



Henry "Hank" Weitenberner

August 20, 1943 - September 28, 2021

Here's the picture. My feet don't hurt anymore and I can hear everything now. My eyesight is perfect and I have all my teeth back. Most of all I can breathe again. Sure I had to die to get there but so will you. And for the snowflakes info I didn't pass. I died. I am dead. You pass cars and you pass notes and you pass gas. I died on September 28, 2021, and I appreciate my great family being there.

I had a wonderful, treasured life with Barb, my best friend. We were married May 25, 1968 at Assumption Grotto Church, Detroit. We loaded up our hopes for the future, our kids and our gold fish and moved to Bad Axe in 1974, over 46 years ago. It was a great place to raise a family.

We were always proud of our four boys, Hank (Kami), Rick (Kelli) Jeff (Leslee) and Tim (Jessica). Those four couples were more fun than you can imagine and I loved each one of them. The grandkids came along and they were precious. Dana, Lane, and Ellee remain a big part of my legacy and I couldn't be prouder. Then along came Jayden, Hailey and Mya and more fun and laughs.

Mom and dad are gone many years ago. Henry F. and Kathryn K (Devine) Weitenberner and I have one sister, Mrs. Donald (Marilou) Knoblock, Kinde.

I tried to stay active most of my life, joining many groups including the Steelheaders, Fox Hunters, several bowling leagues, several great softball teams and played hockey with my four sons until I was 60. I golfed at Ubyly many years with my good friend Tim Osentoski and we were warmly welcomed. Got my hole-in-one years ago at Verona. I hunted, fished and loved to be outside doing stuff.

For civic responsibilities, I gave back as much as I could. I served on the Huron County Building Authority 4 years followed by 9 years and 8 months on the Huron Board of Commissioners before being recalled for reasons I can't recall. I also served as a Bad Axe Volunteer Firefighter for almost 20 Years and for over 25 years served as a member and lastly chairman of the Board of Directors of Thumb Area Transit, past Chairman and member of the Board of Directors of Huron Behavioral Health for over 23 years, Secretary and member of the Board of Directors of Region VII Area Agency on Aging, an Executive Board Member of the Michigan Community Mental Health Boards, Lansing and President of the Huron County Council on Aging, a phenomenal senior group of local people.

Along with owning a local funeral home, I began working in Bad Axe at the Daily Tribune. Won several statewide awards when the paper was a paper and not a shopper. I also spent 26 years as assistant varsity baseball coach at Bad Axe with my great friend Wayne Turmell and chaperoned the 8 th grade trip for 28 years. I substitute taught at Bad Axe for several years, eventually working full time/part time at Ascent High School, an alternative education high school in Bad Axe dedicated to getting high school diplomas for kids who could not stand regular high school regimentation. The stint at Ascent was probably one of the most worthwhile things I did all my life.

I spent my "Golden Years" connected to a brown oxygen machine with a see

thru hose and an opaque nasal cannula after smoking white cigarettes for 40 years, blackening my lungs. There has to be a clear message somewhere in that colorful rant for you folks.

To my many good friends and totally worthwhile human beings I say "Thank You". Thank you for being my friends and friends of my family. Your smiles, your humor, your understanding and support made life a joy and I can't wait until we meet again, but take your time.

As far as services and stuff, well, I didn't write this part.

Funeral Service for Hank will be held on Friday, October 1, 2021 at 11 am at the Kaufman Funeral Home in Bad Axe. Visitation will be Thursday, September 30, 2021 from 4 - 8 pm or Friday from 10 am until the service time at 11 am.

Memorials may be offered to the Huron County Hockey Association or the Bad Axe High School Baseball Program.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 30. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Kaufman & Co. Funeral Home, Inc.
84 Westland Dr
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-3000
kaufmanfuneralhome@gmail.com

Visitation

OCT 1. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Kaufman & Co. Funeral Home, Inc.
84 Westland Dr
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-3000
kaufmanfuneralhome@gmail.com

Service

OCT 1. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Kaufman & Co. Funeral Home, Inc.
84 Westland Dr
Bad Axe, MI 48413
(989) 269-3000
kaufmanfuneralhome@gmail.com

Tribute Wall



“ Henry "Hank" Weitenberner

January 28, 2023 at 01:32 PM



“ Condolences to the Weitenberner family. I knew Hank growing up and haven't seen him since I moved to Texas in 1980. He was a nice person and he will be missed.

Matt Ney - October 04, 2021 at 09:58 PM



“ Barb and family, I'm so sorry to hear of Hanks death. Babysitting for you was always an adventure, but one of my favorite jobs. May you find peace in the many lovely and fun memories.

