



Ben Luther

August 12, 1973 - July 25, 2020

Ben Luther

Grimes, Iowa

Date of Death: July 25, 2020

A Celebration Of Life for Ben Luther, 46, of Grimes, formerly of Jefferson, will be held at 10:30am Saturday, August 1, 2020 at Linduska Field (Greene County Community School District Football Field) 101 Ram Drive, Jefferson, Iowa.

Visitation with the family present to greet friends is from 5:00pm – 7:00pm Friday, July 31, 2020 at Slininger-Schroeder Funeral Home, Jefferson.

David Benjamin Luther, son of Dave and Pat Meyer Luther, was born August 12, 1973 in Jefferson, Iowa. Ben died at his home in Grimes, Iowa on July 25, 2020 at the age of 46 years.

Ben grew up in Jefferson, Iowa where he made many lifelong friends and formed a love for the game of football. Ben graduated from Jefferson-Scranton High School in 1991. After high school, Ben went to Simpson College where he played football. He then transferred to the University of Northern Iowa and obtained a bachelor's degree, where he pursued a career in Social Work. Ben then attended Iowa State University where he received his bachelor's degree in Education. He continued his education at Viterbo University in La Crosse, WI, where he graduated with his Master's in Education.

On July 31, 1999 Ben was united in marriage to Kimberly Wistenberg in Jefferson, IA. They later parted ways, but continued a very close relationship and were the proud parents of two children, Jackson (17) and Aubree (14).

Ben went to work as a middle school teacher in the Urbandale Community School District, where he proudly taught for 20 years. Ben loved his work, he loved his students, and many times he said that his was "the best job in the world!" Ben's love of football

continued, and he was a high school coach for the Urbandale J-Hawks for many years.

Ben loved the city of Chicago and was an avid Chicago Bears and Chicago Blackhawks fan. He was a huge fan of Mickey Mouse (Steamboat Willie) and all things Disney. Ben loved to share his own love of Disney with his children, where he enjoyed taking them on multiple trips to Disney World. He enjoyed wearing crazy socks and was never disappointed when he opened presents from the kids at Christmas time to find the craziest socks they could pick out for him. Ben loved his friends and most importantly he loved his family more than anything.

Ben was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Robert and Cleopha Luther, and his maternal grandparents Russell Meyer and June Meyer Farrow. He is survived by Kim Luther and his children, Jackson and Aubree Luther, of Urbandale, Iowa; his parents, David and Pat Luther of Jefferson, Iowa; his brother, Cale (Susanne) Luther of Quitman, Georgia; Jack and Dorene Tuhn (in-Laws) of Jefferson, Iowa; Lois Wistenberg (in-Law) of Jefferson, Iowa; and countless family and friends.

Memorials are suggested for the benefit of Ben's children, Jackson and Aubree Luther, for their future. The Ben Luther Memorial Fund has been set up at Home State Bank, Jefferson. Contact the Home State Bank at 515-386-2131.

Slininger-Schroeder Funeral Home, Jefferson 515-386-2171

www.sliningerschroeder.com

Cemetery

Events

**Jefferson
Cemetery**
1019 East Lincoln
Way
Jefferson, IA,

JUL 31 Visitation with family present to greet friends 05:00PM - 07:00PM

Slininger-Schroeder Funeral Home
119 West Lincolnway, Jefferson, IA, US, 50129

AUG 1 Celebration of Life 10:30AM

Linduska Field (Greene County Community School District
Football Field)
101 Ram Drive, Jefferson, IA, US, 50129

Comments



“ I was searching for Ben to reach out during this crazy school year; I was his student teacher in 2006. I was so sorry to find this news, and my deepest condolences go out to his wife and children. Margaret (Haines) Llewellyn

Margaret Llewellyn - March 11, 2021 at 07:22 PM



“ I wasn't the best at Social Studies, but Mr. Luther never made me feel bad about it. He was such a kind teacher, and I wish that I would've shown my appreciation more for him before he had passed away. I will always remember him for that kindness and the fact he had never pressured me too hard to get things done. I honestly hope his family is coping well; it is hard to lose such a great person. May he rest in peace.



Sabbath Pollock - October 31, 2020 at 03:33 PM



“ Ben Luther was my 7th and 8th grade social studies teacher. I'm happy that I had him for 2 years, they were two of the best years of my life. I will miss him a lot and the jokes he made in class always brightened my day!

Brooklyn Boeckholt - August 24, 2020 at 07:32 PM



“ He was such an amazing teacher and person. I loved social studies because of him. He was so kind and always made me laugh. You will be missed. Sending love to the family! You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Amelia and the Henderson Family - August 12, 2020 at 04:41 PM



“ Ben Luther was my 7th grade social studies teacher, and even though that was 15 years ago, I remember that year fondly, and it still has continued influence on my life. I was in his class with two boys who are my best friends to this day, and we all three were strongly influenced by Mr. Luther. The way he spoke to us and other students, how treated you like a young adult, and likewise, expected you to act like one. He held me to a higher standard than I was used to, but at the same time he never took life and school too seriously. He had a great sense of humor. One specific example I'll never forget was when we were studying South American geography, and we were reading a section of our book together as a class, and came across one of the largest lakes on the continent, Lake "Titicaca," and sensing the class's urge to laugh, simply laughed himself, and said, "Alright guys, let it out, I get it. It sounds funny."

