



Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek

September 5, 1978 - December 28, 2023

Myrtle Beach...

Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek, age 45, passed away on Thursday, December 28, 2023.

Born September 5, 1978, in St. Charles, Missouri, he was the son of Patricia Yenicek and the late William J. Yenicek. Ben was a graduate of the University of Missouri Science and Technology, Mines and Metallurgy Academy, where he was a member of Kappa Sigma and then received his MBA from the University of South Carolina.

Ben faithfully served his country for over 20 years in the SC Army National Guard. He was a combat veteran who served in Iraq during 2004-2005 in the 3rd Battalion 178th Artillery. He also deployed to Poland in May 2022.

His other positions included service as the Commander, Alpha Battery, 178 FA Bn. Assistant Operations Officer (S3), and as an Air Defense Artillery Fire Control Officer (ADAFCO) in the 678th Air Defense Artillery Brigade.

Major Yenicek was a graduate of Palmetto Military Academy (OCS) Class 59, the Field Artillery Officer Basic Leadership Course, Captains Career Course, Air Defense Artillery Transition Course, ADAFCO School, and had recently

completed a Counter Unmanned Aerial Surveillance Course. In all of his military education, he received top honors at graduation.

Major Yenicek was a member of the SC Militia Field Artillery Society and recipient of the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara.

In most recent years, Ben worked for MetGlass in Conway and had recently began working with Booz Allen Hamilton as a defense contractor.

Ben loved his family; he was a loving and devoted husband, father, son, brother, and friend.

In addition to his father, he is predeceased by his uncle, Michael Griffin and his cousin, Melissa Ward (Chad).

Along with his mother, he is survived by his wife of 16 years, Amanda Rogers Yenicek; two children, Michael Griffin Yenicek and Sara Grace Yenicek; a sister, Lisa Yenicek and her child, Nat; aunts and uncles, Dorothy and Art Heyl and Pam Griffin; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Mike and Sara Rogers; sister-in-law, Melissa Leopper (Anthony), and their children, William and Caleb; brother-in-law, Michael Rogers (Holly) and their children, Amelia and McLeod; and many cousins and other extended family.

Memorial services with Military Honors will be at 2:00 PM on Saturday, January 13, 2024, at First United Methodist Church with Rev. Kyle Randle and Chaplain (Major) Greg Brown officiating.

Visitation will be held from 12:30 PM-2:00 PM prior to the service, at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Benjamin's memory to

First United Methodist Church, Youth Ministries, <<https://onrealm.org/fumcconway/give/Yenicek20>> Or text "Firstconway Yenicek" to 73256 or to the SC National Guard, PO Box 7606, Columbia, SC 29202.

Please sign the online guestbook at www.goldfinchfuneralhome.com

Goldfinch Funeral Home, Conway Chapel is in charge of the arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 13. 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church of Conway
1001 5th Avenue
Conway, SC 29526
<http://www.fumcconway.org/>

Memorial Service

JAN 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

First United Methodist Church of Conway
1001 5th Avenue
Conway, SC 29526
<http://www.fumcconway.org/>

Tribute Wall

DR

“ Ben and Amanda are amazing people. Grace and Griffin are such smart well rounded kids. So sorry for your loss. My heart is broken, Ben was a great person always doing his best on special occasions for Amanda and kids. ❤️👍❤️👍❤️👍

Debbie Roberts - January 13, 2024 at 03:30 PM



“ A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.

January 13, 2024 at 02:17 PM



“ Praying for strength and peace during this time of sorrow. You will be greatly missed my brother. Much love.



Teon Singletary - January 13, 2024 at 02:14 PM

DA

“ Sheila and I send our deepest condolences to all your family.



david - January 13, 2024 at 09:43 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.*



January 12, 2024 at 02:35 PM



“ *Simone and Mike Dorcas purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.*



Simone and Mike Dorcas - January 12, 2024 at 01:59 PM



“ *Simone and Mike Dorcas planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.*

Simone and Mike Dorcas - January 12, 2024 at 01:59 PM



“ *Annette Lewis lit a candle in memory of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek*



annette Lewis - January 12, 2024 at 01:16 PM



rest in peace

annette Lewis - January 12, 2024 at 01:18 PM

JT

“ *Jacquirus, Chris, & the Slalom team purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.*



Jacquirus, Chris, & the Slalom team - January 11, 2024 at 09:56 PM

RT

“ *We were deeply saddened to learn of Ben's passing. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to your family in this time of infinite sadness.*

RT - January 11, 2024 at 07:06 AM

PB

“ *Keeping your family lifted in prayer during this difficult time. I pray the fond memories of your loved one bring you comfort.*

Partrese Barr - January 09, 2024 at 07:35 AM

FW

“ *Francis W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.*

Francis W. - January 07, 2024 at 01:32 PM

MM

“ I spent most of 2022 training and working with Ben for our deployment to Poland as ADAFCOs. Ben had such high expectations for himself and always impressed me with how hard he worked to meet them. I really enjoyed getting to know him during our deployment and he often made personal sacrifices for the betterment of his ADAFCO team. We were a small team and really got to know and lean on each other.

He had a big heart and took pride in everything he did, and I wish I had known he was going through hard times. Our prayers are with Amanda, Griffin and Grace.

-Max



Max Minnillo - January 06, 2024 at 07:12 PM

PC

“ A grove of 5 trees representing the memories Sara, Mike, Amanda, Grace and Griffen have of Ben was purchased by your Point Hope Church family.

Point Church - January 04, 2024 at 02:06 PM

MS

“ Megan S. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.

