



Matthew Allen Bennett

February 11, 1947 - December 1, 2013

Matthew Bennett, beloved husband, father, papa and friend passed from this life on December 1st, at Ebeid Hospice held in the loving arms of his family. He was 66 years old. It was the culmination of a two-year journey of pain, suffering, miracles (and joy) that those who travelled with us will not soon forget.

Born February 11, 1947 to Marie and Martin Bennett, he was pre-deceased by them and his only brother, Martin Jr.

He is survived by his best friend (for 56 years) and wife of 46 years, Linda. He also leaves his dearly loved children, daughter Christina (Terry) Ramsey, son Ben and daughter Katy Bennett; his grandchildren Nicholas, Elizabeth and Isabella Ramsey, Benjamin Bennett, Devon Dempsey and his most delightful great grandson, Max.

A proud graduate of Central Catholic Class of '65, he always held a fondness for his alma mater. He also graduated from the University of Toledo and was a lifelong UT Rocket fan. His passion was the Lady Rockets and he held season tickets for years, rarely missing a game.

Matt drove semi for Foodtown for 33 years, retiring in 2000, and the friends he made throughout those years are among the best he ever had. His "posse", the BDTD group (broken down truck drivers) have been with him every step of the way during his long and difficult illness.

Two years into retirement Matt decided that he needed to do more with his life and was hired by the Toledo Metropark System as a part time worker. He was

assigned to Swan Creek and it was the very best decision he ever made. He formed close friendships with his “mates” at Swan Creek and they too have supported and loved him through his long ordeal. Matt simply loved that park. He was never happier than when there, feeding the birds, mowing the lawns, building park benches.

Matt also formed strong bonds with the Close Park Neighborhood where he and Linda lived and raised their family for 37 years. Without the love and support of this wonderful group of friends, the last two challenging years of Matt’s life would have been much more difficult.

Matt also had cherished childhood friends; a few dear ones who have been by his side for more than 50 years.

Recently a chaplain asked “what did Matt do in life”. I said, he drove a truck to support his family, but his life’s career was learning. He loved to read, had a vast library and was well versed on so many topics, his favorite being philosophy. He loved nothing better than a lively debate regarding ideology... he always won!

Matt’s family owe a debt of gratitude to a host of people, too numerous to mention, but we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all you did. Mostly we thank you for loving Matt...he was so very loveable.

Friends may visit at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd. on Wednesday, December 11 from 3-8 , with a Memorial Service and “Sharing of Memories” beginning at 7 p.m. Memorial donations in Matt’s memory to the Swancreek Toledo Metropark. Please leave a message and view his video tribute at CoyleFuneralHome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC 11. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Coyle Funeral and Cremation Services
1770 S. Reynolds Road
Toledo, OH 43614
(419) 865-1295
<https://www.coylefuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall

CV

“ 6 files added to the album VIDEO TRIBUTE



COYLE FUNERAL HOME VIDEOS - December 11, 2013 at 09:26 AM

CR

“ Dear Linda,
We are so very sorry about Matt's passing.
Your love story was an inspiration to many of
us. Your devotion to each other was a
beautiful example to all who knew and loved
you.

Be at peace knowing that Matt rests in the palm of HIS hand.

Much love,

Carlene and Bernie Ragle



Carlene Ragle - December 10, 2013 at 07:50 PM

SC

“ *Mattie, I love you with my heart and soul. Thank you for the
laughter, love, and smiles I enjoyed with you and Linda. Always and
forever, Susie*

Susan Cook - December 09, 2013 at 03:10 PM

GH

“ *Life is but a stopping place, a pause in what's to be.
A resting place along the road to sweet eternity.
We all have different journeys, different paths along the way.
We are all meant to learn some things,
but never meant to stay.
Our destination is a place far greater than we know.
For some the journey's quicker, for some the journey's slow.
But when the journey finally ends,
we'll claim a great reward,
and find an everlasting peace
together with the Lord.
Matthew, you will be missed. I feel truly blessed that our paths
crossed along the way.
Linda, you now have to learn a new normal. Consider yourself
hugged my dear friend.
With Love, Georgia*

Georgia Horen - December 09, 2013 at 10:50 AM

CH

“ *To quote Flip Wilson, "What You See (saw). Is What you Got" from
Matt and Linda. He was the genuine article that listened when you
visited with him, and He always with that grin of sincerity and care.
Those who knew him, loved Him.*

Chris Hunter, CCHS Class of '65.

Chris Hunter - December 09, 2013 at 10:42 AM



“ I met Matt my freshman year at CCHS. We spent many late hours on the phone with him trying to teach me German. To this day I only remember the "bad" words. We laughed till we cried about the silliest things. He was a great friend, fun, sweet and kind. My condolences to Linda and all the family. I have been away from Toledo for many years but my memories of Matt are clear and fond.....Susan Lechlak Fandrey

Susan Fandrey - December 08, 2013 at 10:57 PM



“ I believe God makes us hurt when we loose a loved one so we realize what a great gift from God that person was to us. This way we can thank God for His many great gifts to us. Thank You Lord, for Matt. All honor and glory be Yours, for EVER.

