



## Barbara Jean Best

December 27, 1941 - March 25, 2020

Barbara Jean (Bennett, White) Best a devoted wife, mother and grandmother, died Wednesday, March 25, 2020 at her residence. Barbara was born December 27, 1941 the daughter of William Randolph and Adeline Marie (Smith) White. Her parents who raised her from infancy were Sherman Alger and Dora Louilla Bennett. She grew up in East Lansing, Michigan. She attended East Lansing High School and Eastern High School, graduating from Eastern in 1960. On September 10, 1960 she married the love of her life William Daniel Best and started their family together.

The Army life found Barbara and William moving all over the United States. Barbara worked for the National Guard in Lansing, The USPFO in Corpus Christi, Texas, CAEOC in Lansing, Kenrich Construction, Moore Printing in Lansing, K-Mart and the State of Michigan, she retired with over 29 years from the State Police in the Bureau/Division of State Services Commission on Law Enforcement.

During the school years with her children she enjoyed watching their school activities. Barbara in addition to raising 5 children helped run her family's 125-acre farm while maintaining full time employment outside of the farm. She enjoyed her children and watching the grandchildren grow up. Later in life Barbara enjoyed a nice evening playing cards with friends, playing bingo and visiting the casino. She also competed in fishing tournaments with her husband. A Friday night favorite of Barbs was having raw ribeye with Rod and Titan. She had a variety of enjoyments, including: hunting, collecting, crafting, and reading.

Barbara is survived by her children, Diane Marie, Gregory "Greg" Allen, Richard "Richie" Irving, Cynthia "Cindy" Elaine Best, and Rodney "Rod" William Best; grandchildren, Michelle Darling, Gregory Babb, Mindee Best, Richard Best-Bartlett, Christopher Best, and Jeffery Hillard; great-grandchildren, Aubrie and Allie Babb, and Nicholas and Corliss Austin. She was preceded in death by both of her parents, biological parents, son, Richard Best and her husband of 52 plus years William "Dan" Best.

Friends are encouraged to support Barbara's family through calls, letters, and through Barbara's Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). A private family graveside service for Barbara will take place at Gunnisonville Cemetery at 11:00 AM. Family and friends who can not attend are invited to watch the graveside services via webcast. The webcast may be viewed through Barbara's Tribute Page on Pray Funeral Home's website at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com) The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Cemetery

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## **Gunnisonville Cemetery**

2000E Clark Rd

Lansing, MI, 48906

# Events

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**MAY 16** **Private Graveside Service** 11:00AM

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Gunnisonville Cemetery

2000E Clark Rd, Lansing, MI, US, 48906

# Comments

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“ We are sorry to hear Barbara has passed on! We will miss her in this neighborhood. Our prayers are with all those she left behind. Jerry and Laurie Knight

**Jerry and Laurie Knight** - March 30 at 01:21 PM

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“ LIZ AND TOM WHEELIS SO SORRY WE WAS IN LOVE WITH BARB ONE GOOD WOMAM NEVER BE ONE LIKE HER AGIAN SHE WELL BE MIISED BY MANY

**WHEELIS** - March 29 at 07:40 PM

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“ I was sorry to hear about Barb's passing. I worked with her for many years at the MSP academy. Those were interesting times that changed many things about the law enforcement discipline and she was a part of all that. I remember going hunting on her farm once and how that became an ongoing joke in our office. Let's just say, I didn't get the bird!  
My condolences to the family, my thoughts are with you.

**Jeffrey Shouldice** - March 29 at 12:13 PM

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“ I'm so sorry to hear about the loss I grew up with rod and Cindy I rode the bus with them we lived LOL for a mile praying love you guys

**Renee** - March 29 at 07:45 AM

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“ Barbara was a happy, caring, and always helpful person. I knew her when she worked at the Michigan State Police Academy, for the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards, and I worked for the Michigan State Police at the Training Academy near Charlotte. Barbara was a friend, always smiling, easy going, good hearted person. I was proud to have her as a friend and confidant. I will miss you Barbara, until we meet again! Your eternal friend, Bob Muladore.

**Robert G Muladore** - March 28 at 12:15 PM

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“ oh, Barb, wish I would have known. I would have visited you. Don't know what happened, but now you are at peace and with Richard and Danny. I was a sister-in-law for a few years and my heart is heavy for our children.. sure wish we had one more breakfast at Denny's.

**trini dixon** - March 28 at 09:21 AM

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“ Cindy & family - so sorry to hear about the loss of your mom. Praying for all of you.  
  
Linda Wood

**Linda Wood** - March 28 at 08:43 AM

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“ Barbara worked with me at Kenrich Construction in Lansing, which was owned by Ken and Dick Granger. I was the general manager for the company. Barbara was a wonder person and worker. She never complained and exceeded my expectations as a corporate secretary. All these years I never forgot her pleasant manner and always considered her to be the first lady, which she was. I will look forward to seeing her in Heaven. Lord bless her soul. My sincere condolences to the family. Kip Williams.

**Kip Williams** - March 28 at 07:31 AM

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“ Cindy, so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing. She was a wonderful person.

**Carol Zwick** - March 27 at 10:45 PM

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“ Oh Condy! So sorry! Love you, Gary and Jan Shall

**Jan Charboneau Shall** - March 27 at 12:55 PM

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“ Cindy so sorry to hear about your mom. I didn't really know her, but when I met her she was such a sweet lady. My heart goes out to you and your family. May God Bless you all.

**Connie Woodley** - March 27 at 12:55 PM

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“ Cindy & Family..So sorry to hear of this sad news. I know you have lots of great memories. Hugs to you.

**Patti Weicht** - March 27 at 12:34 PM



“ Cindy and family. I am so sorry to hear of your Mom's passing.. My heart breaks for you. Mom has been gone 18 years and there are days it feels like it happened yesterday. Praying for God's peace to surround you and your family. Miss seeing you and the boys.

**Penny (Patrick) Ryan** - March 27 at 03:03 PM



“ MY favorite memory is of Barb and Dan in the fall of 1990. Our sons Rod and Phil played football for the Orioles and we were at Jackson West. It began to snow hard during the game and one by one spectators left the stands and headed for home while the game continued on. At the end of the game only three people remained to cheer our team to victory. Barb, Dan and me. I can still remember the radiant smile on Barbs face through the blinding snow.

I will be forever grateful for the time and love the best family shared with our family always making Phil believe they were his parents too.

**Janice Finn** - March 27 at 11:33 AM



“ Howard and I are so sorry to hear of your loss. We haven't met her, but we know from Karen and Zach that she was a special person and she will be missed. Our condolences to you and your whole family.

Susan

**Susan Penrod** - March 27 at 11:29 AM



“ She was a grandma to me for many years . Also sweet funny and adventurous I will miss you I am glad we got to catch up a little at the nail Salon before your trip . I will miss out chats by the pool xoxo Rachel

**Rachel** - March 27 at 10:34 AM



“ Rod and family although we did not know your mom personally but sounds like she was beautiful inside and out. There are no words to take away your pain but we wish you peace and comfort in your precious memories. Sending love, hugs and prayers to you all.

Sandi and Butch Craven

**Sandi Craven** - March 27 at 08:57 AM

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“ So sorry for your lost. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Tom and Cindy Raymond

**Cindy Raymond** - March 27 at 07:47 AM