



Hau Bentley

July 28, 1941 - March 4, 2023

Hau H. Bentley (Hoàng Thi Hậu), of Torrington, wife of the late Lt. Colonel Henry D. Bentley, died Saturday, March 4, 2023, surrounded by her family. Born in South Vietnam on July 28, 1941, Hau met Henry during the Vietnam War (her, a hostess in an Officers' Club – him, a retired Air Force Veteran teaching English as a second language). In April 1975, as her homeland crumbled around her during the Fall of Saigon, they married and Henry adopted her six Vietnamese children, Nhung Pesce (partner Sebby), Vuong Nguyen (wife Huong), An Nguyen (wife Loan), Hoa Nguyen, Nychelle Hallock, and Mark Nguyen. Days later, they escaped during a frantic airlift and immigrated safely to the United States, where her seventh child, Raymond (wife Kate) was born.

Hau was no stranger to hard work and she loved nothing more than cooking for others. So, in 1981, she opened the first all-night (and morning) restaurant in Torrington, The Upper Room, where people from all walks of life congregated. Upon retirement, she enjoyed traveling and spending time with family. She volunteered at local churches and cooked countless times for parishioners and priests at The Shrine of Lourdes in Litchfield. Hau could be seen walking nearly every morning in her neighborhood and then riding her motorcycle to do daily errands, including to her favorite grocery store. Her family always looked forward to her meals of phở and chả giò made from scratch that no one could ever replicate.

Hau had a playful and generous spirit. She loved joking, dancing, and karaoke. At any party, you could easily find Hau in a shimmering dress, moving throughout with her family and friends. She lit up the room with her smile and style. Hau was never underdressed for any occasion and her hair and makeup were always meticulously done.

While Hau loved her home in Connecticut, her love of Vietnam was strong and never faded. Every year, for over 30 years, she returned to Vietnam for as long as three months at a time to visit family and friends, donating her time and money. She especially loved to stay in the beach town of Vũng Tàu, where she was a local celebrity.

In addition to her children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, she leaves her partner and loving companion, Brian Pekrul. She also leaves her beloved sister and best friend Rang Hoang (Houston, TX) and two stepsons, Scanes and Mark Bentley (London, England). She is predeceased by her parents and sisters, who we know are now having a large reunion with Hau and Henry at the head of the table. The Vietnamese translation for Queen is hoàng hậu. We will miss you dearly, Hoàng Thi Hậu, forever our Mother and Queen.

Visitation will be held at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave, West Hartford, CT on Sunday, March 12 from 1-3pm. Her funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be private. Directions and online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Calling Hours

MAR **12**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home
906 Farmington Ave
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 232-1322

Tribute Wall



“ *Molloy Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Hau Bentley*



Molloy Funeral Home - March 09, 2023 at 01:42 PM

SC

“ *Dear Ray, Kate, Zeebie, Henry, Walter, and Luna: I want to send my love during this tough time. I am grateful that I was able to know Hau in recent years and spend time with her at get togethers. The story of her life is pretty amazing!*
best, Sam

Samuel L Clark - March 12, 2023 at 01:18 PM

PA

“ *To Bentley Family, what a beautiful video, I am supposed to be working, but I love entire video, I had tear in my eye. I love the motorcycle with her hat, just classic! I love the girl in background in the kitchen, with joy with love. I love with baby black and white outfit that match her shirt and looking at her, just classic, I love how toward end picture of all six when they young just classic. I love the saying toward end, she was just a beautiful Quennie, I don't know her or her family, I love whoever wrote the obituary, well done. My prayer to entire family at this difficulty time.*

Patricia Adams - March 10, 2023 at 12:27 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 09, 2023 at 01:09 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 09, 2023 at 12:28 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 08, 2023 at 11:47 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 08, 2023 at 04:37 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 08, 2023 at 11:51 AM



“ *Bao, Anne, Ryan & Kelsey purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Hau Bentley.*



Bao, Anne, Ryan & Kelsey - March 07, 2023 at 03:01 PM



“ *Her son An is my best friend. I've known An since middle school, and now for over 40 years. Frequently, I would come to bac Hau's house to hangout with An, or to pick him up to go out. She would always offer food, feed me to make sure I left on a full stomach. I will never forget her generosity, kindness, and she always welcomed me in her home. She will be missed. Bao*

Bao Truong - March 07, 2023 at 02:51 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 07, 2023 at 10:41 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 07, 2023 at 10:28 AM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 07, 2023 at 09:23 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Hau Bentley.*



March 07, 2023 at 09:07 AM