



## Benjamin Lee Beard

August 28, 1981 - August 6, 2024

Ben Beard, age 42 of Albertville passed away Tuesday, August 6, 2024.

He is survived by his sister; Amy Harris (Brandon), niece; Trinity Harris, nephews; River and Aiden Harris, father; Ted Beard, grandmother; Ruby Bearden, several aunts, uncles and cousins.

He is preceded in death by his mother; Laura Bishop and his grandparents; Herbert and Pauline Beard.

There will be a memorial service at 4 p.m. Monday, August 12, 2024 at Albertville Memorial Chapel. Bro. Joey Jones will officiate the service. The family will receive friends from 3:30 until the time of service at 4:00.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to his family.

Albertville Memorial Chapel Directing

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 12. 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Albertville Memorial Chapel  
5011 US Highway 431 South  
Albertville, AL 35950  
(256) 878-2424

## Memorial Service

AUG 12. 4:00 PM (CT)

Albertville Memorial Chapel  
5011 US Highway 431 South  
Albertville, AL 35950  
(256) 878-2424

# Tribute Wall

AC

“ About a year has gone by now. I am still thinking about you and remembering the fun we had during our tour in the service. That was a good time in our lives and I was fortunate to get to know you at 8th Marines and later be stationed nearby in Japan. For a few years we were about as close two friends can be platonically, what the Army refers to as "battle buddies". I am very sorry that we lost connection and that when I did try to reach out I had missed you by a couple of weeks. You live on in my memory and my wife and kids know all of our stories. Nearly everyday we see or hear something that reminds us of you. We use your famous quotes often and they always make me smile. I remember how you would hang out at the armory longer than you should just to shoot the breeze and keep me company while your SSgt called looking for you. "You just missed him Staff Sergeant..." or if I was running an errand I would make up an excuse to visit your work section to talk, trade jokes, and enjoy the air conditioning for several minutes. Sometimes we would call each other and yell gibberish into the phones then hang up. That was fun until we got ordered to stop, ha-ha. You were one of my favorite people to spar with during martial arts training and we always put on a good show for those watching us. We also spent much of our off time together hanging out and trash talking to our video games or making trips into town to escape the Corps for a night. What I miss most is the laughter. We had a few times where we fell over laughing due to the humor of the situations. You had great one-liners that were always witty and comical. You would sometimes do physical stunts that didn't always end well but brought us more laughter and amusement. We used to ad lib song lyrics that we thought were funny and I can still hear our alternate lyrics when I listen to those songs. I know that we always made fun of each others accents but I still say "oil" and "ice" as you did (owel and ahy-ess). You were like a brother to me and now that you are gone your presence remains. I remember you and can still hear your voice in my mind. I hope your soul is at peace in heaven and that you saved a seat for me when my time comes. -Cpl C

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Andrew C. - August 01, 2025 at 03:33 PM

JL

“ He and I were also stationed together at Camp Lejeune with 8th MAR REG. We took many trips all over to dinner, beach and other things. We would always get together (me, him and ole Cunningham) and watch Mystery Science Theater 3000 in my barracks room and laugh at the dumbest things. Good dude and just an all around great friend. My most sincere condolences to his family in this time of loss.

J W Laycock - August 22, 2024 at 08:12 AM

LB

*Tk you for your kind words about Ben!*

Lawana Beaird - August 23, 2024 at 10:23 PM



*Thank you for sharing!!*

Amy Beaird Harris - August 23, 2024 at 10:54 PM

MC

“ Ben came to stay with our family in Texas after his time in the Marine Corps. He was a very respectful and polite young man. I enjoyed talking with him about cars and comparing notes with him and my brother about the Marines and the Army. My wife and I were saddened to learn of his passing and wish to offer our deepest condolences to his family. You are in our prayers.

