



## Randall G. Bernau

July 6, 1952 - February 24, 2026

Randall (Randy) Gene Bernau, 73, of Hazelhurst, Wisconsin died February 24, 2026. Randy was born in Elkhorn, Wisconsin on July 6, 1952 to Eugene and Avis (nee Pruefert) Bernau and grew up in Caldwell, Wisconsin, a very small town in Racine County. Randy described the town as being so small it only had one gas station, one country store, a Methodist church which his family attended and a lot of open land where he and his three brothers (Gary, Lynn and Scott) could play baseball, target shoot, fish and hunt to their hearts' content. They were outdoors boys through and through.

Randy attended grade school in Caldwell and high school in Waterford where he participated in cross country running and tennis. He had a knack for figuring out how things worked and how to build things from scratch. This ability was beneficial to him in the jobs he held throughout his life. He worked in a lumber yard, a hardware store, a body shop and a factory where he painted power transformers. Much of his earlier life was spent in the Milwaukee area until he moved to the Northwoods in 1996. His experience with truck driving and landscaping led him to work for Rynders Excavating Company and Custom Caretaking and Landscaping for many years in the Minocqua area. He retired in 2025.

Randy met his future wife when he and his brothers went to eat at a restaurant in Mukwonago, WI in the early 70s. He needed ketchup and it was

Linda Priefer, an employee, who brought it to him. That condiment changed his life and led to their marriage in 1979. They had two children, Daniel Ray Bernau and Heather Jean Bernau (Levy). The Bernau family moved to Hazelhurst in 1996. Randy and Linda divorced in 2025.

Anyone who met Randy will remember his whacky sense of humor, his gift of gab, his honesty and his ability to work hard with stamina. Randy said, "My word is my word. The old handshake is like a contract to me."

His love of the outdoors permeated his life as reflected by him saying, "I always enjoyed fishing, bow and gun deer hunting and hanging out in the woods but my best times were with my brothers since the 1970s when we started going fishing in Canada." He was an excellent cook who never let any of his game go to waste; not even squirrels!

Randy is preceded in death by his parents and his brother, Gary. He is survived by his children, Daniel (Amy) Bernau and Heather (David) Levy; grandchildren, Ellie Levy and Jordan Levy; brothers, Lynn Bernau and Scott Bernau; and former wife, Linda. Randy chose to forego formal funeral services and have his cremains scattered over one of his favorite hunting spots.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Antigo Elk's Lodge, 622 Clermont St., Antigo, WI 54409 on March 14, 2026 from noon until 4:00 PM.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

MAR **14**. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Antigo Elk's Lodge  
622 Clermont Street  
Antigo, WI 54409

# Tribute Wall

CG

“ *Sending my deepest condolences to his family. May his memory be eternal.* ”



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**Christina Giemza** - March 13 at 09:21 PM

HD

“ *Randy was my best friend and I am mourning him like a brother. I hired him to help me with yard work 12 years ago and as my health declined he was not only my caretaker but he became my caregiver. He helped other people, too, and was a blessing. He was a talker and I could always expect a lame joke each time I saw him. He was trustworthy, hard working and honorable. A day will not pass without missing him. May his memory be a blessing.* ”  
*Hannah Dana*

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**Hannah Dana** - March 10 at 06:16 PM

DB

“ *Dan Bernau lit a candle in memory of Randall Bernau* ”



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**Dan Bernau** - March 06 at 12:22 PM

LB

“ *linda bernau lit a candle in memory of Randall Bernau*



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**linda bernau** - March 05 at 02:42 AM