



## Bentley Junior "Ben" Gentry

August 6, 1936 - July 6, 2024

Bentley Junior "Ben" Gentry, 87, of Washington, formerly of Le Roy, passed away on Saturday, July 6, 2024 at Washington Senior Living. He was born on August 6, 1936 in Wellhope, Kentucky, a son of Fred Lewis Gentry and Viola (Kinnley) Gentry. Ben married Ruth Wanda Payne on December 28, 1957 in Mount Vernon, Kentucky. She survives.

He is also survived by his two children, James "Darrell" (Pam) Gentry of Tremont and Cathy Lynn (Mike) Kobylarz of Peoria Heights; one daughter-in-law, Crystal Gentry of Gibson City; 17 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; two brothers, James Edward Gentry of Bloomington and Cletus Gentry of Mount Vernon, Kentucky; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ben was preceded in death by his parents; one son, David Harold Gentry; four brothers; and three sisters.

Ben moved to Illinois in 1960 and began working as a farm hand in the Le Roy area. He started in the carpentry and home improvement and remodeling business in the 1970's. Ben was the owner and operator of Gentry's Home Improvement for many years, retiring in 2006.

He was a member of the United Church of God. Ben was a gentle, loving and hardworking man.

Ben's celebration of life service will take place at a later date. Cremation has

been entrusted to Schmidt-Haller Burial & Cremation Services in Peoria.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Alzheimer's Association at <https://www.alz.org/?form=FUNSETYDEFK>

Online condolences may be shared with Ben's family at [www.SchmidtHaller.com](http://www.SchmidtHaller.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *My prayers are with your family. My parents always felt your Dad was the best employee they had and were sad when he changed employment. He was a reliable, hard worker.*

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**Mary Kay Kosur** - July 09, 2024 at 09:55 PM

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“ *I am so sorry for your loss. I pray God will give you comfort in the days ahead. Please know you all are in my prayers 🙏*

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**Freda Gentry Renner** - July 09, 2024 at 08:34 PM

TS

“ *Hi everyone.*

*I can't tell you all the wonderful times I talked and laughed with Ben. We would talk on the phone forever. If Carol Jean (Dinky), were here she would tell you also how much we loved him. My heart is so sad... My love is sent to you all.*

*Theresa Kay Simos*

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**Theresa Simos** - July 08, 2024 at 07:46 PM

PC

*I'm so sorry about the passing of Ben. Prayers for Wanda and your children and their families. Ben was always very kind.*

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**Pat Hart- Farmer City.** - July 10, 2024 at 12:31 AM