I also got the joy of working with Ben when i graduated college and got a job at the Urbandale Middle School as a special education associate. It was then, as an adult, that I fully realized the reason I liked him so much--he wasn't just a good guy, he was a great teacher. I went on to teach English as a foreign language in Madagascar through the Peace Corps, and often I thought of him, and modeled his approach when I worked with those children and young adults. I wish I could have talked to him about the experience because I know he would have been interested in hearing about it. I wish I could have compared and contrasted our experiences, asked him about his favorite, and least favorite parts about teaching, and asked him for advice.

Listening to his friends and colleagues speak about him at his service gave me some closure, but I have to say, it sucks so much not to be able to sit and eat and drink with those teachers, his friends and family, in a normal way and grieve and tell stories, like we all would celebrate a life under normal times. I know it sucks the most for his family, his children, and all those other people close to him that I have not met. Lastly, I just want those people to know that he meant a great deal to me and many other students of his, who were heartbroken by the news of his passing and wished they could have been at his celebration of life.

Taylor Nordgren - August 11, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ Our son had Mr. Luther as his social studies teacher in middle school, and he had a profound impact on him. Mr. Luther was a dear man, who truly cared about his students. He went out of his way to truly connect with students, and recognized their strengths, and found ways to lift them up. During some difficult times for our son, Mr. Luther was there for him, (and our family) at school. He even sent a note, as he transitioned to a new school the following year, that our son had no bigger cheerleader (besides his family) than him. It truly meant a lot to all of us, and am so sorry to hear of this news. He made a positive difference for many that has had a lasting impact, and he will have a special place in our hearts forever.

Susan Harbaugh - August 04, 2020 at 10:32 AM



“ Ben, you were the best uncle a nephew could ask for. I remember you and kim taking me in for a few weeks when dad was deployed. Taking me to Adventureland with Jackson and making me ride the space shot even though I hated every second of it, to one of the last times we spent time together was going to Adventureland and you making me ride the space shot and me still hating every second of it. You always were so supportive and told me how proud you were of me. I'm sorry for shoving popcorn down your drain when I was a kid and costing you guys a few hundred dollars worth of repairs. You never let me live it down. You were my favorite part of going to family Christmas. Smoking cigars with you and grandpa at David's fine tobacco after eating pork loin at nicks. Thank you for always being there and such a light in my life. I love you. Until we meet again and you can give me a giant bear hug.



noah - August 02, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Ben Luther.



July 31, 2020 at 12:26 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ben Luther.



July 31, 2020 at 10:47 AM



“ Love Rhonda Grooms and family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Ben Luther.



Love Rhonda Grooms and family - July 31, 2020 at 10:16 AM



“ I had the pleasure to coach Ben at Jefferson-Scranton. He was one of my all-time favorite student/athletes and I am very saddened by his passing. Reading some of the comments here, it is apparent that he became an outstanding educator and person. My thoughts and prayers are with his family. RIP#58



Tim Buenz - July 31, 2020 at 08:05 AM



“ Had the pleasure of meeting Ben through his late nephew. Told me “hey, my family isn’t very open minded, but you’ll be fine. Uncle Ben is a teacher, he’s nice, & he likes ISU so we are good”

Uncle Ben was all that. He was always so kind to us. Didn’t mind making small talk knowing how “new” I was to the family. Eventually we had a few things in common. Though our encounter were merely guaranteed at family Christmas, it was always a pleasure to catch up with him.

Luther family, I’m terribly sorry for your loss. Keeping you all in my prayers.



Elsa - July 30, 2020 at 01:20 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Ben Luther.



July 30, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ My deepest sympathies to all of the Luther family. I was saddened to learn of Benji's passing. I babysat he and Cale when they were little guys. No words are adequate nor eloquent at such a sad time, but know I'm thinking of all of you and hope Benji is at peace.

Deb Ryan-Purcell - July 29, 2020 at 11:20 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Kevin Lazard - July 29, 2020 at 10:47 AM



“ The Miller Family - Shawn, Amy, Brennen & Lane purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Ben Luther.



The Miller Family - Shawn, Amy, Brennen & Lane - July 29, 2020 at 09:39 AM



“ I’m so sorry to hear this news. I was a counselor at UMS where Ben worked for 3 years, and he was always a favorite teacher with the students. I could count on him to be a smiling face and enjoyed working with him so much. He will be missed.

