



## Christopher Barry Thornton

December 16, 2020

Christopher Barry Thornton, 51 of Troy, MI. He was a loving husband to Shelly Thornton(Rossi). Loving father to Jacob 17, Brock 15 and Ashley 11. Brother to Denis & Andrew, brother in law to Stefanie Thornton, Brian, and Lindsey and Christina Rossi.

Parents are Barry & Claire Thornton of Auburn Hills, Rocco & Geraldine Rossi of Clinton Township MI.

Chris was a graduate of Bishop Foley High School and Oakland University and found a passion for helping others as sales recruiter for a top technology company, ZScaler Inc. His heart consisted of compassion, thoughtfulness, competitiveness and coaching. He showed fierce loyalty and love for his wife Shelly, family and friends. Chris was a competitive soccer player with the following teams, MI Metros, Bishop Foley HS, Adrian College, Croatia in the Michigan Ontario Soccer League, and the Troy A League. He earned All-State honors wearing the #8 jersey for every team he played for with pride. He especially enjoyed watching and coaching his three children in their athletic activities, education and life learning lessons. Golf replaced soccer as he matured, playing the game with the same enthusiasm with family and friends. We knew him as "The Ocho", or "Thursday Guy", and he was never one to shy away from a friendly wager, some would argue legendary in some circles. His personal time and vacations with his wife Shelly, and then his family and

friends were precious. He will be watching over us as our angel and never be forgotten, as he left a strong legacy that we will continue to enjoy and do our best to follow.

A Memorial Celebration will be planned as soon as we are allowed to hold larger gatherings.

# Previous Events

## Private Family Viewing Only

DEC **21**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St Owen Catholic Church  
6869 Franklin Rd  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48301-2930  
(248) 626-0840

# Tribute Wall



“ *Christopher Barry Thornton*

October 23, 2023 at 04:00 AM



“ *Christopher Barry Thornton*

January 06, 2023 at 05:24 AM



“ *I was Chris's teammate and classmate at Bishop Foley. He was a tough, gritty and fierce player. We teased each other a lot about each other soccer skills. I think he got me by a little bit. Lol. I was crushed when I heard this news. I will pray for Shelly, the kids, Denny, Andy and Mr and Mrs Thorton. I hope one day we will meet again on a perfect field. I promise to score the header next time for you my good friend. God bless you*

**Bob Stowe** - December 26, 2020 at 09:25 PM



“ *We mourn the loss of our neighbors' son and send wishes of hope and comfort to the entire family..... Don and Jody Faron*

**Don and Jody Faron-neighbors.** - December 23, 2020 at 10:28 AM

GT

“ *Very moving tribute to Chris. We have fond and loving memories of Chris through the years including his family's summer visit to his Grandparent's cottage in NH. We are still amazed that Chris, his brothers and cousins while cart racing down a steep hill, without brakes, all survived without injury.*  
*Our love continues to go out to Shelly and all the family.*

*Glenn & Stephanie*

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**Glenn R Thornton** - December 23, 2020 at 08:20 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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December 21, 2020 at 09:36 AM

TS

“ I was Chris' teammate with the MI Metros and Bishop Foley High School. He was a fierce competitor, talented soccer player, and great friend. We shared a lot of highs and lows during that time but we always smiled and looked forward to the next game or get together. Life sent us in different directions as we grew older and I lost touch with Chris. I regret that deeply. I have not played, coached, or watched a soccer game since high school without looking at the player wearing #8 and thinking "you better play good if you are wearing Thornton's number.”

*Shelly and the kids, Denis, Andrew, Mr and Mrs. T: I am praying for you all. He will never be forgotten.*

*Thanks for everything #8. Hopefully we'll get a chance to play together again on a field better than we ever set foot on in this life.*

*Tim Smith #18*

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**Tim Smith** - December 21, 2020 at 06:56 AM

DT

*Tim. I was looking for you for a while and could not seem to find you. So glad to read this post.*

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**Denis Thornton** - December 22, 2020 at 10:34 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.



