



## Benjamin Thomas Lane

November 27, 1957 - September 4, 2019

Benjamin Thomas Lane was born on November 27, 1957, in Jackson, Mississippi. He passed away on Wednesday, September 4, 2019, in Orlando, Florida.

Raised with a natural musical talent, Ben earned degrees in organ performance and church music from the University of Southern Mississippi and Northwestern University. He later pursued doctoral studies in musicology at the University of Chicago as well as graduate studies at Seabury-Western Theological Seminary.

Ben served at churches in Chicago and Milwaukee, and soon after taught and directed music at Nashotah House Theological Seminary in Delafield, Wisconsin. In 1991, he was called to serve as the musician at the Cathedral Church of St. Luke (Episcopal) in downtown Orlando, later bestowed the honorary title Canon Musician by Bishop John Howe; affectionately known as Canon Choir Master by Cathedral choir members.

Along with Deanna Heidelberg Lane, Ben raised daughter Allison and son Andrew in Central Florida. Ben and Deanna instilled the importance of faith and music in their children who became familiar faces in the Cathedral. Ben reveled in Allie and Andrew's accomplishments as they grew, took pride in the adults they have become, and was thrilled to have spent time with both of

them shortly before his passing.

Throughout his twenty-eight-year tenure at the Cathedral, Ben led the Cathedral Choir, as well as the Orlando Deanery Boychoir and Girls' Choir. He produced gorgeous sound from the choirs and instrumentalists he conducted and was revered for his dedication to quality musicianship. Ben appreciated both music history and education, and shared with his choristers the importance and deeper meaning within the sacred music he led.

Locally, Ben was active in the Central Florida Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, serving as sub-dean and as chaplain. Internationally, Ben shared his talent and creativity in choral direction via numerous performances throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. In summer 2018, Ben led the Cathedral Men's Choir for a week in residence at Canterbury Cathedral, Mother Church of the worldwide Anglican Communion, in Canterbury, England; twice leading worship for the Archbishop.

In 2008, Ben met Tommy Reed, and the two hit it off instantly. They married in 2014 in Honolulu, Hawaii, and resided in downtown Orlando. Both Ben and Tommy loved hosting friends and family in their home, offering fellowship and warm hospitality to their loved ones. Ben's final day was filled with love, spent with Tommy, and their beloved dog, Billy.

Ben is survived by his husband, Tommy Reed, his children Allison Everett and her husband James, his son Andrew Lane, his sister Angela Joransen and her husband James, his brother Kevin Lane and his wife Rosa, nine nieces and nephews, his favorite aunt Mary Lane Burkes Wheatley, and many more beloved family members. He is preceded in death by his parents Dewey Lane and Sarah Lane Rushton.

Benjamin Thomas Lane's legacy lives on through his many compositions,

recordings, faith, and the love he shared with his family and friends.

He will be greatly missed.

# Previous Events

## Requiem Eucharist

SEP **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Cathedral Church of St. Luke  
130 North Magnolia Avenue  
FL 32801

# Tribute Wall

WP

“Ben” (I knew him as “Benny”) were friends 47 years ago. I considered him a good friend but, as sometimes happens, we went our separate ways. For some reason I thought of him over the weekend and googled him, only to learn that he had died, which grieves my heart. TBTG for the life of my friend Ben “Benny” Lane.

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**Walter Palmer** - December 19, 2022 at 04:31 PM

KO

“One of my Grandson’s most inspirational voices. Our family, including Andrew’s family, will be forever grateful for his energetic guidance.

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**Kathy Oberle** - September 20, 2019 at 07:17 PM

BV

“Ben and I were colleagues on the cathedral staff for a number of years. We shared lots of hard work and planning and an equal amount of laughs. I will miss my friend and his incredible talent. My thoughts are with Ben’s family and my prayers for Ben. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

*Canon Bob Vanderau*

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**Bob Vanderau** - September 20, 2019 at 06:04 PM

IL

“ It was my pleasure to have made the acquaintance of Ben almost 20 years ago. My first experiences were hearing his music making and participating in worship he either led or participated in. Soon, we became friends. I always told him I was the president of the "Ben Lane Fan Club. My life was greatly enhanced by knowing Ben, and we had many conversations about musicality and other aspects of life. He was certainly one of the finest friends a person could have, and I'm grateful for the times we had together. RIP, Ben. I'll never forget you.

Irv Lipscomb - September 20, 2019 at 04:59 PM

JW

“ Jane And Dan Weimer lit a candle in memory of Benjamin Thomas Lane



Jane and Dan Weimer - September 20, 2019 at 02:47 PM

LaVon  
LeGrand

“ Words can not express the incredible talent, leadership, and kindness Ben possessed. He went above and beyond as my son Michael's pipe organ instructor. I am thankful that I was able to spend time with him in May up at Notre Dame. We had a wonderful trip and he was full of joy, as always. I am still shocked at his passing. Rest in Peace, Ben. We are blessed to have known you.

LaVon LeGrand - September 19, 2019 at 11:29 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Benjamin Thomas Lane.*



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September 19, 2019 at 05:48 PM