Michelle (Pulaskey) McHale - September 30, 2021 at 09:03 PM



“ Barb & family, a big part of my happy days at Grotto were the times I shared with Hank and you And the kids as they came along. May your family and friends support you in love and strength. Love to y'all.
Fr Bob

Fr Robert Ruefisueli - September 30, 2021 at 08:16 PM



Fr.Bob, we spoke of you often through the years, never forgot you. Thanks for sharing. Hope you're doing well. Love, Barb & Family

Barb - October 07, 2021 at 06:03 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner.*



September 30, 2021 at 04:43 PM



“ *A memorie of Henry Weitenber, wow there are so many I would not know where to start . I do know their are many wonderful ones in my heart and for that I am truly thankful.*

Jean Cottick - September 30, 2021 at 01:30 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner.*



September 30, 2021 at 10:25 AM

AS

“ Oh Hank. You taught me so much. You always had the best advice. Your laugh and smile was so contagious. You were such a selfless, caring,inspiring, loving man. Definitely a one of a kind guy. My heart goes to his lovely wife that sent him with lunch to school, everyday. He would always brag about his awesome lunch. 🤔
Thank you for everything Hank. Rest In Peace 😞



Ashley - September 30, 2021 at 12:49 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner.



September 29, 2021 at 09:43 PM



“ Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner.



September 29, 2021 at 07:11 PM

NT

“ Hank was my godfather, coach and friend. I could always rely on him when I needed it. The world lost an incredible man but he is perfect again just like he said he would be.

Nick Tschirhart - September 29, 2021 at 06:52 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner.



September 29, 2021 at 04:38 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner.



September 29, 2021 at 04:19 PM

BN

“ Had many discussions with Hank throughout the years with Hank. He was a very funny guy at times and I will miss his wit and humor.

Brian Neville, Deputy Director HDC

Brian Neville - September 29, 2021 at 04:04 PM

LO

“ Hank was a true advocate for older adults in Huron County. The Human Development Commission truly appreciated all of his efforts on their behalf and he will be missed. Lori Offenbecher, Executive Director HDC

Lori Offenbecher - September 29, 2021 at 03:08 PM

AM

“ Hank thank you for the hugs being kind to me and your smiles. You're a good person. Love Amanda matelski

AMANDA MATELSKI - September 29, 2021 at 12:25 PM

ED

“ Heaven gets another star while many of us get a hole in our hearts. I suppose there's comfort in knowing Mr. Weitenberner will continue to watch over family and friends but it doesn't make the news any easier to accept.

You've found peace and more importantly, your impacts live on with the rest of us. Thank you for all the growing-up advice, fatherly guidance and "fireside chats".

With love, Ed/Draves family

Ed Draves - September 29, 2021 at 12:02 PM

BK

“ Our prayers and condolences go out to the Weitenberner family during this difficult time. Hank was a great man and we are sorry for your loss.



Brian and Kelly Kube - September 29, 2021 at 11:24 AM

JC

“ *Best written obituary I have ever read! Well done, Mr. Weitenberner....you have one of the best families I've ever had the pleasure to know and grow up with. My condolences to all of you during this difficult time.*

Jill Chumbler - September 29, 2021 at 11:00 AM

FH

“ *Frank H. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner.*



Frank H. - September 29, 2021 at 10:45 AM

MC

“ *Mrs. Weitenberner, Hank, Ripper, Jeff and Timmy, I am very sorry to hear about the passing of Coach. I have many great memories of him and respected him a great deal. He trusted me at 3rd base on the Little League Braves (when I didn't trust me). Ripper held down 2nd base, and I am quite certain we never turned a double play in our career. However, we certainly learned a lot and Coach always kept it fun. He was a "tell it like it is" kinda guy and I liked that! A great sense of humor, he certainly passed on to his namesake. An incredible community man who gave back; and mentored so many young adults along the way. He was also a dedicated family man who, (with Barb), raised 4 awesome boys. Much respect.*

Our thoughts are with you all-

Hawkeye

Mike Chumbler - September 29, 2021 at 10:20 AM

JS

“ Jennifer Sweet lit a candle in memory of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner



Jennifer Sweet - September 29, 2021 at 08:53 AM

MC

“ Mr. Weitenberner always accepted me as one of his own (a 5th tag along to his gang of boys). He listened to my never ending stories and eventually assigned me the nickname “long story”. Taught me baseball with great patience (as I was horrible). Always carved out a spot for me in the family suburban for rides to the lake to stay with Grandma Kay. Taught me appreciation of Willie Nelson as we played the same tunes over and over on the way to the lake. In the ultimate display of patience he also taught me how to water ski behind his legendary “Green Guppy” boat. So many wonderful memories of a beloved man that was a pillar in the foundation of our home town of Bad Axe, MI. Rest In peace my childhood mentor and coach Mr. Weitenberner!!

