



Albert F. Benac

February 1, 2018

Albert F. Benac, 90, of Fairhaven, passed away peacefully Thursday, February 1, 2018, at St. Luke's Hospital, in New Bedford. He was the husband of the late Kathleen C. (Tucker) Benac.

Born in New Bedford, son of the late George and Rosanna (Emin) Benac, he was a lifelong Fairhaven resident and communicant of St. Joseph's Church and graduate of Fairhaven High School, class of 1945. Before graduating, he enlisted in the Navy and his mother received his diploma for him. Al served during the Korean War. He later worked for New England Telephone as an installer and repairman for many years until his retirement.

As anyone who knew Al, knew he was passionate about the town of Fairhaven. He was a longtime Town Meeting member, former member of the Board of Appeals, and he was the town's Art Curator, overseeing the restoration of many of the works of art in the town hall. He was also a member of the Oxford-Rogers Study Committee and the Bell Committee.

Al was recently honored by the Selectman for all of his contributions to the town. He was also nominated by the Standard Times as Fairhaven's Man of the Year 2017.

He is survived by a son, Paul F. Benac and his wife Simone; daughters, Claudia A. Mitchell and her husband David and Kathleen M. Isaksen and her husband Nils all of Fairhaven and the late Monica L. Benac; five grandchildren, Sean Mitchell and his wife Sharon, and his children, Harper and Jack, Kathryn Mitchell, Kendra Langlais and her husband Nathan and their daughter Everly, Hillary Isaksen and her companion Tony Amaral and their daughter Isabella, and Adam Gomes; a sister, Rita Mayer; a brother in law, Donald Tucker and several nieces and nephews. Al was the brother of the late Claire Prather.

Calling hours are Sunday, February 11, 2018, from 1-5pm, in the Fairhaven Funeral Home, 117 Main St., Fairhaven.

His funeral will be Monday, February 12, 2018, at 9:00am, from the funeral home followed by a Mass of Christian Burial, at 10:00am, in St. Joseph's Church, Fairhaven. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Joseph's Church, 74 Spring St., Fairhaven, MA 02719.

Events

FEB 11 **Calling Hours** 01:00PM - 05:00PM
Fairhaven Funeral Home
117 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA, US, 02719

FEB 12 **Funeral** 09:00AM
Fairhaven Funeral Home
117 Main Street, Fairhaven, MA, US, 02719

FEB 12 **Funeral Mass** 10:00AM
St. Joseph Church
100 Spring St., Fairhaven, MA, US, 02719

Comments



“ A tribute video has been added.



Hathaway Family Funeral Homes - February 08, 2018 at 09:23 PM



“ I only recently met Mr. Benac, even though I felt like I always knew him after talking with him about historical facts, art works, and his art curatorship for the Town of Fairhaven. His knowledge, wisdom, and anecdotes about history and all matters of life were always so interesting. This past summer we enjoyed iced tea on his patio while he explained the history of his homestead, his family, and how much he enjoyed the pandemonium that ensued when his grandchildren were there. I will miss our conversations, especially about his latest project, John Cooke and the burial ground. Truly a remarkable kind and generous gentleman and scholar. He will be missed.

Lauren Lamarre Francis

Lauren Francis - February 11, 2018 at 02:06 PM



“ Nick and I would be so glad when Al would come over or just be at Kathleen and Nils' house when we be up there to visit. Al would be so thoroughly engaged in the historical stories he'd share with us. SO enjoyable and amazing! He was comfortably at home with anyone who'd share time. On our last visit I happened upon him at the Fairhaven Community Center by the high school. I was there to pick up some brochures. He came in and gladly showed me the artifacts there and directed me to go upstairs to see more local history. I learned a lot more than I planned that day! It was partly because of Al that my family took the Fairhaven High school tour as well. Thank you, Al, for your giving nature. When with Al there was always treasure to be found.

Serene & Nick Miller

Serene Miller - February 10, 2018 at 07:50 PM



“ Preston and I enjoyed being with Al as he was such a devoted historian. Always interesting to listen to his stories. I especially remember well seeing him other times when I would stop over after church with Kathleen and Nils. He would on occasion be there with a smile and warmth to offer. A true gentleman. Marian and Preston Cook

Marian Cook - February 10, 2018 at 07:37 PM



“ Kitty & Nils lit a candle in memory of Albert F. Benac



Kitty & Nils - February 09, 2018 at 10:47 AM



“ 4 files added to the album LifeTributes



Hathaway Family Funeral Homes - February 09, 2018 at 07:33 AM



“ 58 files added to the album LifeTributes



Hathaway Family Funeral Homes - February 08, 2018 at 07:37 PM



“ Mr. Benac was a really nice man...a regular Mr. Fairhaven. Our thoughts are with Al, Claudia and Kathy and the entire family. Thanks to Mr. Benac for all you did for Fairhaven! Mike and Nancy (McLeod) Lewis. and all the McLeod family.

Nancy Lewis - February 06, 2018 at 06:18 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to everyone in Al's family. He was very helpful to me with providing information about my Eldred family whom I didn't know about since my mother died at a young age.

Al lived in my 2nd grt grandfather's house, George Eldred. I will miss Al's help with a historical preservation project we were working closely on. His knowledge of our town's history was remarkable. I truly appreciate the time he spent writing a book about my family member, L.D. Eldred. Al will definitely be missed in the Town of Fairhaven. He gave so much of himself to the Town both wiith his time, interest in preserving Town history, and personal donations such as artwork, plaques, and projects all of which he enjoyed.

Karen Vilandry - February 06, 2018 at 06:36 PM



“ I will forever remember the many happy hours I spent with "Mr. B" and your whole family on Summer Street. I remember him as being very sweet and kind and such a wonderful dad. I know it's hard to say goodbye, but just try and keep in mind those that are on the other side who are thrilled to be saying hello again. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Rhonda Magnuski - February 07, 2018 at 03:44 PM