



Barry "Bear" Bettner

March 27, 2024 - August 15, 2024

Barry "Bear" Bettner peacefully passed away on August 15, 2024, in Bellingham, WA, surrounded by the love of his devoted partner, Richard. Born on March 27, 1944, in Utica, New York, to Edward and Betty Bettner, Barry touched many lives with his warmth and kindness.

In honor of Bear's wishes, no formal services will be held. Instead, Richard invites everyone to celebrate Bear's life in their own unique and meaningful ways.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ I was so sorry to read of Bear’s passing. He was such a bright light and sweet spirit. I remember many parties at Bear and Richard’s and countless visits. Everyone who knew Bear and Richard here in Durango missed them so much after they moved to California. Dear Richard, I have thought of you often and do so now in your grief. I am sending love and positive energy. Dinah Leavitt Swan dinahswan@aol.com

Dinah Swan - August 27, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ We were sorry to read of Barry’s passing and your loss, Rich. We were your early 1980’s neighbors in Durango. We still walk by the 5 Ave . and 9 St. house on the way downtown from our house. We always still call it Rich and Bear’s House, and you will always be as young in our memories as you were then. Affectionately, Pam and Jim Furze

James and Pamela Furze - August 26, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ I was a student new hire at KUAT-TV at the University of Arizona in 1969 when I met Barry. He showed me how to feel comfortable and professional in a TV studio. He was the only man I ever met who could perform a tour jete, talk and chew gum while walking down the hall. Barry was a private soul with a small group of dedicated friends he held close and often used as actors in his stop-action 8mm films shot around Tucson. I am forever thankful to have been a small part of Barry’s life and to have been warmed by his impish grin.

Chuck Cochran - August 25, 2024 at 12:00 AM

SW

“ Former neighbors at Princeton Ct. Sylvia & John Williams. I have not seen you walking & I hadn't seen Bear walking in our neighborhood this year so now understand why. Bear was always so cheerful. I enjoyed hearing your travel stories. May those memories & others you hold dear be of solice during these days of grief & loss, Richard.

Sylvia J Williams - August 25, 2024 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I was so sorry to read today in Arizona Daily Star paper of Barry's passing. I met Barry in 1966 with my dear friend Carol Carithers. He had the coolest "ahooga horn" on his car so you knew it was "him" coming down the street. A very sweet and kind person. He actually stayed in touch with my friend Carol Carithers and mother, Grace, for many years. He lived a full life.

Mary Beth Mitchell Schneider - August 25, 2024 at 12:00 AM