



## Dr. Louis W. Bender

February 8, 1927 - July 7, 2018

The graveside service for Dr. Louis Bender is 1:00 PM, Friday, November 2, 2018, at Tallahassee National Cemetery. Friends are asked to gather with the family at 12:30 PM at Tallahassee National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Tallahassee National Cemetery.

Dr. Louis W. Bender, Loving Father, Grandfather, Friend and FSU Professor Emeritus, ended his earthly journey and began his spiritual journey on July 7, 2018, with family by his side. Son of the Rev. Elmer D. Bender and Mildred Walter Bender, Lou was born Feb. 8, 1927, in the Graceham, MD. Moravian Church parsonage.

A WW II veteran, he served in the US Army in Italy 1945-46. Upon his return, Lou was admitted to Moravian College, completing his BS in three years. He received his masters and doctorate at Lehigh University. Lou was a teacher, guidance director, principal, state director of community colleges and deputy commissioner of higher education prior to joining the higher education faculty at FSU.

Lou was an active volunteer serving on the Big Bend Hospice Valor teams, the Tallahassee National Cemetery Support Committee as well as FSU retired faculty association.

Lou's soul mate, Betty Plescia Bender, passed July 11, 2010. He leaves behind two sons, The Rev James P. Bender of San Jose, CA and P. Douglas Bender of Tallahassee, FL, and four Grandchildren, Abby Bender Kirkland, Matthew Bender, Josh Bender and Tessa Bender Faul and three Great Grandchildren.

Lou's interment will be at the Tallahassee National Cemetery at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Big Bend Hospice of Tallahassee. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.abbeyfh.com](http://www.abbeyfh.com).

# Cemetery Details

## **Tallahassee National Cemetery**

5015 Apalachee Parkway  
Tallahassee, FL 32311  
(850) 402-8941

# Tribute Wall

GB

“ *Genevieve B. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Dr. Louis W. Bender.*



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**Genevieve B.** - November 01, 2018 at 09:16 PM

GB

“ *We have known Lou and Betty since the 70's when we arrived from Chicago. Lou was a professor at FSU as was Ron, my husband, serving on committees together. Lou was well respected, a mentor, and advisor to many students.*

*I first met Betty through the University Women's Club, known at the time, and co-chaired the decorating committee with her for the fashion show. Lou, the energetic person that he was, helped with the decorations too, always ready to give a hand.*

*Lou said he was blessed to have a full life. We were blessed to have him in our lives. We will miss him dearly. May God bless him and hold him close.*

*Ron and Genny Blazek*

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**Genevieve Blazek** - November 01, 2018 at 08:23 PM

SB

“ *Dr. Bender was my mentor and my friend. His guidance and support was some of the most important of my life. He will be greatly missed. My deepest sympathy to his family and friends. Susanne Behrens*

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**Susanne Behrens** - September 10, 2018 at 12:05 PM

MO

“ *Lou was such a wonderful person, and he adored Betty as his wife. I have known them both for 30 years. I have been a friend, dog sitter and helper in any way that I could. I will certainly miss the e-mails that he would send me everyday to brighten my life. He will be sadly missed by many.*

*Mary Jo Ott*

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**Mary Jo Ott** - July 16, 2018 at 08:35 AM

JP

“ *Lou was one of the founders of the Big Bend Hospice Valor Team. I joined the team about four years ago. As a WW II veteran, he was well-respected by the entire team. But he also quickly became a mentor and a friend. My wife, Jackie, joined the team about three years ago. She found the same qualities in Lou as a patient and giving friend as I did.*

*Thank you Lou for your caring heart. We will miss you forever,*

*Jack and Jackie*

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**Jack Pittman** - July 15, 2018 at 11:58 AM

PP

“ First time I met Lou he introduced me to Wakulla Spring State Park. It was a truly memorable afternoon. Less than 2 months ago I returned and visited Lou. We had planned to meet for dinner, but he cancelled because he was recuperating from a fall. So I took Moravian's President and another Moravian Alum who retired from FSU to meet Lou at the house. That, too, was a wonderful visit and we left happy to have spent time with him. He was proud of his multi generational Moravian connections and his loving family. May your multitude of happy memories bring comfort.

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**Patti Price** - July 15, 2018 at 08:51 AM

RW

“ Lou was such a wonderful man, kind, considerate and always ready to be of assistance. He was always ready to help, and so very interesting and modest of his lifetime achievements, he will be missed

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**Rosemary Weber** - July 10, 2018 at 08:47 AM