Michael Kulakowski - December 08, 2013 at 08:28 PM



“ My condolences are with you. It always seem too soon when we miss such a wonderful loving person but how comforting it is to have our happy memories and prayers fill our hearts. May, it also be comforting to remember that God will help us through our sorrows. (Psalms 55:22)

Sheila Hunt - December 08, 2013 at 11:22 AM



“ Linda,
It has been so many years since St. Clement School. I remember Matt and you and the fun we had on the court with our group of friends. You and your family our in my thoughts and prayers.
Sincerely
Sue Daney Kraft

Sue Kraft - December 08, 2013 at 09:11 AM

DK

“ Linda and Family-Words cannot express how sorry we are to hear of your loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Dan and Maria (Heidi) Kwiatkowski - December 05, 2013 at 03:42 PM

PR

“ Linda, my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time of sorrow. I had Matt in several of my classes at CCHS. He was always a great friend. We will all miss him! May God be with you always!

Paul Raczkowski

Paul Raczkowski - December 05, 2013 at 12:35 PM

DO

“ Linda and Family. So sorry to hear of Matt's passing. I was so happy to see the two of you last year and be able to speak with him. My heart goes out to you. He was a very special man.

Dorothy Overberg - December 04, 2013 at 01:40 PM

TS

“ Everyone that worked with Matt at Swan Creek respected and liked him. As a supervisor for the Metroparks I loved his work ethic, intelligence and his ability to work well with others. Matt was always the first person to get up from the morning meeting and go to work. He was the only person in my 30 years with the Metroparks I had to continually say "Matt, slow down and take a break". He never complained or said "I cannot do that job". He always came to work early with a good attitude and had such a "hard working standard" that everyone admired and will remember. Thanks for being such a great employee and person!

Terry Ferguson

Terry Ferguson Park Supervisor - December 04, 2013 at 08:02 AM

JM

“ Linda, our hearts goes out to you and the kids. When I think of Matt I smile. That intellect, that wit, that ability to make conversation and talk about anything! When I heard the news I thought about his natural, and wonderful ability, to encourage, lift a mood and brighten any gathering! Matt was genuine and that showed in how he lived his life and valued his family and friends. Well Done Matt! You taught us so much through the years and we will hold those memories close! Rest in Peace my friend!

Jim Matthews

Jim Matthews - December 04, 2013 at 07:24 AM

GR

“ We had some good times at Swan Creek, and at the bar, and the winter breakfasts.. Gonna miss you you buddy... It's all your fault we do the trivia questions from the peach section every day at lunch... And we think about you every time we don't know an answer... Thanks for being a friend...”

Gary Rostetter - December 03, 2013 at 05:40 PM

MB

“ Thanks to all who've shared their memories of my dad here. I believe the true measure of a man are those who will stand up and earnestly count him as a friend. Cherish the memories you made with him and know how he cherished you, how you enriched his time here. I will miss him until the day I join him - but that is not all I will do. I will cherish the time I had with him, and be so grateful for the time he had with you.”

Matthew Benjamin Bennett - December 03, 2013 at 12:31 PM

MM

“ Happy Trails, 'Bennett'! I will always remember how awesome your home and yard looked - a jewel of the Greater Close Park Neighborhood. How did you ever tame all those leaves from the park!?!?”

Thanks for giving me the gift of life-long friendship through you daughter Christina.

Until we meet again!

Marita Morrissey-Schneider

Marita Morrissey-Schneider - December 03, 2013 at 06:25 AM

BF

“ *Mr. Bennett,
You are going to be greatly missed. You were such a wonderful husband, father and friend to which I am so lucky to have witnessed first hand. Your home was my second home for so many years and am truly blessed to have shared such many wonderful memories with you and your family.*

Becky Figley - December 02, 2013 at 11:14 PM

MS

“ *So sorry for the loss of this great man. I could go on about the close park pig roast's, the golf outings, and the trophy. He will be truly missed.*



micki smith - December 02, 2013 at 09:03 PM

LI

“ *Lisa lit a candle in memory of Matthew Allen Bennett*



Lisa - December 02, 2013 at 06:59 PM

LI

Uncle Matt will be sorely missed for sure! I wish I had known him better in my adult years, but what I do know of him is that he was a devoted son, and a loving, hard-working husband and father! "Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal."

Lisa - December 02, 2013 at 07:06 PM



Yalonda
Dye

“ *Matt had such an infectious laugh! I have not seen him in many years but I can still hear his laughter! So approachable! So dedicated to his family! And such a wonderful aid to his mother! And so in love with Linda!*

Yalonda Dye - December 02, 2013 at 05:48 PM

PM

“ *Condolences to you and your family Christina! May God give you all the strength you need to get through this difficult time. Know that your Dad will always be your guardian angel protecting you from above. Our prayers are with you at this time. Love, Pamela McCallister & Alyssa & Kiri Thibert*

Pamela McCallister - December 02, 2013 at 05:43 PM