



Michael J. Benigno

July 29, 2020

Michael James Benigno, age 61, a lifelong resident of Woodstown, NJ passed away on July 29, 2020. Born in Mannington to the late Russell Benigno, Sr. and Elizabeth A. (Casario) Benigno, Mike was a 1977 graduate of Woodstown High School and was a member of St. Joseph's R.C. Church. Mike spent his career working as a commercial glass installer, most recently for New Castle Glass in Newport, DE.

Mike, also known as Sheets, Smokey, Bening, Bingo, Mikey, and Big M, was a big fan of oldies music from the '50's and '60's. Frank Sinatra, Sid Mark, and Bob Pantano's music would fill his Bowen Avenue childhood home from morning until night. Throughout his younger years, he would spend his summer weekends in Wildwood with his closest friends. He was always at the beach house when he wasn't working and, in later years, would always spend a couple weeks a year there with Karen and her children. Christmas Eve was his favorite holiday, consisting of the famous Candy Run with his best friends, a big house party at night, and traditionally, breakfast after midnight. Mike was a simple man; his perfect day consisted of a trip to the ACME, and then sitting on the porch with his coffee, a cigarette, a newspaper, and his dog on his lap. He ended his days with VO and water, one of his favorite bottles of scotch, or a Manhattan on special occasions. He loved his vehicles and dedicated a little bit of time each weekend making sure that they were in pristine condition.

Mike's life was largely dedicated to the Loyal Order of the Moose Lodge 932 in Woodstown where he was distinguished as the first Pilgrim in their history. Not only did he serve as Governor multiple times, but was also instrumental in the creation of the lodge, also becoming one of their first bartenders. He was an integral part of running their Shrimp Night, spaghetti dinners, the Clam Bake, as well as countless other events.

Mike is survived by his loving wife Karen Reis; his son Justin Watson and his wife Angela of Erial, NJ; his daughter Sara Reis (Lucille) of East Windsor, NJ; his grandchildren Liana and Vincent; his brother Russell Benigno, Jr. and his wife Amy of Greenwich, NJ; and his dog Dante aka "Pups." In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his brother Dominick and his baby sister Jane.

A Celebration of Life and spiritual service to celebrate Mike's life will be held on August 8th, 2020 at 3:00 PM at the Woodstown Moose Lodge, 13 Bypass Road, Woodstown, NJ 08098. Masks and social distancing will be strongly encouraged.

In lieu of flowers, the family has asked that donations be made in Mike's memory to the Inspira Frank and Edith Scarpa Regional Cancer Pavilion, 1505 W. Sherman Avenue, Vineland, NJ 08360 or to Bayada Hospice at Inspira Health Network, 603 N. Broad Street, Suite 301, Woodbury, NJ 08096.

Previous Events

CELEBRATION OF HIS LIFE:

AUG 8. 3:00 PM (ET)

Woodstown Moose Lodge
13 Bypass Road
Woodstown, NJ 08098

Tribute Wall



“ Karen: Thoughts and prayers



Carol Molinari Monks - August 05, 2020 at 08:33 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Michael J. Benigno.



August 04, 2020 at 12:49 PM



“ Michael, I will miss you terribly and I thank you for being such an awesome guy and treating me with the upmost respect. Thank you for accepting my children as your own, and loving them like they were. Rest now Michael

Karen - August 03, 2020 at 04:27 PM



“ Karen family
Thoughts prayers are with you all .

Angel Moncrief Waddington - August 03, 2020 at 11:38 AM

TP

“ Michael & I also enjoyed the Grease Band concerts & the Wharf in Wildwood!! Too many wonderful memories! Love my Railroader pal!

Tammy Pansa - July 31, 2020 at 11:09 PM

TP

“ Michael was my BESTIE! We detailed cars together & always bought the same cars. Pontiac Grad Prix, Monte Carlos SS's, Pontiac Formulas!! I still have the Railroad pin he gave me. Because we were “Railroaders”. He was an integral part of my son Bradley's life & was always there for us. Michael had a big heart & was the BEST FRIEND anyone could ask for! He will be forever in my heart and mind! RIP my friend! Will love you to the moon & back! 😭💕



Tammy Pansa - July 31, 2020 at 11:00 PM

 Dawn Beers Conklin

“ Dawn Beers Conklin lit a candle in memory of Michael J. Benigno



Dawn Beers Conklin - July 31, 2020 at 03:57 PM

JC

“ That infamous “BUS TRIP”, he was excited to meet Karen, worried if she would meet us all for dinner. There it began a wonderful 18 year journey for him and Karen. Much love. Will be missed by many.



judy Carter - July 31, 2020 at 03:46 PM