



William "Butler" J. Klecha

October 23, 1946 - March 2, 2023

Wantage - William "Butler" Klecha, age 76, peacefully passed away on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at his residence while surrounded by his loving family. Born in Sussex to the late John and Dorothy (Williams) Klecha, Butler has lived in Sussex County all of his life. He grew up on a farm and quickly showed how mischievous he could be in his younger years. As he got older, Butler maintained his sense of humor and wit and befriended many people that he truly loved to be around. Butler enjoyed playing the drums and played with the bands, Harmony and Rico and the Mudsharks for many years. You could see them play at the former Dale's and Robin's Nest as well as many wedding venues. He was a carpenter by trade and was a true craftsman. Besides his parents, Butler was predeceased by his brother, Tom Klecha. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Claudia (Iloff); his children, Michelle McDole and her husband Barry of Wantage, Vicki Klecha of Dingmans, Pennsylvania, and Adam Klecha and his wife Sue of Enfield, Connecticut; his sister, Maryann Davidowsky and her husband Jeff of Wantage; and his grandchildren, Jill Smith and her husband Damien, Stevie Derrin and her husband Paul, and Jesse McDole. Butler was loved by so many friends and will be missed by them tremendously. For all who knew Butler well, his last saying to everyone he loved, "God bless me first, then you." Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at Our Lady Queen of Peace, 209 US Route 206, Branchville. Interment will immediately follow at Beemerville Cemetery. Friends may pay their respects to the family on

Monday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex. In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation in William J. Klecha's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or Karen Ann Quinlan Center of Hope Hospice, 99 Sparta Avenue, Newton, NJ 07860. Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.pinkelfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Beemerville Cemetery

Route 519
Wantage, NJ 07461

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 6. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.
31 Bank Street (Route 23)
Sussex, NJ 07461
(973) 875-3272
alexis@pinkelfuneralhome.com
<https://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com/>

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 7. 10:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady Queen of Peace Roman Catholic Church
209 US Highway 206
Branchville, NJ 07826

Tribute Wall

LM

“ Dear Mom , Michelle, Vicki, Adam , I am so sorry for your loss. Dad was one of the funniest person I knew, always made me laugh, from the Easter egg hunts in the backyard to the Christmas tree falling on him Christmas morning and playing in his band at our high school graduation. Too many to write Larry McFarland

Lawrence Mcfarland - April 18, 2023 at 04:37 PM

JS

“ Prayers and blessings to a wonderful family, hang on to your memories to help you thru this difficult time. 🙏🙏

Judith Steffener - March 10, 2023 at 08:17 AM

PD

“ From an amazing life comes an amazing family. Our condolences to all.

Paul and Rebecca Derin

Paul and Rebecca Derin - March 06, 2023 at 03:48 PM

CW

“ Jeremiah has left the stage. Hugs to all...he was one of a kind. ❤️

Chris Wetzel - March 05, 2023 at 01:31 PM

CW

Rest peacefully my friend.

Chris Wetzel - March 05, 2023 at 01:34 PM

AB

“ Sending heartfelt condolences and hugs to all my family and friends that loved Butler ❤️ Many memories of our family gatherings together celebrating holidays, weddings and just having fun. Loved going to Dales and listening to him play the drums and he always had that awesome smile! I will miss that smile my dear cousin, RIP. Love you ❤️ Annette

Annette Bennett - March 05, 2023 at 12:02 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of William "Butler" J. Klecha.



March 05, 2023 at 11:57 AM

GL

“ Dear Michele,
Sincere condolences to you upon reading of the death of your father.
He apparently was a person who brought joy and happy memories to many people over the course of his lifetime here in Sussex County.
Peace and consolation to you and all your family.,
In friendship,
Gael Lawlor

Gael Lawlor - March 05, 2023 at 10:57 AM

DS

“ Dear Claudia, Michelle, Vicki and Adam, We are so sorry to hear of Butler's passing. Please, know our thoughts and prayers are with all of you! .Butler always had a smile to give you. We have so many memories of Butler on the drums with Harmony. Fun times with friends, will always have those memories. Even when we would see him someplace or talk on the phone, it was always with a few laughs and lots of smiles. He was such a kind, caring man. We know he will be missed by his family but also by his friends.
Love, David & Dee

David Shepherd - March 04, 2023 at 03:08 PM

GR

“ Dearest Claudia, We are so sorry for your loss. May your wonderful memories comfort you at this difficult time. Sincerely Gail and Bob Raser.

Gail Raser - March 04, 2023 at 01:32 PM

TB

“ To my good friend Butler! RIP. Lots of good memories. We are gonna miss you my friend. Love Tom and Cathy Brophy

Tom and Cathy Brophy - March 04, 2023 at 07:34 AM

JD

“ Rip to my good friend class of '65



Joe Dalrymple - March 03, 2023 at 06:16 PM

JD

“ My good buddy. Rip Butler, Class of '65



Joe Dalrymple - March 03, 2023 at 06:08 PM