



Bernard 'Bernie' Arthur Sumner

October 30, 1933 - February 4, 2020

Bernard "Bernie" Arthur Sumner, 86, a dedicated firefighter, husband, father, and grandfather, died peacefully on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 in Charlotte. Bernie was born October 30, 1933 in Jackson, MI. He attended Jackson High School, where he met Shirley Ann Walters, and the two married in 1951. They settled in Potterville, MI, where they raised their three children. In 1953, Bernie enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served aboard the USS Mississippi. Upon his return, he joined the City of East Lansing Fire Dept., dedicating the next 32 ½ years to public safety. He retired from ELFD as Captain in 1989, and then continued his career as a member of Benton Twp. Fire Board for many years. Bernie was a member of the Lansing Moose Lodge #288, where he served as administrator, and shared a supper club with other members. He and Shirley enjoyed time spent hosting card parties and camping with family and friends. Bernie loved sports, especially the MSU Spartans, and was instrumental in starting the youth flag football leagues in Potterville Youth Athletics. Many will remember Bernie's dedication to service, and his love for his family.

Bernard is survived by his son, Michael (Aurora) Sumner of Charlotte; daughter, Jayne (Tim) Anderson of Charlotte; daughter-in-law, Christine Sumner; grandchildren, Jennifer (Ryon) Mott, Ryan Arias-Sumner, Kristopher Arias-Sumner, Brian Sumner II of Arizona, Amandajean (Brett) Line, Chelsey (Josh) Evans of Texas, Kyle (Shelby) Anderson and Kaitlyn Anderson; and 7

great-grandchildren, Arianna, Teighan, Easton, Cameron, Braxton, Grady and Emmett. He is predeceased by his wife of 64 years, Shirley Ann (Walters) Sumner in 2015; son, Brian Scott Sumner in 1998; and his brothers, Stan Sumner and Rex Sumner.

Friends are encouraged to support Bernard's family. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at St. Mary Catholic Church with Rev. Fr. Dwight Ezop officiating. Visitation will be from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Monday, February 10, 2020 at Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Interment will take place in Maple Hill Cemetery in Charlotte. If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the American Cancer Society. Friends and family are encouraged to share memories of Bernard on his Tribute Page at www.PrayFuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

Maple Hill Cemetery

801 Tully Brown Rd.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 10. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Funeral Ceremony

FEB 11. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary Catholic Church
807 St. Mary Boulevard
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Bernard 'Bernie' Arthur Sumner



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - February 07, 2020 at 06:00 PM

SD

“ So sorry for your families loss 💔 thinking of you all. Sorry we will not be able to attend the visitation or services due to previous commitments.

Steve Davidson

Benton Township Fire &EMS Board Chairman

Steve Davidson - February 10, 2020 at 10:43 AM



“ 44 files added to the album Life Tributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - February 07, 2020 at 05:58 PM

JR

“ We always enjoyed seeing Bernie at the fire station and at the store (Carls). We are sorry we can't be with you but medical issues are keeping us from attending his visitation and funeral. Pleas know you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Jim and Julie Robertson

Jim & Julie Robertson - February 07, 2020 at 11:56 AM

KH

“ Katherine HARKNESS lit a candle in memory of Bernard 'Bernie' Arthur Sumner



Katherine HARKNESS - February 05, 2020 at 08:27 PM