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December 20, 2020 at 10:40 PM

LF

“ *Lots of love, Uncle Bernard, Tante Tina, & Family. purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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**Lots of love, Uncle Bernard, Tante Tina, & Family. -**  
December 20, 2020 at 11:55 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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December 20, 2020 at 09:05 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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December 20, 2020 at 08:18 AM



“ *Stately Lilies was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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December 19, 2020 at 07:47 PM



“ *Bountiful Memories Casket Spray was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



December 19, 2020 at 07:09 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



December 19, 2020 at 06:03 PM



“ *Kim, Ana, Toya, Julie, Sonya, & Tracy and families purchased the Full Heart for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



**Kim, Ana, Toya, Julie, Sonya, & Tracy and families -**  
December 19, 2020 at 04:55 PM



“ *I met Chris when he started at Ameritech, he was so nice and kind. Prayers for Shelly and the family, his memory will always stay in your hearts. ❤️*



**Cecilia Gallagher -** December 19, 2020 at 04:20 PM

AG

“ This photo just popped up as a memory this week. How fitting, there is Chris, chaperoning a field trip smiling and watching the kids. He will be missed. Rest easy.



AnaMaria Gould - December 19, 2020 at 04:14 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.



December 19, 2020 at 03:07 PM



“ Guiding Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.



December 19, 2020 at 03:00 PM

AC

“ I am so very sad to learn of Chris' passing. I send prayers of peace and comfort to you Shelly, and all of your Family. With love and Sympathy Andrea Corbin 🙏🙏🙏❤️

Andrea Corbin - December 19, 2020 at 12:15 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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December 19, 2020 at 11:25 AM



“ *Sacred Duty Spray was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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December 19, 2020 at 11:20 AM



“ *I still remember our 2 on 2 basketball games! My son Jamie and Chris against Barry and myself. In the beginning, Chris and Jamie took their losses hard against 2 old men. But eventually the tide turned and the boys enjoyed their bragging rights. Boy did they ever!!*

*Uncle Alan*

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**Alan Thornton** - December 19, 2020 at 11:11 AM



“ *Alan and Jean purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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**Alan and Jean** - December 19, 2020 at 11:06 AM

MM

“OMG, for this beautiful man, too many to write down... I can't say I just had fun with Chris, every time we had a chance to hang out was tremendous fun!!! For Chris, Deny and I it started with playing golf at Gowanie. From, the bathroom fight, slapping me to see who could leave the biggest welt on my back to the water hose payback. To, Euchre in the locker room where my brother Dennis and I took a rare, serious financial beating (they let us off the hook for some of it) we still think that Chris & Deny were signaling each other. We were once having a nice dinner in the Clubhouse Bar and it turned into a pants wetting episode where we laughed one of the hardest times in our lives as they imagined me, "Disco Dan" (Baby Huey in a leisure suit from the 70's) tearing up the Disco floor. It was a hysterical scene where we were having a difficult time breathing and of course you couldn't see because we were crying...

The last one I'll share is when Chris kept harassing me into coming up to Courtland Racquetball to play their new found game. I kept blowing off Chris and Deny cause I wasn't quite the athlete (in their mind) they thought they were, I was too fat to play, hence the "Baby Blimp" (and I'm not even near the size of Barlow (sorry brother)) name Chris kept calling me (thank God there was no bullying in our day). This game was had between the Christmas and New Years break. Anyway, I show up late and their on a court so I tap on the window and Chris opens the door and starts laughing hysterically cause I'm in gray sweatpants and a gray Gowanie sweatshirt and damn if I didn't look like the "Goodyear Blimp". So, Chris tells me maybe I should start with Cy and Rocco that I might be more their speed...

Chris has me play Deny first who I ran around the court a little bit (sorry Deny), while Chris kept popping the door open and yelling at me about my ability to play the game and I beat him up 15 - 3. So then Superstud gets on the court and proceeds to lose 15 - 5 all while jaw jacking me about lying to him... what an ass beating from an old fat guy!!!

They loved it and so did I.

*Shelly, so happy I got to spend a few hours with Chris and your gang a couple weeks ago.*

*All our best to you're beautiful family,*

*Love you,*

*Mike McCarthy*

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**Mike McCarthy** - December 19, 2020 at 10:25 AM

DT

*Remember it like it was yesterday. You forgot to mention the intentional 150mph racket ball he hit you with 🤦🏻🤦🏻*

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**Denis Thornton** - December 19, 2020 at 11:39 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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December 19, 2020 at 10:17 AM

NF

“ *Nichol & Curtis Childs & Family purchased the Small Garden Dish for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.*



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**Nichol & Curtis Childs & Family** - December 19, 2020 at 10:16 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Christopher Barry Thornton.



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December 19, 2020 at 09:49 AM