*M Cottingham*

Matt Cottingham - August 21, 2024 at 01:42 PM



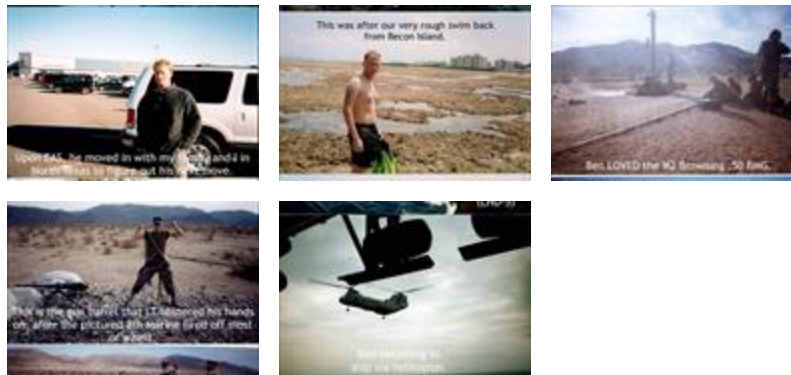
*Thank you for sharing!!*

Amy Beaird Harris - August 23, 2024 at 10:54 PM

AC

“Part 2 - Sometimes we would take our bicycles on the base-to-base buses and meet up for a Saturday ride to explore Okinawa in search of the best yakisoba. Riding our bikes back onto base around dusk one time, we see a car screeching to a halt and a man/officer steps out and screamed at us, "NO LIGHT, NO BIKE!" and waited until we dismounted to drive off. We simply got back on after he left and rode on into the night, laughing our butts off. Later we were trying to do endos and stoppies on our mountain bikes while mimicking what he said and I wiped out badly, going over my handlebars, much to your delight. We tried snorkeling a few times and then decided to fin swim out to recon island and had to swim against tide getting back...we almost didn't make it. Who knew swimming in the ocean was hard? When we crawled ashore some hours later you said "Freak this SEAL Bulls-tuff!" and we had a good laugh, though I was gasping for air. That coral cut us up good and my back sunburn was epic. I saw that you kept up with your karate and made shodan; I to have been keeping busy with martial arts and had just read one of Nakayama's karate books and thought about you. I decided to look you up and found your obituary instead. There are many more memories that I will keep replaying in my mind until my time comes. Like you running and whooping as you leaped off of the seawall and into the water. Or you borrowing some spoons from the chow hall and playing along to Soundgarden's "Spoonman" as you danced around my room trying to cheer me up after a bad day. Most of our time there was arduous and serious especially after 09/11/01 happened. Thank you for being my friend during that hectic part of our 18-22 year old lives and for making those places easier to deal with. I know that your family meant a lot to you and recall that you were able to make a long drive home to see them on holidays. I will say a prayer for them. You were a friend who could hold an intelligent conversation and could think of things "outside of the box". I remember you as a nice guy in a platoon full of animals. You didn't drink or boast and you were a man of your word. The 8th Marines was our first command and I was lucky to find you there. I will remember you and look at a picture of us I have in my study. I had to dig through my files but I managed to find some more photos

*to share. May the Lord Jesus give your soul peace.  
-Corporal Cottingham*



**A. Cottingham** - August 19, 2024 at 06:02 PM

LB

*Thank you for sharing the memories and pics of my nephew Ben!  
Please keep our family in your prayers! He is greatly loved and missed!*



**Lawana Beard** - August 23, 2024 at 10:17 PM



*Andrew!!!! I need to see if I can find y'all's Jacka\*\* video you two made  
😂😂 Thank you for sharing. Funny how I remember some of these  
stories lol.*

*Amy*

**Amy Beard Harris** - August 23, 2024 at 10:53 PM

“Part 1 - Sergeant Beard and I were Lance Corporals in HQ Company 8th Marine Regiment 2nd Marine Division, or the "Grunts" in 2000-2001. He was attached to supply-0411 and I was the unit armorer-2111. We met at sea, aboard the USS Bataan when I asked to borrow his 400 Degreez CD. Our unit was an eclectic mix of all types of people from all over and as an infantry unit we had some extra infantry training in addition to our regular jobs. Ben's Alabamian drawl and my Texan "y'all" stood out and thus we were made part a fireteam. We both had some things in common and bonded quickly due to our introspectiveness and our weird senses of humor. We had lots of laughs and good times together usually at the other's expense. I can share a few funny memories. The prank wars at CAX got out of hand and made Gunny H. all hot under the collar. That made us popular for a bit around Camp Wilson. Was that you who took my towel and clothes from the shower hut? I had to run in flip flops back to the armory and pass a Marine on guard duty. Or the time at the machine gun range where we tried to warn a LT who blistered his palms trying to change a .50 barrel without gloves. "Was that hot.....sir?" you asked. He was nonplussed. You loved Cadbury cream eggs and brought them to the field and forgot about them until they were melty on more than one occasion. Friday we had a "reward" ritual of dinner at the tasty local Chinese buffet where we would stuff our faces or your next choice was that Andy's place that had the \$6 Philly Cheesesteaks and \$5 milkshakes, "worth every.. dang.. bit.." you emphasized between bites. We would laugh at 1stSgt Arnold's crazy antics, theatrics, threats, and all-morning-long "death" runs. In one formation run, you started ad-libbing along to the cadence in a humorous way; unfortunately for you, a Major was running behind us and decided to berate you for a good while as we all ran along double time singing cadence. That was funny and we laughed about it for several days. What a way to meet the new Major! We played basketball on some 9.5' hoops near the barracks and you could dunk on them. I tried to dunk once and nearly broke my back. You ran over and checked on me and then fell over laughing at the sight of me taking myself out on the baby goal. We did some "rally racing" on Camp Lejeune's tank trails after

