



## Michael R. Benson

May 6, 1968 - August 24, 2024

Michael R. Benson, 56 of Markle, and longtime paramedic for Wells County E.M.S., passed away on Saturday evening, August 24, 2024, at his residence, surrounded by his family.

Michael was born on May 6, 1968, in Bluffton to Buddy R. & Carol A. (Wingert) Benson. A 1986 graduate of Huntington North High School, he earned a degree as an electrical technician from ITT in Fort Wayne. He worked at Hill's Meat Market, Crossroads Pantry and the Wells Community Hospital. Mike devoted his life working as Advanced Paramedic for Wells County E.M.S. for 33 years and worked as a supervisor, CPR instructor, and first aid instructor for many years. Michael also served on the Markle Volunteer Fire & E.M.S. and worked at the Markle Police Department, Ossian Police Department and Wells County Sherriff's Department as security at the Wells County Court House. He loved animals especially his dog, Shadow and cat, Cassie.

On December 2, 1990, Michael and Linda M. (Winkler) were married in Bluffton, Indiana.

Survivors include his wife of 34 years, Linda of Markle, along with a son, Benjamin R. (Alexis) Benson of Huntington and a daughter, Emelia Benson of Fort Wayne. He was a loving grandpa to 3 grandchildren, & Lil Benson, and 2 foster grandchildren, his father, Buddy R. (Sallie) Benson of South Carolina and a sister, Julie Dull of Berne.

He is preceded in death by his mother, Carol (Wingert) Benson, maternal grandmother, Alice Wingert and paternal grandparents, Bart & Neva Benson

and 3 angel grandbabies.

A Celebration of Michael's life will be held at 5 P.M. on Saturday (August 31, 2024) at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton with Pastor Jason Fields officiating. Visitation will be held from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. on Saturday at the funeral home, prior to the service.

Memorials may be made to the Friends of the Wells County Animal Shelter or your local humane society or to Miriam's Foster Closet and can be directed to the funeral home.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Lemler family of Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can share online condolences with the Benson family at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 31. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

## Celebration of Life Service

AUG 31. 5:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
<http://www.thomarich.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Michael R. Benson*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - August 31, 2024 at 05:39 PM

DB

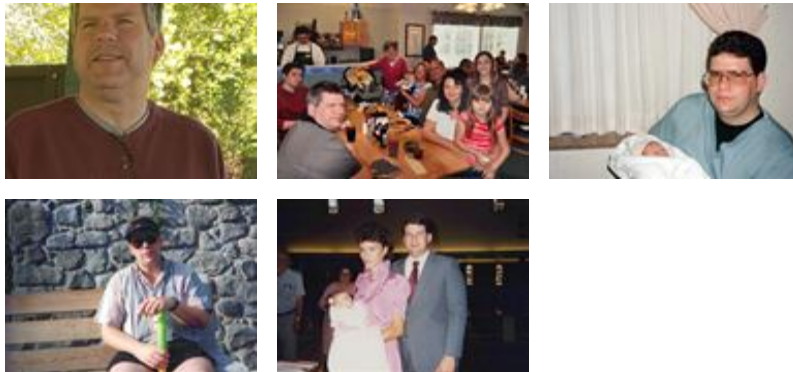
“ *Sorry to hear of your loss. Mike was a good guy, would help anyone, he will be missed.*

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**Duane (Duey) Brumbaugh** - August 31, 2024 at 12:45 PM



“ *81 files added to the album Life Tributes*



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**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - August 30, 2024 at 06:23 PM

TH

“ *The Hawn's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael R. Benson.*

**The Hawn's** - August 30, 2024 at 06:10 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Michael R. Benson.*



August 30, 2024 at 06:10 PM

RK

“ *Linda and family, I just want to share some memories. I first met Mike when I started working at Wells community EMS. I remembered he was in the first paramedic class. He would work his 24 hour shift and go to class. He became a great paramedic. He loved helping patients and loved helping his fellow Medics. We will miss him.*

*Roger and Cheryl Koenemann*

**Roger Koenemann** - August 29, 2024 at 09:31 PM

CL

“ *Cody & Stephanie Leming purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Michael R. Benson.*



**Cody & Stephanie Leming** - August 29, 2024 at 07:00 PM

KH

“ Keith, Mackenzie, Lizzie, & Elijah Hawn purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Michael R. Benson.



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**Keith, Mackenzie, Lizzie, & Elijah Hawn** - August 28, 2024 at 09:18 PM

JH

“ Jennifer Hebert purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Michael R. Benson.



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**Jennifer Hebert** - August 27, 2024 at 04:33 PM

NV

“ Jim and Nancy Vogel (Ellet) send our deepest condolences and prayers.

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**Nancy Vogel** - August 27, 2024 at 11:45 AM

BS

“ Linda and family, we were so saddened to hear of Mike's passing. I will always remember Mike as a good and dedicated worker and a genuine good person. Our prayers and condolences are with you.  
Donna and Brian Schindler

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**Brian Schindler** - August 27, 2024 at 07:23 AM

BB

“ *Brian Bonner purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Michael R. Benson.*



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**Brian Bonner** - August 26, 2024 at 10:06 PM

SB

“ *Stephen B. purchased the Rose Garden Heart for the family of Michael R. Benson.*



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**Stephen B.** - August 26, 2024 at 09:34 PM

SB

“ *Stephen B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Michael R. Benson.*

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**Stephen B.** - August 26, 2024 at 09:34 PM

MS

“ I have known Michael since he was about 9yrs old meeting him through his mother as a cute little ornery kid. A few years passed and again I came into contact with Michael when I was a medic with Wells Co. We went to school together to become the first National registry Paramedics in Wells Co. Michael has always been caring, kind, extremely intelligent, lends a listening ear and gives a friendly smile.

*He will be truly missed by many people.*

*Thank you Michael for your Dedicated Service on EMS and Fire.*

*Marilyn Stiltner*

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**marilin stiltner** - August 26, 2024 at 06:50 PM

ES

“ Rest in Peace Brother...



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**Eric Sands** - August 26, 2024 at 05:46 PM

BN

“ Mike was an amazing person. He was so dedicated to the community. He also was a great friend and mentor to many of us that were blessed to have worked with him. Prayers to the family.

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**Barb Nusbaumer** - August 26, 2024 at 03:48 PM

ML

“ What a great man, always with a positive outlook on life. Thank you for all you have done for the community and what an impact you made in so many lives!!!!

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**mark Lemler** - August 26, 2024 at 03:22 PM

GP

“ Oh what a loss to Wells county and around.  
There isn't a finer man anywhere than Michael. Kind,  
compassionate, cheerful, encouraging, giving all are attributes  
Michael chose to show his entire life.  
Warm hugs and my prayers are with Linda in this huge loss.

Glenna Plummer - August 26, 2024 at 02:48 PM

GP

“ Glenna Plummer lit a candle in memory of  
Michael Benson



Glenna Plummer - August 26, 2024 at 02:38 PM

DA

“ Sending prayers to all who knew and loved  
him. I knew Mike from all my years working in  
the ER. He was a great paramedic and great  
person. He was also my paramedic as a  
patient. R.I.P. Mike.



Doreen Ayers - August 26, 2024 at 01:38 PM

RW

I was so glad saw you both at the hospital . He was a very special guy.  
You all are in our prayers and thoughts we love you .

Rita Winkler - August 28, 2024 at 12:18 AM