Rachelle Spencer - July 28, 2020 at 05:40 PM



“ Ben was a wonderful young man and it was a privilege to watch him grow and become a wonderful Father and dedicated teacher. He was gentle and kind. He touched the lives of so many and he made a difference in the world. Our hearts are broken. May it give you strength to know your grief is shared by all who loved him. Strength to Dave, Pat, Cale, Noah, Olivia, Kim, and beloved Jackson and Aubree.

Dennis and Joyce Pickering - July 28, 2020 at 05:22 PM



“ I have known Ben since we were in high school. Our mothers worked together way back when so we gotten to know each over the years. My heart is broken over the loss of Ben. He was such a good man. My heart goes out to Dave, Pat, Cale and family. May he rest in peace

Eric Pickering

Eric Pickering - July 28, 2020 at 03:28 PM



“ Ben and I taught together at Urbandale many years ago! Reconnected recently. I knew he was going through a tough time. Called me and I tried to help! Will always regret not doing more for him! Was a great guy that cared for others. My heart goes out to his family and 2 children. May he Rest In Peace!

Joel Rankin

Grimes

joel rankin - August 01, 2020 at 10:12 AM



“ Luther Family- Mr. Luther taught both of my sons in middle school. Till this day he was their favorite teacher. Very hard for them to believe is gone and someone that is their parents age. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family.

Leanne Sergio - July 28, 2020 at 02:00 PM



“ For Jackson:

I was a student of your dad's a long time ago, but I still to this day could have told anyone that Mr. Luther's son's name was Jackson. He talked about you so much and with such joy. It was apparent to anyone who knew him that he loved you emphatically and wholeheartedly. And I'm sure he would have talked about your sister the same way if she'd been born when I was in his class.

Your dad was such a good man, and I'm so sorry you didn't have more time with him. He will be missed by so many.

Jacquie Thompson - July 28, 2020 at 01:44 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ben Luther.



July 27, 2020 at 08:07 PM



“ is am are was were be being been has have had do does did shall will should would may might must can could

An obscure list of words known only to be "helping verbs" cuz of Mr. Luther...17+ years later.

On my very short list of favorite teachers, he vies for the top.

RIP

Wes Wierson - July 27, 2020 at 06:29 PM



“ We would practice this so he could share, would often call me to recite to his class. This makes me smile!!!! Thank you for sharing!

Kim Luther - July 28, 2020 at 08:11 PM



“ My deepest sympathies to all of the Luther family. I was saddened to learn of Benji's passing. I babysat he and Cale when they were little guys. No words are adequate nor eloquent at such a sad time, but know I'm thinking of all of you and hope Benji is at peace.

Deb Ryan-Purcell - July 29, 2020 at 09:49 PM



“ Ben was such a thoughtful, caring individual and this showed daily in his interactions with students. I was a counselor for the first seven years of Ben's tenure at Urbandale Middle School and always knew students were in good hands when I assigned them to Ben's classroom. His quiet presence will be missed by the colleagues and young people to whom he gave so much.

Marilyn Long - July 27, 2020 at 05:32 PM



“ So sorry to hear this very sad news. Dave, Pat and all the family . Thinking of all of you

sandra miner - July 27, 2020 at 05:05 PM



“ My deepest heartfelt condolences to Ben's family. Ben worked for me at DHS years ago early on in his social work career, He had such compassion and respect for people. I will always remember Bens smile that would light up a room. I'm sure there will be a hole in the world of anyone who knew him, fill it up with the memories of all his goodness. Gods's speed and God bless.

Patice Linke - July 27, 2020 at 04:56 PM



“ Beautiful. Thank you.

Kim Luther - July 28, 2020 at 08:13 PM



“ Our deepest sympathies to all who loved Ben. Where ever, when ever you would run into Ben, he always chatted with us and was so nice. Please know we send our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time and beyond.

Todd & Amy Lawton

Amy Lawton - July 27, 2020 at 09:34 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Ben Luther.



July 26, 2020 at 07:56 PM



“ So sad to see this, may he Rest In Peace. Prayers to the family.

Tanya segebart - July 26, 2020 at 05:37 PM



“ Mr. Luther was one of my favorite teachers from middle school. He really challenged me to be a better writer and person.

Katherine (Bourne) Ward - July 26, 2020 at 05:05 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Justin - July 26, 2020 at 05:04 PM



“ So sorry to see this, may he Rest In Peace and prayers for his family.

Tanya - July 26, 2020 at 05:26 PM



“ I'm saddened to hear this. Ben was one of the nicest guys I knew. R.I.P BEN. Thoughts and prayers to all this JS Class of 1991 classmates, friends and family....

Becky Heater-Faris - July 26, 2020 at 04:42 PM



“ My heart is saddened to hear this news. Ben was an upstanding and honorable person. I have great memories of him in the classroom as well as on the football field. Prayers and thoughts to family and friends.

Johnny Turpin - July 26, 2020 at 04:04 PM