



## Fred Bernhardt Benson III

May 15, 1938 - March 23, 2022

Fred Bernhardt Benson, III, age 83, a resident of Overland Park, KS, passed away peacefully on March 23, 2022 with his wife of 50 years at his side. He was born May 15, 1938 in Independence, KS to the late Fred and Ruth (Haworth) Benson and is survived by his sister Beverly Bacon of Tucson, Arizona. Beloved husband of Patricia (Gerst Denny), loving father of Fred Benson IV (Lisa), of Cle Elum, WA, Elizabeth Cerne (Neal) of Naperville, IL, John Denny (Krista) of Overland Park, KS, and William Benson (Julia) of Kansas City, MO. Adored grandfather of Caleb and Piper Benson, John, Brooke, and Kristen Cerne, Julia and Kate Denny, and Josephine, Philomena, and Oliver Benson. Fred lived an adventure-filled life that included extensive world travel with Patricia, kayaking in North Carolina with grandchildren, and playing golf whenever he had the opportunity. Fred was seldom seen without a KU hat and watched every KU basketball game with true Jayhawk passion.

Fred majored in business at the University of Kansas, was part of the Navy ROTC, and a member of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. Upon graduation, Fred proudly served on the USS Wisconsin as an officer in the Supply Corp. After serving in the Navy Fred worked at Meyer Dairy in Basehor, KS where he became the Controller. While at Meyer Dairy he earned a Juris Doctor from the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Fred and Patricia moved to Bowie, MD where he was the Account Manager of

Murray's Foods of Washington D.C. and later V.P. Controller for Embassy Dairy in Waldorf, MD. Upon retirement he moved to Chocowinity, NC where both he and Patricia pursued their shared passion for travel, golf, and kayaking. Their time in North Carolina became a special and wonderful chapter of their lives.

Fred and Patricia returned to Kansas City due to health issues and to be closer to their children and grandchildren. Fred will always be remembered for his strong and loving commitment to his family, faith, his country, and to KU basketball.

A memorial service, with reception to follow, will be held at the Church of the Resurrection (Wesley Chapel), 13720 Roe Ave., Leawood, KS, on Wednesday, March 30 at 1pm. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to [Kansashealthsystem.com/savelives](https://kansashealthsystem.com/savelives).

# Tribute Wall

NC

“ Pat and family: I learned of Fred's passing just yesterday, I am heartbroken that I missed the service and didn't get to tell you how saddened I felt. I didn't realize you had moved back to this area. I'd like to imagine Fred and Don are playing a bit of golf in heaven ! Fred was such a caring and fun guy. I know you will miss him.

---

**nancy crews** - April 18, 2022 at 09:28 AM

AF

“ Our hearts are broken in hearing the passing of our sweet friend Fred. He and Pat are such wonderful people and we loved being around them. I enjoyed Fred and my time in the First Methodist Church Choir. He was always smiling. Will miss you Fred.

Love to you Pat,  
Alma & Stan Friedman

---

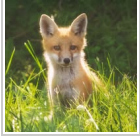
**Alma L Friedman** - March 30, 2022 at 01:21 PM

PA

“ We have so MANY WONDERFUL Memories of BOTH Fred & Pat, we met in Bowie & become FAST Friends. We enjoyed traveling together, Many dinners at our homes, enjoyed Beth. & her family having crabs & oysters on KENT Island, also enjoyed being with Jack & Bill. Fred LOVED his compute, golf, & singing, Loved getting Birthday songs from Both of them every year  
Our Prayers and LOVE are with the Benson Family, we are Blessed to have been part of their life  
Ken & Patty Adams

---

**Patricia Adams** - March 30, 2022 at 11:50 AM



“ *My earliest memories include Uncle Freddy who later became Uncle Fred as I grew older. One of my first models as a child was the U.S.S. Wisconsin on which he was stationed for a time in the Navy. As an adult sharing many holiday gatherings in Fred and Pat's home in Whispering Hills that signature laugh of his still warmly echoes in my memories. I am blessed to have had him for an uncle. He is unforgettably upbeat, enthusiastic, generous, and sorely missed.*

---

**Jeffrey McPheeters** - March 29, 2022 at 03:30 PM

CD

“ *As I understand he and my dad were pledge brothers. I saw him and Pat at my mom's husband's funeral last July. he was a great person.*

---

**clay dickason** - March 27, 2022 at 06:07 PM

EM

“ *What wonderful times we spent together from Costa Rica to China to Athens and other parts of the world near and far. So much laughter and teasing about the blue shirt day or the red shirt day and of course the cap. Thank you for the memories.*  
*Ed and Shirley Mann*

---

**Ed and Shirley Mann** - March 27, 2022 at 12:48 PM

CH

“ *Jack and Krista, I am so sorry to hear of Fred's passing. I so enjoyed talking with him at the Family get-togethers we shared at your home. Kim and I have you and your family in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Chuck*

---

**Chuck** - March 27, 2022 at 12:21 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Fred Bernhardt Benson III.



---

March 27, 2022 at 10:50 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* was purchased for the family of Fred Bernhardt Benson III.



---

March 27, 2022 at 09:35 AM