



## Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon

September 4, 1951 - December 24, 2017

Jerry "Berf" Michael Fenlon, age 66, of St. Ignace, Michigan, died suddenly December 24, 2017, at his home. Jerry was born September 4, 1951, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to Jack Raymond and Marion Jean Smith Fenlon.

Jerry grew up in Moran Township and graduated from LaSalle High School in 1969. After high school, Jerry went to Gail Institute (Airline School) and worked at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, Illinois. On September 11, 1971, Jerry married Susan Sorenson and they decided to move back to St. Ignace and start their family. Jerry went to work for Belonga Plumbing and Heating, where he obtained his master plumbers license. He worked mostly on Mackinac Island. He would ride his bicycle all over the island carrying full lengths of pipe and all of his tools. People would stop what they were doing to watch the balancing act as Jerry pedaled by. After 42 years of serving the communities plumbing needs, Jerry retired in September of 2013. Retirement allowed Jerry to redirect his full time energies to continuing to help people and volunteer for community service projects. He was a hard worker with a serving soul.

Jerry belonged to the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church where he was on the church council. He served on the Moran Township Recreation Board and on the Moran Township school board. He was head of the car show parking for more than 20 years.

He loved to fish and give them away. He said the “Best day fishing is when you don’t have to clean any when you get home.” He liked to hunt and just go for rides on his 4 wheeler. He and his twin sister Judy were adrenaline junkies and liked to push the limits like there was no tomorrow. He played softball when he was younger and could hit a softball out of the park. He performed in several plays with the play crafters in St. Ignace., but he loved to play with his grandkids the most of all.

Jerry is survived by his wife Susan; son, Michael Neil (Rachel Trobridge) Fenlon of Zeeland, Michigan; daughter, Mandy Sue (Matthew) Bowlby of St. Ignace; grandchildren, Jace, Mirra, and Mckale; twin sister Judy (Tom Harrington) Fenlon, of St. Ignace; sisters, Barbara (Tom) Fenlon Alkire of St. Ignace, and Kim (Mike) Wartella of St. Ignace; sisters-in-law, Judith Lynn Ryerse and Linda Lou (Mike) Wilkins of St Ignace; brother-in-law, Gary (Monica) Sorenson of St. Ignace; and brother-in-law, Steven (Carol) Sorenson of Holland, Michigan.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Marion Fenlon; and his father and mother-in-law, Neil and Esther Sorenson.

Services will be held Saturday, December 30, at the Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, 999 South State Street in St. Ignace, Michigan. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The funeral service will begin at 2 p.m. Pastor David J. Tielbar will officiate.

Memorial contributions may be made out to the Fenlon family.

# Cemetery Details

## Fenlon Cemetery

E. Chard Road  
Hessel, MI 49745

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 30. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
999 S. State Street  
St. Ignace, MI 49781

## Funeral Service

DEC 30. 2:00 PM (ET)

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church  
999 S. State Street  
St. Ignace, MI 49781

# Tribute Wall



“ Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ Very sad to hear this. Jerry opened and closed the plumbing side of my MI home for years. What a wonderful guy. He will be missed for sure.

*Dave and Carla Sanderson  
Cygnet, Ohio*

**Dave Sanderson** - January 04, 2018 at 10:17 AM

JG

“ I remember coming to St Ignace on a bird hunting trip. Jerry insisted that we stay at his house and he was a gracious host to virtual strangers.

*I remember another time when Mary and I accompanied Steve Sorenson and his family on a summer vacation. We stayed the first night at a rustic resort just west of St. Ignace. After supper we enjoyed a campfire with Steve's family. I was surprised when Jerry drove up and we enjoyed his company around the campfire that evening.*

*He was a sharing person.*

*Jeff Greene*

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**jeff greene** - January 01, 2018 at 01:10 PM

KK

“ My friend,  
You put your whole heart into everything you  
did and always put your best foot forward.  
The word genuine describes you at best.



*"You rode the energy of your own unique spirit."*

*Thoughts and prayers to Susan, Michael, Mandy, Judy, Barb, Kim,  
grandchildren and extended family.*

*Kathy Kalbfleisch*

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**Kathy Kalbfleisch** - December 29, 2017 at 09:25 PM

SS

“ I remember both Judy and Jerry from the time they were born. Was so tickled to have twin cousins. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. May God bless. Love, Sally

Sally St.onge - December 29, 2017 at 07:59 PM

BR

“ Wonderful man, and cousin. He will be greatly missed!! He could always make you smile.  
Bug hugs to all  
Love  
Brenda, Phillip and the girls

Brenda - December 29, 2017 at 06:57 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon.



December 29, 2017 at 11:23 AM

RL

“ Jerry was a good friend to my family, always helpful, funny, and just all around one of those friends you never forget. Sue and all family members prayers and hugs.

Robin (Grondin, Vaughn) LaVallee

robin LaVallee - December 28, 2017 at 06:44 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon.*



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December 28, 2017 at 09:47 AM



“ *Zeeland East Freshman Boys Basketball Team purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon.*



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**Zeeland East Freshman Boys Basketball Team** - December 28, 2017 at 08:54 AM



“ *Kindest, funniest, helpful, caring, thoughtful accepting, friend to everyone he met. My deepest sympathy to his loving wife Sue and all his family. He's left a legacy y'all can be proud of and he will long be remembered for.*  
*Much love,*  
*Debbie Clark*

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**Debbie Clark** - December 27, 2017 at 06:44 PM



“ *Love and Prayers to the family. So many fond memories and laughs. Will miss you dearly Berf.*



*John, Lisa, Kaden, & Brody Johnson*

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**Lisa Johnson** - December 27, 2017 at 05:02 PM

LA

“ Prayers for his family,  
Love , mike and Lara Gustafson



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**lara** - December 27, 2017 at 04:30 PM

L1

“ L H S Class Of 1969 lit a candle in memory of  
Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon



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**L H S Class of 1969** - December 27, 2017 at 01:46 PM

CB

“ Carol Swanson Becker lit a candle in memory  
of Jerry Michael "Berf" Fenlon



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**Carol Swanson Becker** - December 27, 2017 at 11:29 AM