*it rained and had some close calls trying to get the perfect drift. I remember you meticulously cleaning your room on field days with the stereo blaring RATM. One Monday as a bonus duty, five of us got sent to read to local elementary kids for an hour, but when we arrived at their school we were told to wait until the kids were ready. At the time, MCMAP was a new replacement for L.I.N.E. and we had been training for a few months. You and I used to spar a lot so we thought we would practice doing our MCMAP outside on the school field to pass the time. A teacher later told us that the kids could see us outside from the windows and we disrupted her lesson as the kids were excitedly watching our "ninja moves". We were not sent back to the school. Later on, I got orders to a support unit on Camp Kinser and eventually sent to a JTF (510) while you got sent to Camp Schwab aka Camp Blob. You called around until you found my armory and told me you had arrived at Camp Blob. "Let me guess, another infantry unit?", "YOU KNOW IT!" you replied sarcastically. I knew that you liked horror films and especially Chucky, so when I ran by an old mural of him outside of my base I had to show it to you. Seeing that really made you happy and I noticed that you kept that picture.*

A. Cottingham - August 19, 2024 at 05:59 PM

JC

*He worked with me in the supply office in 8th Marines. I remember him. Very sad to hear this.*

Joshua Campbell - August 23, 2024 at 08:49 PM

LB

*Oh I love the memories you have shared about my nephew Ben! Keep praying for our family 🙏*

Lawana Beaird - August 23, 2024 at 10:20 PM

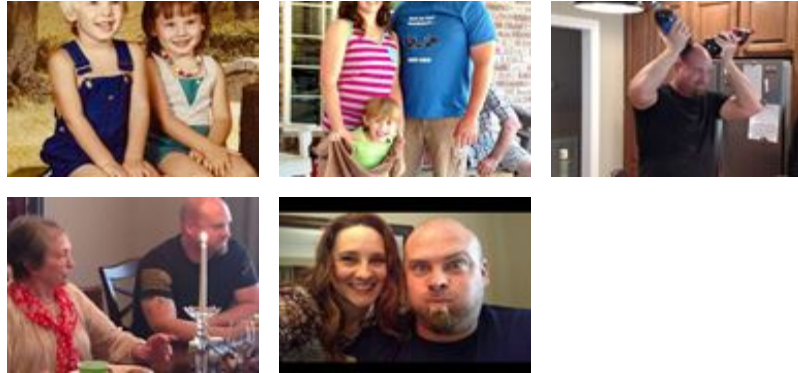


*I can't love these enough. You can reach me on FB.*

Amy Beaird Harris - August 23, 2024 at 10:59 PM



“ 68 files added to the album Life Tributes



Albertville Memorial Chapel - August 12, 2024 at 01:31 PM



“ You were my best friend since I was 16. Thank you for being such a big part of my life. You were the most loyal, honest, responsible person I have ever known. A big piece of my heart is missing. Forever love and miss you

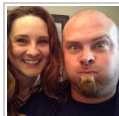


Joseph Wilkins - August 12, 2024 at 01:01 PM



Tk you for sharing theses memories! Keep our family, and especially my niece Amy in your prayers 🙏

Lawana Beard - August 23, 2024 at 10:24 PM



Thank you Joe!!

Amy Beard Harris - August 23, 2024 at 11:00 PM



“ *Brandy Daniel lit a candle in memory of Benjamin Beaird*



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**Brandy Daniel** - August 12, 2024 at 11:44 AM



“ *Amy Harris lit a candle in memory of Benjamin Beaird*

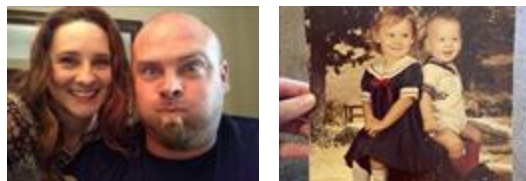


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**Amy Harris** - August 10, 2024 at 11:22 AM



“ *From the time you were born to the last days here on earth, my love for you is immense and will forever live on. I'm gonna miss your goofiness and hugs and I love you's but most of all I'm gonna miss you. I hate with all that's in me that you felt this was the only way to escape the darkness . You were full of love and those who truly knew you feel the loss of you today. You are and will be greatly missed. Until we meet again little brother❤️*



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**Amy Harris** - August 09, 2024 at 09:56 PM

BS

“ *Belinda and Thomas Snellings purchased the Fie  
ry Lily and Rose for the family of Benjamin Lee  
Beaird.*



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**Belinda and Thomas Snellings** - August 09, 2024 at 01:21 PM

BS

“ *Belinda and Thomas Snellings planted a <a  
href="/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518">Memorial Tree</a> in  
honor of Benjamin Lee Beaird.*

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**Belinda and Thomas Snellings** - August 09, 2024 at 01:21 PM

LB

“ *Ben, you were a gentle giant.. I am blessed to have been you Aunt  
Wa... So many great memories of you... You are so loved, and will  
be greatly missed... I love you nephew!! Until we meet again ❤️*

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**Lawana Beaird** - August 09, 2024 at 01:08 PM

LB

“ *Lawana Beaird lit a candle in memory of  
Benjamin Beaird*



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**Lawana Beaird** - August 09, 2024 at 01:05 PM