



Benjamin Brabant Allen Jr.

December 18, 1960 - January 3, 2026

Ben Allen Jr. passed away Saturday January 3, 2026, in Lawrence, Kansas with his family by his side. He was born December 18, 1960 in Alton, Illinois to Ben and Trudi, Benjie was the oldest of three children. Ben graduated from Alton High School in 1979 and went on to attend The University of Oklahoma. He was a talented and self-taught musician and artist. Ben began playing the piano as a child and quickly became prolific in classical and later contemporary music. He was in constant pursuit of knowledge, curious about the workings of the world. From antiquities to current events, he was a wealth of knowledge, which, sometimes to the chagrin of his family, was usually superior. Ben had a mind of his own and informed opinions that he was happy to share. He was a skilled and avid chess player as well. Benjie enjoyed childhood summers in Saugatuck, and one special summer spent with his Uncle Hube managing the archeological dig in Morgantina, Sicily. Ben moved to Lawrence in 2004 to be closer to his beloved University of Kansas. Ben was preceded in death by his dear friend and cousin Lee Allen, and his grandparents, Hub and Berta Allen and Al and Na Weber.

Benjie is survived by his parents, Ben and Trudi, his brother Peter (Gina), and his sister Betsy (Eddie Sholar), 7 cousins and 5 nieces and nephews. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangements. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall

DO

“ From Dan O’Neill:
So sorry for your loss.

Dan O’Neill - January 13 at 12:00 PM

MC

“ We are so sorry to learn of your recent loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Allen family....Mike and Susan Carroll

Mike and Susan Carroll - January 11 at 06:40 PM

MW

“ We are so sorry to hear of your loss. Your dad, Dr. Allen, delivered our first baby not long before Trudy had Benji. We remember it well. Much love to you and your family. Peggy and Mike Walters

Michael Walters - January 09 at 10:40 AM

DH

“ I would like to extend my deepest sympathy and prayers to the Allen family for the loss of your son and brother Benjie I never had the opportunity to meet him but I know this family so I know he was a wonderful person. God bless all of you and I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.

Diana Klaus Howland - January 09 at 06:03 AM

MS

“ My sympathy for the loss Benjie. He was a good friend. Before I really knew him, we went to visit Brett next door when he lived above the shoe repair shop. I heard the most beautiful classical music coming from Ben's apartment thinking it was the radio. Brian let me know it was actually Ben playing the piano. He was an amazing musician and a wonderful friend.

Melissa Schulte - January 08 at 11:31 AM

PM

“ So sorry to hear about Benjie.

I remember being part of many fun times many centering around Michigan at the beach... playing cards on the porch, taking the Sunfish out on the Lake, hiding in the woods and the Crow's Nest, climbing Mt. Baldy, riding Dune Schooners, painting beach rocks, Benjie playing "The Entertainer" and "Heart and Soul" songs on the piano.

Prayers for Peace and Blessings upon Benjie - and all the Allen family.

Thank you for allowing me and our family to be a part of the journey.

Pat, Meg and the Miller family.

Pat and Meg Miller - January 07 at 11:08 PM

JM

May the angels come to greet him and bring him to paradise! Our deepest sympathies.

John meehan - January 08 at 12:13 AM

WN

I did not personally know Benji, but have known Ben and Trudy since high school. My thoughts and prayers go out to them and the rest of the family. May he rest in peace

Wayne Anne Newton - January 08 at 06:00 PM



Ben and Trudy. My sympathy to you I will pray for you I wish I could do this in person. Someday I will do that. I love you both

Jackie Brand - January 10 at 09:49 AM

JH

It's a devastating thing to lose a child, no matter his or her age. I think all parents internalize this and deeply share in your grief and pain. I know of only one Person who can and who will grant you peace that surpasses human understanding. Jeff and Jeannie Hendrickson.

Jeff Hendrickson - January 11 at 05:08 AM

KM

I was saddened to hear of Benji's passing. I too remember visiting with him in his apt over Segers. One of the smartest people I ever met and always good for stimulating conversations. May he rest in peace.

Kerry Miller - January 12 at 10:44 AM