



## Benjamin Walter Harder

February 28, 1928 - July 16, 2025

Benjamin “Bennie” Harder, 97, of South Beloit, passed away on July 16, 2025 at Beloit Senior Living surrounded by his loving family. He was born on February 28, 1928 in Reinach, Switzerland to the late Henry and Elsie (Heidger) Harder. Bennie was a proud Army veteran stationed in Germany during the Korean conflict. He married Elizabeth “Betty” Erickson on April 27, 1951 in Neillsville, WI. Together they shared 74 years of marriage. Bennie was a home delivery milkman for over 50 years for Dougan Dairy, and then Wright & Wagner, winning their salesman of the year 7 straight years in a row. He purchased his route in 1972 and was self employed until his retirement.

Bennie enjoyed woodworking, gardening, golfing, fishing, traveling with Hanna and Bernie Opelt, and playing family card and dice games. He was a member, deacon, and head usher until 2021 at the United Church of Beloit (Formerly, Second Congregational). He was a member of the South Beloit Businessman's association, South Beloit American Legion, and past president of the South Beloit Lions Club. He was active in the Boy Scouts as a committee leader and Scoutmaster. Bennie and Betty enjoyed attending Friday night fish-fry's at the original Pearl Lake Supper Club, South Beloit American Legion, and most recently, the Mouse. Bennie's over and above volunteer efforts and dedication will be missed by many. Above all, he loved traveling and spending time with his wife, children, and grandchildren.

Survivors include his wife of 74 years; Betty Harder, 3 children; David (Debbie) Harder, Barb Reynolds, Gary (Roxanne) Harder; 9 Grandchildren; Chris (Val) Harder, Amanda Acklam, Katie (Marcus) Moore, Joe (Jenny) Harder, JJ (Gina) Lipor, Chad (Michelle) Reynolds, Chris (Nicole) Reynolds, Craig Reynolds, Kayla (Devin) Simpson; 12 great-grandchildren; Gracie, Lily, Luke, Micah, Kaiden, Noah, Ezra, Leo, Landon, Owen, Logan, Cooper; many nieces, nephews, extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by; his parents, in-laws; Gus and Virginia Erickson; son-in-law; Kurt Reynolds; brothers; Henry (Peg), Rene (Joan), Hans (Donna), Alan (Karen); sisters-in-laws; Lois (Chuck) Prowse, Audrey (Richard) Lyford; Brother-in-law; Gus (Dorothy) Erickson Jr.

A memorial service will be held at 12:00PM on Saturday, August 16th at BRIAN MARK FUNERAL HOME, 1000 E Inman Pkwy, Beloit, WI. with Chaplain Mark Maxted officiating. Visitation will take place from 10AM until the time of service. Military honors will take place following the service. The family is being assisted by ROSMAN & BRIAN MARK FUNERAL HOME. For online condolences: <https://www.rosmanfuneralhome.com/> or <https://www.brianmarkfh.com/>

The family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff at Beloit Senior Living, and Heartland Hospice for the special care given to Bennie.

Memorials can be made in Bennie's name to Vets Roll or South Beloit American Legion.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG **16**. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Brian Mark Funeral Home  
1000 E Inman PKWY  
Beloit, WI 53511

## Memorial Service

AUG **16**. 12:00 PM (CT)

Brian Mark Funeral Home  
1000 E Inman PKWY  
Beloit, WI 53511

## Military Honors

AUG **16**. 12:30 PM (CT)

Brian Mark Funeral Home  
1000 E Inman PKWY  
Beloit, WI 53511

# Tribute Wall

TH

“ I’m so sorry to hear about Bennie I lived down the alleyway from he was always a kind man, he was always outside working around the house. He will be missed



Tracy( Hatch) Hill - September 04, 2025 at 03:31 PM

MM

“ Gary, so sorry for your loss.



Mike Michalski - August 15, 2025 at 12:36 AM



“ He was such a GREAT person thanks for all memories.

Sharon Stafford - August 12, 2025 at 02:08 PM

PT

“ Pat Hill Torrasi lit a candle in memory of Benjamin Walter Harder



Pat Hill Torrasi - August 08, 2025 at 11:54 AM

PT

“ To the Family of Benny... so very sad to hear of Bennys passing. He was a very kind and caring man! I will always remember the entire family, Barb, you babysat Kari and Kevin... you also were the best!!! RIP Benny!



Pat Torrisi - August 08, 2025 at 11:45 AM

BM

“ Our condolences go out to the Harder family. Bennie was a part of the Mansfield family! With nine in our family - we drank a lot of MILK. Bennie would drop off 10-12 gallons twice a week. Then, he was told there could be NO more home deliveries / businesses only. My Dad asked who got more milk per week - The Mansfield's or the neighborhood grocery store? Bennie said - we did. So, we became a commercial account with Bennie dropping off the milk at Mansfield Auto Body. What a kind and wonderful man. RIP Bennie - you will be missed. Bill Mansfield

Bill Mansfield - August 08, 2025 at 09:12 AM

RS

“ Benny was a wonderful man, and a great salesman for dairy!

Rose Slaght - August 01, 2025 at 09:31 AM

JS

“ Benny was one of the sweetest, most friendly, and caring Gentleman, I have ever known.  
Thank you for always making me laugh Benny.  
You rest easy now,  
Julie Strain

Julie Kathryn Strain - July 27, 2025 at 11:08 PM

MU

“ We were so sorry to learn of Bennie's passing. He was such a kind man, always willing to help whenever he could. We will remember him fondly from our dart league at the South Beloit Legion and for keeping the flower beds by the entrance to South Beloit City Park looking beautiful every year for many years. Condolences to Betty and the entire family. Mike & Cindy Udell



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**Mike Cindy Udell** - July 27, 2025 at 12:43 AM