017 at 08:43 AM

SM

“ 50% like a Brother, 50% like a Son, 100% True Friend. I will always remember our times together and your beautiful spirit. My sincerest condolences to all family and friends.

Sharon Martin - January 09, 2017 at 02:45 PM

JB

“ May God's blessings of peace and comfort be with you all in this sad and difficult time. I always remember Donnie's warm infectious smile when I think of him. So sorry for your loss.
Lifting you up in prayer.
Jerry Besoain

Jerry Besoain - January 07, 2017 at 02:41 PM

Ginger MacGowan

“ Ginger MacGowan lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry



Ginger MacGowan - January 05, 2017 at 09:19 PM

BE

“ *My love is always with Nikki Melissa Yvonne & Donnie. They are a part of me. Remember he is not gone he is just waiting for you in a beautiful place. You will all be together again. Family's can be together forever. My love always & forever,
Nana Bernie*



bernie - January 05, 2017 at 05:59 PM

AV

“ *Anthony And Donna LaMarr Valledor lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry*



Anthony and Donna LaMarr Valledor - January 05, 2017 at 12:36 PM

KT

“ *Kit Talvitie lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry*



Kit Talvitie - January 05, 2017 at 01:59 AM

RS

“ *Rocky And Sue lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry*



Rocky and Sue - January 04, 2017 at 11:05 PM

MA

“ I am so sorry to hear of Don's passing. He was such a nice man with a good sense of humor.

Marcia Armstrong



Marcia Armstrong - January 04, 2017 at 07:28 PM

MP

“ Mike And Pankfoon lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry



Mike and Pankfoon - January 04, 2017 at 07:17 PM

SM

“ Suzanne And Marc lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry



Suzanne and Marc - January 04, 2017 at 06:17 PM



“ Every time I saw Donnie he had the warmest smile and best hugs for me! I can't believe he's gone.

Shastina Van Overbeke - January 04, 2017 at 05:39 PM

CS

“ *Colleen Setzer lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry*



Colleen Setzer - January 04, 2017 at 04:33 PM


Tamara
Webster

“ *I have many great memories of Donnie I'm so sorry for the loss of a wonderful person my thoughts and prayers are with you all.*



Tamara Webster - January 04, 2017 at 02:41 PM

SM

“ *Shelly McLaughlin lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry*



Shelly McLaughlin - January 04, 2017 at 02:39 PM

TG

“ *Was very sad to learn of Donnie's passing. Sending the Berry Family my deepest sympathies.
Sincerely,
Traci Vinall Gellman*

Traci Gellman - January 04, 2017 at 02:24 PM

Lyn
Dziergas

“ *Lyn Dziergas lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry*



Lyn Dziergas - January 04, 2017 at 01:34 PM

PS

“ *Pam Setzer lit a candle in memory of Donald Benjamin Berry*



pam setzer - January 04, 2017 at 12:45 PM