



Anthony "Tony" William Bernard

September 8, 1955 - August 21, 2025

Anthony "Tony" William Bernard, 69, of Monrovia, tried his hardest to live to celebrate his 70th birthday, but he unfortunately succumbed to the ravages of Pulmonary Fibrosis on Thursday, August 21, 2025. He was born on September 8, 1955, the only child to the late William James and Mildred (Colbert) Bernard.

Growing up in Avon, Tony graduated from Avon High School with the class of 1973. Meeting his future wife, Lee Honea through mutual friends, the two were strongly attracted to each other from the get-go and were united in marriage on October 27, 1985. He first obtained employment at Rexnord, formerly known as Link-Belt and retired from there in 2008. In 2013, he purchased Benchmark Property Services, serving as president for 6 years until he finally called it quits. He retired for the second time to find solace in the quiet country life to supervise the construction of the dream home he and Lee designed.

A playful and down-to-earth father, Tony never hesitated to get on his daughter Jaime's level, regularly rolling on the floor, rough housing, coloring, and loving her throughout her formative years. Later, as a grandpa, he continued these shenanigans with his granddaughter, Zara, often snatching her up by the ankles, hanging her upside down, just for fun.

Tony found joy in bowling, tending to his vegetable gardens, and cooking for those he held close to his heart was his love language. He was amazing at smoking pork, frequently making mouthwatering entrees. Casting a line from a boat, he truly enjoyed fishing for fun and competition. Afraid to fly, Lee convinced him to go to Hawaii, and he conquered that fear, never looking back. The two traveled often to several destinations in the Caribbean, and the Florida Keys. A Harley rider at heart, Tony cherished his 2002 Harley Davidson Road King, and Lee purchased her own Harley. The pair rode together exploring the great western plains, attending Sturgis, Glacier National Park, the Grand Canyon, as well as traveling on northern trips to Michigan, Niagara Falls and Maine.

A real man's man, Tony was loyal, caring, stubborn (a trait that was matched perfectly by Lee), had a big heart even though he maintained a macho exterior, and was loyal to all he knew. Determined and full of grit, he spent his recent free time hanging out at the Wilbur Corner Store meeting and greeting all who entered, while gossiping with the locals. He absolutely loved life and his family and was not ready to leave this world. Tony will be forever missed by all who knew and loved him.

Tony leaves behind his beloved wife of 39 years, Lee Ann (Honea) Bernard of Monrovia; daughter, Jaime Hein (Josh) of Avon; and grandchildren, Zara Bernard, and Jace Hein.

Cremation Arrangements have been entrusted to Light Memorial & Funeral Chapel in Monrovia, and no services are planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation online by clicking <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/pulfibfou/>. To share a favorite story, send an online condolence to the family, or light a candle in Tony's memory please visit his tribute page at www.lightmemorial.com.

Cemetery Details

Cremation

585 E. MAIN STREET
Monrovia, IN 46157
<http://www.lightmemorial.com>

Tribute Wall

BR

“ I'm so sorry to learn of this. I got to know him over the last year and a half. We talked frequently about gardening and how to keep the critters out of our gardens! I will miss him!!

Brandie - August 25, 2025 at 07:49 AM

LP

I am so sorry, if remember talking to him believe it was about a year and half ago. We talked about his illness, you Jamie and you Lee. Always positive things. And how I met all of you at the cabin when John and I road the motorcycle down for the weekend. Tony was always and is a special person. He helped me out when I needed him with the bike. He would do anything for anybody. Sending hugs to you all. So sorry.

Lula (Ham) Patrick - August 25, 2025 at 11:26 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Anthony "Tony" William Bernard.



August 23, 2025 at 07:47 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Anthony "Tony" William Bernard.

August 23, 2025 at 07:47 AM

VP

“ My condolences. Tony was a fine Fella.

Virgil Phillips - August 22, 2025 at 07:39 PM

LE

Thank you!

lee - August 23, 2025 at 11:55 AM

RC

“ *I was in biology class with Tony at Avon. He was a very nice guy then, and it sounds like he lived a very full and happy life. Well deserved. My condolences to the family.*

Ramona Condon - August 22, 2025 at 04:55 PM

LE

Thank you Ramona

Lee - August 23, 2025 at 11:57 AM

MB

“ *He absolutely was the loyalist of friends! Enjoyed every moment with him! Loved him as a true no filter friend! He loved me, even though I am a Democrat! You know that took courage. A friend of more than 50 years cannot be replaced. I cannot put a number on how many times he brought joy! I know we'll meet again 😊*

Mark Burris - August 22, 2025 at 01:28 PM

LE

Love you Mark!

Lee - August 23, 2025 at 11:58 AM

BO

I am so very sorry for the family's and friends loss of Tony. I pray for God's peace as they travel this new road without their husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Bonita - August 23, 2025 at 02:01 PM

SC

Tony had found a place amongst the B.S. bunch at the Wilbur store. Gruff and opinionated with a big kind heart.a man with strong conservative ideals was my friend Tony.He always hoped to get back on the water and cast a line, but it was not meant to be. Sympathys to Lee and the Family. Miss you pal Steve Clymer

Steve Clymer - August 23, 2025 at 08:54 PM

DH

Many fond memories of Tony over the years. What a loss to the family, he will be missed.

Don Honea - August 27, 2025 at 11:47 AM

CB

Lee, we are so sorry for your loss. May you all find comfort in knowing God had other plans for Tony. Our prayers are with you Lee during difficult time. I know he will be greatly missed by all that knew him. 🙏
🙏 Ernie & Faye Barrett

cousins Ernie Barrett - August 27, 2025 at 10:36 PM