



William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III

February 7, 1952 - March 26, 2026

William Wendelin "Bill" Benz III, age 74, of Goodlettsville, Tennessee, passed away on Thursday, March 26, 2026 at Alive Hospice with his beloved family by his side.

One of four children, Bill, was born February 7, 1952 in Nashville, Tennessee to the late Billy and Peggy Benz. A 1970 graduate of Issac Litton High School, he spent his entire working career as a general contractor. Bill met and married the beautiful Johanna Hale on December 1, 1973. They shared 46 years of marriage of love and family before she preceded him in passing on May 21, 2019.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents: Billy and Peggy Benz; wife Johanna Hale Benz; nephew Wade Benz; brother Ned Benz.

His is survived by his son, Will (Misty) Benz; daughters Fran Dunaway and Jody (Dana) Good; granddaughters Emerson Jane Dunaway, Sadie Grace Benz, Adilynn Faith Benz; grandson James Everett (Rhett) Dunaway; extended family; and many friends who loved him dearly.

A proud East Nashville native, he was known for his love of family, friends, pets, and church. Bill had a gift of being a source of love and service to others. He loved to help others while making them laugh and smile.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Radical Heart Ministry at Hermitage Hills Baptist Church, Issac Litton Alumni Association, or Alive Hospice.

Visitation will take place on Thursday, April 2 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. with a Celebration of Life immediately following at Hermitage Hills Baptist Church.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 2. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Hermitage Hills Baptist Church
3475 Lebanon Pike
Hermitage, TN 37076

Celebration of Life

APR 2. 4:00 PM (CT)

Hermitage Hills Baptist Church
3475 Lebanon Pike
Hermitage, TN 37076

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.

April 01 at 02:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.



April 01 at 02:44 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet* was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.



April 01 at 10:16 AM



“ *The Todd Family purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet* for the family of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.



The Todd Family - March 31 at 09:09 AM

LR

“ I so loved Bill. He was kind and always full of laughter and fun. I have known him since Junior High at Litton. His family was always so kind to me. As he matured into a man; he became a good Christian man. A servant of God. He served God until he passed away. He was someone I wish everyone could have known. He was such a good friend and I will miss him immensely. Rest in peace my dear friend,
Laetitiq

Laetitia Rollins - March 29 at 10:42 PM

DH

I have known Bill all the way back to kids in church. Then on to Jr. and Sr. High School at Litton. He was always at any event for our class. He could be the life of the party as he enjoyed a good laugh. He even made it to our last reunion after having surgery earlier in the week. He wasn't going to miss anything. I will miss that laugh and smile that could brighten a room. RIP with your heavenly family. Deborah L. Hall

Deborah L. Hall - March 31 at 02:57 PM

DH

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Deborah Hall - April 01 at 03:29 PM

JF

“ I so loved Bill, I came to Tennessee almost 3yrs ago and almost immediately started with radical heart and after meeting Bill we almost immediately became friends...he was so welcoming...thru the years we became the best of friends...sharing our lives with each other and praying for each other. Im gonna try not to miss him because I know he's with the lord and maybe trying to pass a trump \$50 dollar bill.

John Foro - March 29 at 09:20 PM

CR

“ Chris Ruppel purchased the Simply Elegant Spat hiphyllum for the family of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.



Chris Ruppel - March 29 at 05:32 PM

CR

“ Chris Ruppel planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.

Chris Ruppel - March 29 at 05:32 PM

NG

“ Nick, Carson, Annie, & Millie Grisham purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.



Nick, Carson, Annie, & Millie Grisham - March 29 at 03:49 PM

SD

“ Sincerely, Gary and Ginny Derryberry purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.



Sincerely, Gary and Ginny Derryberry - March 29 at 12:05 AM

NR

“ I had the privilege of knowing Bill and his family since our younger years at Litton and Inglewood Baptist Church. Bill had many wonderful attributes including always having something good to say but perhaps mostly he was always a good, attentive listener. We saw him at the Goodlettsville Kroger store from time to time and most recently a couple of weeks ago. As we talked it was apparent he had still maintained these qualities throughout his illness. I was blessed to call Bill a friend and I send my deepest sympathy to his family. May God bless you all.

Nolan Rippy - March 29 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ What a true friend, fellow believer and humble man was my good friend Bill. The world was a better place because of his service to his many friends and His Savior! We were all blessed by his very short life here, but even though we grieve now, we all know Bill is in a perfect home with loved ones! Thank you Lord for my friend Bill.

Robb Carpenter - March 28 at 10:19 PM

LR

I was in the same life group as Bill ! What a kind pleasant man . He always had a positive attitude and was passionate about loving and trusting our Lord! He will be missed ! He was a good friend to all!

Loraine Rotroff - April 02 at 01:07 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.*



March 28 at 05:47 PM



“ *Sure was a blessing and pleasure to get to know Bill, especially these last two years. The peace and joy he demonstrated through his latest health struggles was such an encouraging and touching testimony for the Lord he loved. Will miss him most at the main doors of the church Sun. morning and at Radical Heart Wed. nights. Many prayers will continue for his family.*

Dan Milliken .

Dan Milliken - March 28 at 04:33 PM



“ *Heaven truly received another angel in Bill. Joining his precious wife Johanna another angel already there who met him with open arms. We knew both of them from school and Dalewood church. Bill was certainly a servant of the Lord and always smiling and ready to help anyone. So many happy memories of him,her, and their children, the light of their lives. Love, thoughts and prayers to them and the family during this heart breaking time.*

Danny and Sharon McClanahan

Sharon McClanahan - March 28 at 02:55 PM

HG

“ I was proud to call Bill a friend. Have known him since Junior High at Litton. Always had a smile on his face and a story to tell..... RIP Bill..... hal gibbs...

Hal Gibbs - March 28 at 01:06 PM

OJ

“ Bill, was a good man who I have known my whole life. I shall miss his sweet smile, sense of humor and watching him bring love and joy to any situation. My heart is with all of the Benz family. Through many years, our shared so many joyful times. Rest in peace. A GREAT MAN.

Owen Joyner - March 28 at 12:37 PM

JH

I can't believe Bill is gone! What a sweetheart of a man. Kind, handsome and funny! We had so many wonderful times with all the Benz family, cherished memories at Bluegrass, Isaac litton and all over Inglewood!! Rest in peace sweet Bill I'll miss you! Janelle holt

Janelle Holt - March 29 at 12:43 PM

DB

“ Debra Bond lit a candle in memory of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III



Debra Bond - March 28 at 11:46 AM

JJ

“ Bill loved his family deeply, he loved serving Jesus & when he entered heaven I know Jesus said, well done though good & faithful servant

He went to Sunday lunch every Sunday with me & some of our friends. He was so much fun & full of jokes. Sunday lunch will be not be the same. Love his beautiful family & praying so much. 🙏❤️🙏

Jean Jackson - March 28 at 11:22 AM

AL

“ Alison L. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of William "Bill" Wendelin Benz III.

Alison L. - March 28 at 11:13 AM