



Brad Robert Denike

January 4, 1971 - June 29, 2023

Brad Robert Denike of Cadillac passed away Thursday, June 29, 2023 at home. He was 52.

Brad was born January 4, 1971 in Cadillac to William Robert and Jennie Len (Bears) Denike.

He graduated from Cadillac High School in 1989 and attended Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. Brad then moved to Petoskey and worked at Perry Drug Store and later for the City of Petoskey as a meter reader, earning the nickname "Scooter." He went back to Northwestern Michigan College, graduated from the law enforcement program. After graduation he returned to the Cadillac area and worked for Wexford County Sheriff's Department for 25 years, retiring in 2019.

After retiring from the Sheriff's Department Brad worked at Training Mask and Jax Tactical Gear. Brad moved to Kentucky and worked at the Corvette Museum and Corvette Plant. He recently moved back home and was working with security at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. Brad was a member of Cadillac Sportsman's Club and Fraternal Order of the Police.

Much to the amazement of his younger siblings, Brad was an avid fort builder in his childhood, among many other creative pursuits. These skills enabled

him to become a highly skilled carpenter as an adult. After his retirement from the sheriff's department, he found joy in helping neighbors, friends, and family with various carpentry projects. He was an avid Star Wars fan and enjoyed watching movies. Brad enjoyed hockey, being outdoors, kayaking, hunting, paintball, grilling, riding quads and dirt bikes. Brad loved nature, whether it was hiking in the woods, learning about and caring for animals, or beach combing in South Carolina. Brad was truly one of the most creative, loving, caring individuals and we were all truly blessed to have him in our lives.

He is survived by his sons that he adored, Trevor Denike and Parker Denike both of Cadillac; parents, Bill and Jennie Denike of Boon; siblings: Chad Denike, Andrew (Mindy) Denike all of Boon, Amanda (Steve) Tatarchuk of Charleston, SC, Tim (Jodi) Denike of Boon Cadillac; former wife and mother of his children, Michelle Clements and many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and cousins.

Brad was preceded in death by his grandparents: Thomas and Eunice Denike and Millard and Ruth Bearse and a sister-in-law, Gretchen Denike.

A celebration of life will be held at the home of Brad's parents Saturday, July 15, 2023 from 12:00 noon to 2:00 PM. Burial will take place Boon Eastside Cemetery in Wexford County at 2:00 PM.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made in memory of Brad to The Thin Blue Line of Michigan (P.O. Box 532133, Livonia, MI 48153). An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL 15. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Brad's Parent's Home
5421 S 25 Rd.
Boon, MI 49618

Tribute Wall

KW

“ *Kaylah Wilson lit a candle in memory of Brad Robert Denike*



Kaylah Wilson - July 19, 2023 at 07:43 PM

KW

“ *Thank you for being one of the best parts of my life. Rest easy my dear precious friend. Thank for tons of laughs and amazing conversations to look back on. I miss you so much, I love you, Brad!*

Kaylah Wilson - July 19, 2023 at 07:42 PM

JB

“ *Jennifer Baughan-Fuzi lit a candle in memory of Brad Robert Denike*



Jennifer Baughan-Fuzi - July 19, 2023 at 03:44 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Brad Robert Denike.*



July 11, 2023 at 08:38 AM

LY

“ A final salute to you... you were the epitome of what an officer should be,,honest, compassionate, trustworthy, and truly wanted to help others. I'll personally miss hearing, “best day ever”. RIP Brad...

Linda Young - July 10, 2023 at 08:33 PM

JB

“ Heartfelt sorrow of loss for such a wonderful person and friend! The mischief and fun we had at Perry Drugs will always be remembered with smiles! You will be missed by so many people you touched in life.

Jack H Behl - July 10, 2023 at 06:35 PM

LD

“ Jenny, so sorry to hear the loss of your son. There are no words to say. 🙏🙏🙏🙏 are with you and your family. With love Lois Moffit Darrow

Lois Darrow - July 10, 2023 at 09:05 AM

TS

“ Brad was always a delight to work with. Always smiling, always ready to help people. His boys were everything to him. He was one of the good guys. Loved to see his posts about his wanderings, his love of nature, and just life. You'll be missed. I guess God needed another Sergeant at Arms.

Teri Rasey Schloessmann - July 08, 2023 at 08:19 PM

CM

“ I am so sorry to hear of the loss of Brad at such a young age. My thoughts, prayers, and love are being sent to you, Bill & Jennie, and all of his loving family and friends. He is now home in the arms of his loving Lord and savior. He is also reunited with his loving grandparents, whom he loved and adored so very much. He brought joy to my live whenever I would see him. He was a great man with a with a loving and friendly spirit. He would brighten my day with his beautiful smile, freindly words, and his joy for living. Brad will be greatly missed by all of us who personally knew him at some time in his life. RIP Brad.



Cheryl (Yager) Mapes - July 08, 2023 at 09:44 AM

EM

“ Bill and Jennie and Family, So very, very sorry for your loss. What a fine legacy Brad left behind. I am sure he will be sorely missed. God's Peace and Blessings to each of you. Elsie Moore and family.

ELSIE L MOORE - July 07, 2023 at 09:18 PM

FH

“ Thoughts & Prayers to the family & friends. It was always a pleasure to work with Brad as part of the Sheriff Dept family...

Fred Harris

Fred Harris - July 07, 2023 at 08:11 PM

SB

“ My sincere condolences to Brad's family. Always had a smile. He will be missed.
Sandy Bengelink

Sandy Bengelink - July 07, 2023 at 01:59 PM

PH

“ We are so very sorry Brad is no longer in this world. We hurt for you, Bill and Jennie and Brad's boys and of course his sibs who loved him so. This is a loss for you all that is a huge gut punch. I wish we could ease your pain. We hope that helps just a bit to know so many are hurting FOR you, praying that your grief burden can be eased a bit by your friends taking it on in our hearts. Love to you PK and Tom

PK Harrison - July 07, 2023 at 07:08 AM

JB

So sorry for your loss praying for the family 🙏 love to you Judy (Bainbridge) Flindt-Dale

Judy Bainbridge-Flindt-Dale - July 07, 2023 at 10:07 AM

MN

My deepest condolences go out to Brad's sons and his family. I'm very sorry for your loss. Brad was always so kind to me and others always willing to help. I will cherish the fun times we had back in middle school and beyond. You will be missed. RIP Brother.

Mark Nelson

Mark Nelson - July 10, 2023 at 08:17 PM