



## Richard P. Benoit

February 24, 1951 - April 10, 2018

Richard P. Benoit, age 67, of Kankakee passed away Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn. He was born on February 24, 1951 in Kankakee, the son of Patrick & Viola Berns Benoit. He married Lana Hamilton on January 22, 1971 at the First Presbyterian Church in Manteno. Richard retired from CSL Behring in Bradley in March 2017 after 43 years of service. He enjoyed photography and was an acrylics and pencil artist.

Richard was a member of the Union Street Gallery in Chicago Heights. He was also a member of Tallgrass Studios in Park Forest. Richard was the drummer and one of the founding members of the band the Silhouettes for 28 years. He enjoyed gardening and took pride in his yard and landscaping.

Richard cherished his grandchildren, they were his life.

Surviving are his wife, Lana Benoit of Kankakee; two daughters and two sons-in-law, Jennifer & John Gray of Ashkum and Emily & Nicholas Conti of Des Plaines; two grandchildren, Ellie Gray and Henry Conti; two sisters and one brother-in-law, Madonna Benoit of Bradley and Dorene & Bill Mohler of Bradley; two brothers and two sisters-in-law, Dennis & Cathie Benoit of Grand Rapids, MI and Darrell & Melody Benoit of Bourbonnais; two brothers-in-law and two sisters-in-law, Jim & Susan Hamilton of Arlington, VA and Bill & Judy Hamilton of Manteno; and many nieces and nephews.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A memorial visitation will be held from 2-6 p.m. Sunday, April 15, 2018 at Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home in Bourbonnais.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the River Valley Special Recreation Association or the American Heart Association.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

APR **15**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Bourbonnais - Clancy-Gernon Funeral Homes, Inc.  
295 Main St., NW  
Bourbonnais, IL 60914  
(815) 932-1214  
cgfuneral@gmail.com

# Tribute Wall

MD

“ I’m sorry to hear he’s gone.. I have a piece of his and wanted to collect more. My prayers and thoughts go out to his family. I just tried to google him to see what was available as I had some money to invest and realized the worst was possible. I hoped I was wrong. He was such a great man and so talented. I’m without any other words. Such a huge loss.

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**Matt Douglas** - April 28, 2019 at 01:45 AM

LB

“ I never knew Rich but he was spoken of quite often by a good friend of his, also from Kankakee and sadly deceased, Gary Haneline of Kankakee. Gary was a musician as well and told me about a song by The Lovin' Spoonfull called "The Black Statin Kid". He said that reminded him of Rich. My condolences to the family of Rich, "The Black Satin Kid". Larry B (NYC).

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**Larry Barkin** - July 04, 2018 at 05:39 PM

ST

“ Just saw the notice of Rich’s passing; very sorry. I knew Rich 50 years ago when we played together in a band known then as “Prayer” and later “August Spies.” Rick was the only drummer I ever knew and enjoyed listening to who literally made music with his drums rather than just adding a rhythm section. I will always remember his enormous talent, not only as a musician but also later as an artist. Now his art beautifies the Hereafter! Rest In Peace, Rich, from your long-ago band mate.

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**Steve Schuller - Dallas, Texas** - June 20, 2018 at 06:34 PM

ST

*Rich, not Rick. Damn Autocorrect!*

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**Steve Schuller - Dallas, Texas** - June 20, 2018 at 06:35 PM

MO

“ *My deepest condolences to Doreen & Bill Mohler and the rest of Richards family. So sorry to hear of his passing. He was an artistic inspiration to so many. RIP Rich.*

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**Mike Oetter** - April 27, 2018 at 11:53 AM

RJ

“ *So sorry to hear about this, my sympathies to the family and friends of Rich (and they are many) this was one of the sweetest souls to ever grace our planet....be at peace my friend, in the arms of the angels*



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**Robin Johnston** - April 17, 2018 at 01:03 PM

BR

“ *Emily,*

*I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. My heart goes out to you and your family during this difficult time.*

*Brooke Lang*

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**Brooke** - April 16, 2018 at 12:55 AM

JL

“ Rich was an integral member of the Kankakee area music scene and a role model for aspiring musicians. I admired his talent as a drummer and I will always remember his words of encouragement and support. He will be deeply missed.

*My thoughts are with the entire Benoit family.*

*Joe LeVeque*

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**Joe LeVeque** - April 16, 2018 at 12:25 AM



Amanda Winkel

“ Emily, I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. I have many fond memories of hanging out with you and your family when we were kids. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers. Amanda (Owen Winkel

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**Amanda Winkel** - April 15, 2018 at 04:43 PM

CD

“ I would like to express my sympathy to Richard's family. I worked with him at CSL for many years. He was a great guy and a good friend. He was a friend to everyone. He will be missed. Chuck Denault

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**Chuck Denault** - April 15, 2018 at 02:58 PM

RL

“ I'm so sorry to hear that Rich has passed away. I worked with him for over 40 years. He was a great coworker. Always ready to lend a hand and share ideas. Loved by many and will be missed dearly. All my sympathy to his family and his many friends. Rick Longtin

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**Rick Longtin** - April 15, 2018 at 11:16 AM

KM

“ Our thoughts and sympathy on the passing of Rich are extended to the family.