Megan S. - January 04, 2024 at 01:58 PM

JG

“ Jodi Kuraner and Jocelyn Grega purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.



Jodi Kuraner and Jocelyn Grega - January 03, 2024 at 09:28 PM

MJ

“ I had the pleasure of working with Ben in his early days as an LT in the Alabama National Guard. Smart, funny, dedicated, and effective. He was a great officer and will be missed. I still have a pair of boots he gave me when he went back to SC. They are emblazoned with a "Y" in black sharpie on the back. Our prayers to the family. Hope to see you in fiddler's green my friend.

MAJ David C Jones - January 03, 2024 at 11:03 AM

SK

“ Teaching MAJ Benjamin Yenicek at the ADAFCO course was a privilege. His unwavering commitment to learning, professionalism, and good-hearted humor made him stand out as one of the best. Despite his aversion to earning the call sign Herman, he embraced it gracefully, knowing that the more you dislike it, the more your teammates who bestowed it upon you love you. His absence will be deeply felt by Army teammates and family alike. Rest in Peace, Herman.

Spencer Knight - January 02, 2024 at 07:44 PM

DE

“ I like many others got the privilege to work with Ben at First Robotics. He was a amazing Lead Robot Inspector. Not only did he inspire kids but colleagues as well. He had a great sense of humor and always told me he would dress up as DARTH Vader and would get the rest of the robot inspectors to join. He always told get jokes and was a great guy to be around.



Dee - January 02, 2024 at 05:21 PM

JB

“ I had the pleasure of working with Ben in two venues: at Metglas as a fellow engineer, and in FIRST Robotics as a fellow robot inspector, in fact Lead Robot Inspector. In both areas he paid great attention to detail and always tried to be fair and do the right thing. He definitely made his mark and will be sorely missed.

Joe Boggs - January 02, 2024 at 02:03 PM

KR

“ I had the pleasure of being the babysitter for the Yenichek family. SG and G were my all-time favorite kids to hang out with. But the conversations I got to have with Ben and Amanda were always something I looked forward to. My heart is breaking for y'all. The positivity Ben brought to life was contagious. I love you all. Love, Kristie

Kristie - January 02, 2024 at 11:22 AM

CD

“ To the family, I am sorry for your loss, you are in my thoughts and prayers.

I met Ben in the office. From the first day, his positive attitude toward work and life was so uplifting. He never hesitated to jump in and help out, not only to assist others, but to learn, so he could teach others in the future. RIP sir.

Chris Dickens - January 02, 2024 at 06:55 AM

KD

“ I love this family and I'm so very sorry for your loss!

Kathy Davis - December 31, 2023 at 01:12 PM

CV

“ I first met Ben when I was helping with the children's Christmas play in 2022. Grace was a lamb, and I was working on making her costume just right. Ben made at least three attempts at delivering the pieces that needed adjustments to me. Grace made the sweetest little lamb. Griffin and Grace are so fortunate to have Ben as their dad. My heart goes out to Amanda and Griffin and Grace. With heartfelt sympathy, Carlee Vieux

Carlee Vieux - December 31, 2023 at 12:48 PM

BH

“ I had the honor of serving with Maj Yenicek in the SCARNG. He was a consummate professional and a true leader in every sense. He will be greatly missed. His family is in my prayers.

SSG Brian Henson



Brian Henson - December 31, 2023 at 12:26 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.*



December 31, 2023 at 09:38 AM



“ *To Amanda, Griffin and Grace:
I am shocked and saddened to hear about Ben. I loved joking with him and cutting up with him at church. All of you will be in my prayers.
Love,
Robin*

Robin Goff - December 30, 2023 at 11:14 PM



“ *I had the honor to serve with Major Benjamin Yenicek. He was a consummate professional, Leader, and a distinguished Officer in the United States Army. My prayers are with his wife Amanda and their children. May God Bless them. Brooks Yarborough*

Brooks Yarborough - December 30, 2023 at 09:55 PM



“ *Ben brought passion to Scripture when he was our reader. Each time he read, it was as though he knew intimately the God of Love, in whose arms he now rests. Thank you, Ben, for inspiring us!*

He will be remembered for his smile and his

Janet L - December 30, 2023 at 08:50 PM

JL

attention to the details of his children's church activities.

Janet L - December 30, 2023 at 08:51 PM

CS

“ *Ben was an inspiration to the team at the office. His upbeat spirit was contagious and always had a smile. He never knew a stranger and talked with anyone. Ben you will be greatly missed.*

Clint Stone - December 30, 2023 at 07:40 PM

NC

“ *Ben was an inspiration and a true professional. He will sorely be missed. He was always the willing to go the “extra mile” to ensure the mission never failed. Always quick to jump into the unknown and expand his knowledge to benefit the greater team. RIP Sir, your legacy lives on.*

Nick Cornelius - December 30, 2023 at 06:00 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.*



December 30, 2023 at 05:03 PM

BF

“ *Brooks Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Major Benjamin Daniel Yenicek.*

Brooks Family - December 30, 2023 at 05:03 PM

AL

“ Ben was so conscious to make a good impression on the family when he met us for the first time. He learned that I was working on some welding projects at the time, so he brought me some steel. Has anyone gotten steel as a gift before? I did and I thought it was great. When we were together Wednesday for the last time, I was standing back observing our family and was proud of seeing the size as well as three generations walking together on the sidewalk. What a sight! Ben, you are a sizeable chunk that has somehow been removed from our family and will leave a large unwanted void in all of our lives - family, friends, coworkers, Army.

Anthony L. - December 30, 2023 at 04:53 PM