



Bernard James-Joseph Hein, Jr.

January 28, 2022

It is with heavy hearts we announce that on January 28, 2022, Bernard James-Joseph Hein Jr. passed away at the age of 81. Long fought was his battle with many illnesses, he defied all the odds and was strong until the very end. Bernard was born July 24, 1940 in Smithfield, Rhode Island – and would remain an RI resident for much of his life – where he would specialize in auto mechanic work and open a feed and grain store.

A man of many talents, he was also a fixture on the Rhode Island nightclub scene for almost 20 years, performing his Elvis Presley inspired stage show as Jess E. Garon, he entertained thousands over the years.

His showmanship would eventually catch the eye of his wife of 31 years, Shirley Hein (60), with whom he would have his two surviving sons: David Hein (30) and Douglas Hein (34). Bernard also fathered two beautiful daughters from a previous marriage: Linda Nardolillo (62) and Brenda Hein (60). Through his children he was grandfather to 4 boys: Frank Vani, Jr., Angelo & Vito Nardolillo and Adrian Hein and 3 great grandchildren. Bernard is predeceased by his mother, Yoni Russell-Hein and father, Bernard Hein Sr.

A child of the greatest generation, Bernie's sometimes gruff exterior was betrayed by his sense of humor, huge heart and an undying will to always provide for his loved ones. His family and those that knew him will

undoubtedly miss his stories from the “old days” and his great big belly laugh. There was no smile more genuine than Bernie’s.

We request all of Bernard’s loved ones to join us in celebrating his life on Thursday February 3rd for a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. at St Joseph Church, Danielson Pike, Scituate.. Burial will be in St. Ann Cemetery, Cranston.

Cemetery Details

St. Ann Cemetery

73 Church Street
Cranston, RI 02920

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 3. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph Church
144 Danielson Pike
Scituate, RI 02857

Tribute Wall

BK

“ Linda, Brenda, and the Hein Family, I just learned of the passing of your father. I remember your dad growing up in Lymansville next to the fire station. He always had a joke to tell. I remember him telling me he work for Westin Steel. Those who new the joke would laugh. The time a got zapped by stepping on a lone extension cord while it was raining. He said you ok sparky. Later in life I worked with him. I don't know how we work all we did was tell jokes and of course sing Elvis Songs. He was a great man and good friend. Thoughts and prayers. RIP
Brian Kelley

Brian Kelley - September 09, 2023 at 09:43 PM

DD

“ Donna Nardolillo Richard Dipanni lit a candle in memory of Bernard James-Joseph Hein, Jr.



Donna Nardolillo Richard Dipanni - February 03, 2022 at 06:02 AM

DD

So Sorry to Shirley Lynda my Sister-in-law Brenda Doug David Frankie Angelo Vito all your Beautiful Grandchildren & Great Grandchildren . Bernie was a Complete Gentleman loved his Elvis presentation when we would see Bernie we would ask Bernie sing some Elvis . Bernie May the Peptual light shine upon you forever. You are know a Beautiful Angel fly high Benie. Rest in Peace . All our Love . My Heart truly goes out for all of you. Love you all. Donna Nardolillo

Donna Nardolillo Richard Dipanni - February 03, 2022 at 06:07 AM