*Respectfully,  
Kelly & Tammy McLaren*

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**kelly mclaren** - April 15, 2018 at 10:43 AM

GB

“ *Deepest sympathy to all of Rich’s family for your loss. Rich was a caring and loyal friend that pursued his dreams fearlessly. I was fortunate to have been Rich’s rhythm section mate in several bands stretching back to high school days (Martha Butter, Prayer, Dave Rudolf, The Silhouettes). Rich’s approach to drumming was not about all the technical details but as an avenue to express his creativity. He knew how to kick a song up to the next level and I will always cherish the memory of the joy and energy that poured through him on the bandstand. When he decided to take up art and painting later on in life, I was amazed at how quickly he transitioned from beginner to professional. I am thankful for all the years of working with Rich and will miss him greatly.*

*Greg Bigler*

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**Greg Bigler** - April 14, 2018 at 10:09 PM

LS

“ my sincere sympathy to Rich's family. I had the pleasure of working with Rich for years at CSL, back when it was Armour. No fellow worker would dispute the pleasure of working with some one so pleasant ,friendly,and dedicated in his work at hand.  
We will miss his God given talents as an artist and musician. May our Lord Jesus bless his family with many memories to sustain them for years.

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**Larry Skelly** - April 14, 2018 at 04:20 PM

KS

“ Late last summer a few high school classmates got together at Flight 102 for an evening reunion. I hadn't seen Rich for years and was so impressed by his "presence" and caring about what everyone was doing. I felt so blessed to have had this time with him before he was gone. I have no doubt he is in the hands of the Angels and has made this world a better place for his having been part of it.  
Kathleen Harro Steffen

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**Kathleen Steffen** - April 14, 2018 at 10:55 AM

 Jack  
Baker

“ Teri and I are so sad to hear our dear neighbor has passed. I will miss our chats over the back fence. Our thoughts and prayers are with Lana and his family at this trying time. God bless him and all of you. Jack and Teri!

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**Jack Baker** - April 14, 2018 at 08:29 AM

Brian  
Peters

“ *Benoit Family*

*I worked with Rich and had many in depth conversations on unlimited subjects, He was a friend and will be missed. I have art in my home from him still hanging and enjoyed by all.*

*Brian*



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**Brian Peters** - April 14, 2018 at 06:49 AM

CS

“ *Carla Scheppler lit a candle in memory of Richard P. Benoit*



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**Carla Scheppler** - April 13, 2018 at 08:22 PM

MW

“ *My deepest sympathy goes out to the entire Benoit family. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Hugs and love to all.*

*Michelle Worby*

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**michelle worby** - April 13, 2018 at 10:48 AM

DA

“ *Lana I left Kankakee area more than 30 years ago but there still are a small number of people like you and Rich that considered friends forever. Rich always had a strong moral character and a very focused direction for his life. I applaud him for this.*

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**Dale** - April 13, 2018 at 04:42 AM

VF

“ Our deepest sympathy and our prayers of comfort.



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**Vince Vickie Francisco** - April 12, 2018 at 10:23 PM

RB

“ I am so very sorry to hear. Prayers and thoughts are with you all!

*Rhonda Bouchard & John Langlois*

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**Rhonda Bouchard** - April 12, 2018 at 08:34 PM

MH

“ I have known Richard for many years through the Tall Grass Arts Association and The Union Street Art Guild. he was a wonderful artist, and shared his love of ART and his fellow artists by becoming the President of the Union Street Art Guild for several years. We all admired him for his kindness, talent, and leadership skills. His great talent, humor, and genuine caring for others endeared him to all of his fellow artists. I feel sad for all that he has gone through in the last months of trying to survive. I also feel for his wife and family that love him so much. He will be missed by all of us, and we all feel grateful to have had him in our lives. Margi Hafer



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**Margi Hafer** - April 12, 2018 at 05:54 PM

MC

“ Dear Benoit family. My thoughts are with you at this sad time. Although living in England, since 1997 I have spent a significant time working at the Kankakee facility. I counted Rich as a very good friend and we shared a mutual love of painting and art. He will be sadly missed by everyone who knew him.

*Mick (Michael) Compton.*

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**Michael Compton** - April 12, 2018 at 05:34 PM

NW

“ Dear Lana and Family  
I'm sorry to hear of Rich passing. You have my deepest sympathy and in my prayers  
Nancy Ponikvar Waller

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**nancy waller** - April 12, 2018 at 01:39 PM

MP

“ Dear Benoit Family,  
  
My deepest sympathies for your loss. I have fond memories of Rich from CSL Behring. He was a kind and generous person who will be missed.

*Sincerely,*

*Maureen Powell*

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**Maureen Powell** - April 12, 2018 at 01:31 PM

MB

“ *Wishing you all peace and comfort in this most difficult time. Some of the best times of my life were playing Rock n Roll with Rich, one of the most genuine and kindest people I've ever known. Mel Beck.*

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**Mel Beck** - April 12, 2018 at 10:32 AM



“ *So very, very sorry for your loss. Heaven gained an angel. Please accept my condolences. Thoughts and prayers to your family.*

*Barb Jackson (CSL)*

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**Barb Jackson** - April 12, 2018 at 09:12 AM