Matt Cottick - September 29, 2021 at 08:47 AM

JC

So well said Matty

Jean Cottick - September 30, 2021 at 01:34 PM

MS

“ Mick And Marge Schott lit a candle in memory of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner



Mick and Marge Schott - September 29, 2021 at 07:51 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner.*



September 29, 2021 at 07:48 AM



“ *More than just a Cousin! Henry and his family were best of friends to me and my entire family for almost eighty years . We grew up together and spent many good times together from little tots growing up on the Eastside of Detroit to visiting with Hank, Barb and the boys in beautiful downtown Bad Axe! My fond memories of the Weitenberner family will be a comfort to me for the rest of my life! Henry had a wonderful sense of humor and he loved to tease me and I guess I loved being teased? I will truly miss my beloved Cousin, Hank but I am truly grateful for having had him as a true friend for his entire life! May God Bless Henry, Barb and the entire Weitenberner family.
Cousin Frank Bova and my entire family!*

Frank Bova - September 28, 2021 at 10:07 PM



“ *Hank was a heck of a guy! I'll miss that ever ready smile and I miss his insight on many conversations I had with him regarding a vast array of topics.
Barb, you and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.
Cindy (Maurer) Carson*

Cindy Carson - September 28, 2021 at 09:19 PM

TH

“ Keeping the Weitenberner family in my thoughts and prayers! What a wonderful man and beautiful family! 🙏❤️🙏

Tami (Hall) Howard

Tami Howard - September 28, 2021 at 08:53 PM

JW

“ We’ve been on many epic fishing trips, but just three short weeks ago we took a great family trip to Douglas Lake in Northern Michigan. Gordo lent us his boat which made loading Dad, his oxygen machine , oxygen tank, tackle box, worms and three poles easy. We were BLESSED on this day to drive over a pike which latched onto his spinner bait and offered him the opportunity to catch his last fish. Although this trip was his last here, I’m sure he is either tangled up with a nice Chinook Salmon or tangled up in the rough playing a round of golf on a fabulous course in heaven. I miss him dearly and will cherish each and every moment we had together and as a family. See you on the other side Dad. I love you and miss you today and everyday.

Keep your lines tight and try to hit the fairway!



Jeff Weitenberner - September 28, 2021 at 08:48 PM

KK

Thinking of you Jeff. I loved your Dad's obituary. He lived a full life and leaves behind a beautiful legacy. It's never easy but I'm sure you have great comfort in your family, friends, and memories of your Dad.

KELLY KNOBLOCK - September 28, 2021 at 09:14 PM

LK

My deepest condolences to Barb and the rest of the Weitenberner family .

Lori Koch - September 28, 2021 at 10:26 PM

TE

Thinking of you and your family, Jeff. So sorry for your loss.

Traci Ens - September 29, 2021 at 06:20 PM

RF

“ *Hank we didn't always agree but I always respected your professionalism and commitment. Rest In peace and prayers for your family*

Richard Fawcett - September 28, 2021 at 08:05 PM

LT

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Laura Turner - September 28, 2021 at 07:34 PM



“ *We had a helluva ride old friend. You touched the lives of many players and students along the way. We shared many, many laughs and made great memories. You will be missed.*

Wayne Turmell - September 28, 2021 at 07:29 PM

JW

He loved you like a brother Coach! You guys did wonderful things for many ball players in BA. Thanks for being a special part of his life. We love and appreciate you and your family.

Jeff Weitenberner - September 28, 2021 at 09:13 PM

BA

“ *Betty Arnott lit a candle in memory of Henry "Hank" Weitenberner*



Betty Arnott - September 28, 2021 at 06:49 PM

KL

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the family. I had lots of good times and a lot of good conversations with my Buddy Hank. You are all in my heart* ❤️

Kathi Loewe - September 28, 2021 at 06:40 PM

DS

“ *thoughts and prayers to the family, so sorry for your loss,donna storckle and family*



donna storckle - September 28, 2021 at 06:20 PM

WI

“ *hank and i served for many years at region 7 aaa we shared many a laugh and a lot of good times bill walters*

william walters iv - September 28, 2021 at 06:15 PM