



## Harold Jay Benward

December 24, 1950 - May 22, 2020

Harold Jay Benward, a man who enjoyed a cold Bud Light and a Black and Mild Cigar, died Friday, May 22, 2020, surrounded by his loving family. Jay, 69, of Potterville, MI, was born December 24, 1950, in Albion, MI, the son of Harold and Ruth (Shannon) Benward. He was a graduate from Albion high school class of 1969. Jay went on to work numerous years as a customer service rep at APCO. On May 29, 1998, Jay married Sandra Bullen and together they spent the next 21 years creating their legacy together. He will be remembered for being everyone's friend. A man who was kind and had the biggest heart and well respected by others. Jay would give the shirt off his back to someone in need. His hobbies include camping at Michigan's beautiful state parks, bowling -Jay has 2 successful 300 games- and was known for his "hop" after his release, and his favorite activity was spending time with his family.

Jay is survived by his loving wife, Sandra; children, Mark (Jen) Benward, James (Ingrid) Benward, Mindy (Mark) Biehl, Kendra (Simon) Nathan, Charlene Tondreau, Jacob (Abbi) Tondreau, Matthew Benward and Ethan Benward; 13 grandchildren; and, sister, Bonnie (Greg) Cox. He was predeceased by his parents and brother, Phillip Benward.

Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Jay on his Tribute Page at [www.PrayFuneral.com](http://www.PrayFuneral.com). The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

# Comments

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“ A tribute video has been added.



**Pray Funeral Home, Inc.** - May 28 at 03:58 PM



“ I am so very sorry Sandy for you and your family's loss. May God give you comfort during this difficult time. Mark Fitzgerald

**Mark Fitzgerald** - June 02 at 12:29 PM



“ I am so sorry Sandy. These pictures show the amazing love and memories you guys made in the 21 years

**Sheila RobinsHartegan** - June 08 at 09:23 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album LifeTributes



**Josh Finch** - June 09 at 12:57 PM



“ Jay was a good friend and I had the privilege to work with him for 25 years. My heartfelt sympathies go out to all of Jay's amazing family.

**Josh Finch** - June 09 at 01:00 PM

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“ Sandy, so sorry to heard about your loss. sending prayer for you and your family  
Susie Ramirez

**azucena ramirez** - June 01 at 11:46 AM

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“ I'm so sorry,  
My heart is shattered.  
I'm so sorry for everyones loss & grief.  
Good guy, had gone through so much and gone too soon. He will be missed.

Matt, Ethan & Sandy...my thoughts & prayers are especially for you.  
Fly high Jay!

Linda Davis - May 29 at 08:52 PM

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“ 42 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - May 28 at 03:55 PM

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“ My heart is heavy seeing this today. Jay was one of the best men I have ever known. He was my youth leader, but felt more like my father. A good man, loving, kind, generous, wise, the example for men to pattern after. He was everything I needed as a teenager and young adult. My heart goes out to the family, so sorry for your loss. You were blessed with a jewel of a man

Amy c Villa (warren) - May 27 at 12:08 PM

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“ Jay, you were always one of my best friends, and you were also my brother in-law as well. I played a lot of basketball with you when we were all younger, your patented jump shot will be in my memory for ever. I am going to truly miss you, Don Hutcheson.

Don Hutcheson - May 25 at 07:53 PM



“ Jay, I enjoyed working with you during my years at APCO. God love ya. Kay Pray  
Kay Pray - May 25 at 10:00 PM



“ Jay you was my Brother In Law forever. You always will be such an important part of our family. So many memories are flooding my mind at this time. You never had a bad word to say about anyone that I ever heard, you was always helpful and big heart you helped anyone family or a stranger. You will be missed RIP I love you.  
Jacquita Foster - May 27 at 08:43 AM



“ James/Ingrid/Brody/Aubrie/Wyatt and the entire Benward family- I know only to well that this is a difficult time for you all! Hold close to one another and all the great memories you have. I only met your dad a couple of times, but it was easy to see how you all looked up to him and the grandkids flocked around him. James/Ingrid you are two of the best people I

know and James you are a direct reflection of your dad!! Love you!!

**Missy McNamara Boughner** - May 27 at 09:14 AM



“ Ingrid & family, I am so sorry for your loss My thoughts and prayers are with you. Hold onto your memories as they will give your roses in those cold dark moments.

**marilyn** - May 27 at 09:43 AM