



Alan Bender

October 17, 1954 - September 9, 2023

Alan Patrick Bender, 68, passed away on September 9, 2023 in Milledgeville, GA.

Alan was a native of Ohio and grew up in Stow, Ohio. He attended Stow High School and graduated in 1973. After graduation he enlisted in the United States Air Force where he served as a Jet Mechanic. In 1977 he suffered a service connected injury that left him a quadriplegic for the remainder of his life. He handled his injury with dignity, strength and determination and never let it prevent him from enjoying life. Alan never met a stranger and enjoyed entertaining everyone with his many stories. Alan overcame many obstacles and challenges but remained a fighter until the end.

Alan returned to Ohio after his injury, later moved to North Fort Myers, Florida and recently relocated to Milledgeville, Georgia where he had enjoyed a vacation home for many years.

Alan was preceded in death by his brother, Paul Bender (Kim) and father, Dale O'Brien Bender.

Alan is survived by his wife, Paula Shuster Bender of Milledgeville, Georgia; Son, Jeffrey Bender (Natasha) of Tennessee; grandchildren, Ashleigh Layne (Eric), Jack Bender, Emma Bender and Natalie Bender all of Ohio; Brothers, John Bender and Gary Bender of Connecticut; and mother, Marilyn Green Bender of Connecticut. He also leaves behind many long-time friends; JC, Dale, Marty, Joe and Russell. They always made time to talk to him and he treasured those friendships.

No Services are planned at this time.

For those who wish memorial contributions may be made to Paralyzed Veterans of America, PO Box 758542, Topeka, KS; PVA.org

Express online condolences at www.williamsfuneral.net

Williams Funeral Home of Milledgeville

Tribute Wall

DS

“ Dale Sponseller So many stories from school days and ever since,

Dale Sponseller - September 19, 2023 at 11:10 PM

JR

“ Friendships are precious. I've known Alan most of my life but we became close friends in high school, at work, and in the Air Force. Alan would pop in out of the blue over these decades with the same boundless appreciation of life. I am honored to call you my Best Friend.

Jamie Russell - September 16, 2023 at 10:10 AM

LB

“ I went to grade school with Alan. He was a good childhood friend. So sorry to hear this news. My deepest sympathy to his family.

Lyn Schmiedel Bisesi - September 15, 2023 at 04:34 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe S - September 14, 2023 at 11:18 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe S - September 14, 2023 at 11:17 PM

JS

Visiting in 1991 in Cape Coral.

Joe S - September 15, 2023 at 01:10 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe S - September 14, 2023 at 11:15 PM

JS

Alan's watching over us now.

Joe S - September 15, 2023 at 01:09 PM

JS

“ Joe S lit a candle in memory of Alan Bender



Joe S - September 14, 2023 at 11:11 PM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Joe S - September 14, 2023 at 07:27 PM

JS

You're free to fly like the wind brother.

Joe S - September 15, 2023 at 01:08 PM

PB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Bender - September 14, 2023 at 04:26 PM

PB

Joe and Alan

Paula Bender - September 14, 2023 at 08:27 PM

PB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Bender - September 14, 2023 at 12:14 PM

JO

Paula Sorry for your loss , when alan lived in ohio i met him and his brother john. but alan was so full of life he did not let disability define him .Smart ,Witty.I hope your spirit walks Tall.

joseph - September 15, 2023 at 09:58 PM

PB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Bender - September 13, 2023 at 11:23 PM

PB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Bender - September 13, 2023 at 11:21 PM

PB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Paula Bender - September 13, 2023 at 11:21 PM

JD

“ *My deepest condolences to Paula & all of Alan's family & friends.
RIP Alan!*

Jan Selzer Dolan - September 13, 2023 at 10:43 PM

KZ

“ *I like to think that my husband Paul and Alan are smoking and hanging out on the deck, watching the alligators swim by. We couldn't ask for better neighbors. ❤️*

Kathy Zachary - September 13, 2023 at 07:54 PM

PA

I know they are. When we were still in Florida Alan always watched for the swallowtail kites and swore that was Paul paying a visit to him. So if you see 2 they are together enjoying being reunited again.

Paula - September 14, 2023 at 11:02 AM

JS

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Joe S - September 13, 2023 at 07:39 PM

JS

“ You've come a long way pilgrim. So many good, funny and hysterical memories of our friendship since we first met at the Cleveland VAMC. so many moons ago.

"Twin brothers of different Mothers" is what you called us when we first met. :-) I never did win one game of chess in all of the numerous games we played together over the years. Rest in Peace Alan.

With Love, Joe S.

Joe S - September 13, 2023 at 07:31 PM

JS

When Alan and I were in the Cleveland VAMC and Alan got into any mischief he would tell the nurses my name, "Joe Seley" Haha! Then I had nurses telling me that if I didn't "straighten up and fly right that they were going to give me the boot". :-)

When a nurse finally figured it out she said "Joe you have a twin brother on the other ward that you should go meet sometime". When I had the chance I went over to Alan's ward and pulled his curtain back and he just looked at me with his big grin and said "Hey we do kind of look alike".

"Do you want to get schooled in a game of chess" ... and the rest is history.

*Rest in Peace Alan.
Love you brother.
Joe*

Joe S - September 14, 2023 at 01:17 PM

PB

I am posting a pic of you and Alan and the chess board.

Paula Bender - September 14, 2023 at 04:25 PM

LA

“ Five months was not long enough. The impact that you had on me will be etched in my heart forever. I was honored to be able to wake you up 5 days a week and see you smile when I would tell you how lucky you were to have my smiling face be the first thing you saw in the morning. I got ticked when you told me that you called everybody and told them how you couldn't believe that the “worm woman” was now your assistant. On our last day together you introduced me to the nurse as your assistant and friend. Indeed, you were my friend. I wish I had many more mornings to wake you up and sing (or howl, as you called it) You Are My Sunshine; and you yelling for Paula to save you cuz I was crazy. But, my friend, I will never watch CNN again, you gave me enough of that to last me a lifetime. □ thank you for making me feel like I was special. I wish you were still here so we could go outside for “recess” but I know you are at peace and your body is whole. I will always love you Hot Rod.



laurie adams - September 13, 2023 at 02:04 PM

CH

“ My Deepest Sympathy for Paula & Family. A fellow classmate, (1973), A school Friend. Always to be remembered...

Clarence S Hathaway - September 13, 2023 at 01:49 PM

MM

Paula and I attended Stow high school. I am sorry to read this

Marie Van Meter - September 14, 2023 at 07:58 PM

EG

“ Dear Paula, I never met Alan, but felt like I knew him, from your Facebook posts. I'm sure Alan lived as long as he did, because of your care & love. I wish I was there, to give you a hug.
Elaine

Elaine Gridley - September 13, 2023 at 01:46 PM

GC

“ I will always remember Alan as a free spirit with a kind heart. He had a loving wife, Paula, and he loved life and their time together. Rest in peace, Alan. 🕊️

Greta Campbell - September 13, 2023 at 01:45 PM