



## Werner Benjamin

July 30, 1927 - May 5, 2021

It is with love and dignity that we share the news with you of the passing of Werner "Benji" Benjamin, July 30, 1927 - May 5, 2021. Proud father of Deborah Benjamin. Owner of Benjamin's Delicatessen and Restaurant (Benji's) and esteemed community member.

A celebration of life service will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Friday July 30, 2021 at Congregation Shalom, 7630 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Fox Point. To join the service virtually (hosted by Congregation Shalom), click here (<https://zoom.us/j/95933309226#success>) for link. Deborah will receive condolences at Congregation Shalom until 3:00 p.m. COVID protocol will be followed, more information to follow in July. CLICK HERE (<https://www.cong-shalom.org/form/werner-benjamin-service.html>) to register to attend in person.

A community reception will be held at Benji's Fox Point from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. on Friday, July 30th and Benji's Shorewood location Saturday, July 31st, 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. The family looks forward to visiting with you and sharing stories.

Click below to make a contribution to Congregation Shalom in memory of Werner (Benji).

<https://www.cong-shalom.org/make-fund-donation>



# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUL **30**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Congregation Shalom  
7630 N Santa Monica Blvd  
Fox Point, WI 53217

# Tribute Wall



“ *Werner Benjamin*

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October 06, 2023 at 01:40 PM



“ *The deli in the sky will be so much better with Benji overseeing things. Iconic Milwaukeean in everyway. Unforgettable gentleman in everyway! -Walt & Lucy Kaufmann*

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**Walt & Lucy Kaufmann** - September 27, 2021 at 11:23 PM



“ *Thank you, Werner, for creating and maintaining a warm, welcoming and delicious sanctuary -- a veritable place of worship. Thank you also for the friendship you showed to my dad, Hal.*

*I hope that, wherever you are now, the corned beef, like you, is lean and wonderful.*

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**Jeff Glick** - September 20, 2021 at 02:37 PM

CG

“ I was your basic “nobody” at SHS in the mid ‘60’s, but I WAS lucky enough to have friends who worked for Benji during that time. I have so many good memories of a quiet man with a kind smile who made a place in a community that touched SO many lives in GOOD ways. Because I hung around with some of his employees, I was always welcomed by him as one of the “gang”. This was acceptance of the highest degree to one who really didn’t fit in much of anywhere else. Of course, I grew up and moved far away. But EVERY time I returned to visit family and friends in Milwaukee, Benji recognized me, FOR 40+ YEARS! In ALL of that time, I have never heard an unkind word uttered about him. For a humble and unassuming man, he made QUITE an impact.  
God Bless You, Benji, wherever you are!

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**Cheryl Gordon Glicker** - August 02, 2021 at 10:10 AM

CE

“ Will always remember the best food place in town. Grew up going to Benji’s and while we don’t live there anymore we come to Benji’s in Shorewood everytime we are in Milwaukee. The memories flow through my veins and the blintzes, corned beef and everything else is always “perfect”. Love you Benji and thanks for the many years of great food and friendship. Keep looking down on us and enjoy your heavenly home. “Hope they have great corned beef sandwiches for you.” Cheryl Eskridge (Conover, WI)

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**Cheryl Eskridge** - August 01, 2021 at 08:37 AM

KS

“ We have many wonderful memories of both Benji and Benji's spanning more than 30 years. Benji was always Mr. Hospitality. We can picture him now, going from table to table with a coffee pot in his hand or with a plate of corned beef samples for diners.

Like so many other "regulars" who made up his following, we were lucky enough become friends. We welcomed him and Karen into our home for parties, and it was like having a celebrity in attendance. Within the last few years we often joined him at the deli if he called to let us know he'd be there. He always had interesting stories to tell.

Benji had a kind and generous spirit which was always on display The world was surely a better place with him in it. There's no doubt he will be missed by so many. But he will always be in our hearts and minds.

*Sincerely, the Stroms*

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**K. Strom** - July 31, 2021 at 05:29 PM

 Jill  
Szarwark-  
whitcomb

“ Love & Hugs to Debbie and Family , Your Dad was the coolest

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**Jill Szarwark-whitcomb** - July 30, 2021 at 04:34 PM

TK

“ My heart goes out to Debbie. Your dad was such a nice man. He had the biggest smile and a twinkle in his eye. He would always slip in my carryout bag cookies, bakery what ever he could fit in it. My late mother was fond of him too. There was a whole group of breakfasts regulars who would go in every morning and stop through you dad's place throughout the day, just to kibitz. He was a good soul and he was already missed by many of us when he sold the restaurant, I missed seeing him sitting in his chair taking a quick nap. Or, when he would wear is glasses on the top of his head and they would fall on his nose, a special trick he mastered. He will be missed now even more. May G-D comfort you and the rest of your family during this difficult time.

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**Tiffany Koehler** - July 30, 2021 at 04:19 PM

DW

“ Debbie, so sorry to hear about your dad's passing. I was a member of the early morning group that met before work for over 30 years at the restaurant, he was one of a kind and a true gentleman. Our deepest sympathy, Don & Shirley Wickersheimer

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**don wickersheimer** - July 30, 2021 at 02:07 PM

SA

“ 40 plus of years of knowing him. He was my boss, but also a wonderful caring, generous, humorous, humble man. A great father to Debbie and an amazing friend to those whom were luck enough to call him that. His presence will be missed forever. 💕💕💕💕💕

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**Susan Abendroth** - July 21, 2021 at 11:55 AM

DM

“ We and our children have so many memories of Benji One is when our daughter Karen would fly back home to Colorado she would go to get two pounds of corned beef for her husband to take back. Benji wouldn't let her go without giving her a corned beef sandwich to eat! And he was always so much fun to talk to. We'll miss you Benji! You're part of Milwaukee history!❤️🌈

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**dorothy meyers** - July 16, 2021 at 11:53 AM

ME

When my son would go to Benjis before going back to Madison next matter what they bought there was always a salami in the bag he did not order  
There's no one to replace him.  
R I P

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**milt emold** - July 27, 2021 at 05:46 PM

KL

So sorry to hear of Benji's passing. I worked for him in the late sixties. A very unique man. Debbie you made him complete. He is now eating corned beef in heaven.

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**Kathy Lorenz** - November 03, 2021 at 07:52 PM