



David Ray Barnett

December 15, 1942 - April 12, 2020

David Ray Barnett, 77, died at home in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, on April 12, 2020. The eldest of seven children, he was passionately loved by his family and friends.

David was preceded in death by his father, Ray Barnett, and brother, Robert Barnett. He is survived by his mother, Laurine Barnett, of the home; sister Jane Johnson (husband, Jerry) of Waco, Texas; sister-in-law, Margaret Barnett, of New Jersey; sister Mary Boxx (husband, Randy), brothers Jonathan Barnett (wife, Christy) and James Barnett (wife, Marilyn), all of Siloam Springs; and brother Mark Barnett (wife, Sandra) of Lawrence, Kansas. He is also survived by many aunts, nephews, nieces, cousins, and a god-grandson, David (Little Dave) Nicholas.

He was born on December 15, 1942, at the old hospital in downtown Siloam Springs, to Ray and Laurine Barnett. When David was a freshman in high school his family moved to Gentry where he graduated in 1960. His classmates elected him their senior class president.

By age 14, David was working for his uncle, Ervie Barnett, at Barnett's Dairyette in Siloam Springs, and bought his first motorcycle (a rare commodity back then) to get back and forth to work. A year later he purchased his first car, being one of only two high school students to own an automobile.

After attending the University of Arkansas for one semester, he joined the Air Force, serving in San Antonio, Amarillo, Del Rio (Texas), Turkey, and Taiwan. His job was base finance and inventory management specialist - ordering,

supplying and keeping records of parts for various planes flying into his base. After the Air Force, he worked several years as a clerk for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad in Toledo, Ohio. Later on he trained motel managers all over the country before securing a job as a technician servicing oil rigs in Texas and Oklahoma.

In 1996 he opened up Dave's Appliance in downtown Siloam Springs and sold used appliances and furniture out of the old Feemster's Chevrolet building. He later purchased the Smith Furniture building across the street and started selling new furniture there under the name of Downtown Discount Furniture. After his health started to decline a few years ago, he sold both businesses and buildings but continued to work as an appliance repairman - the job he loved most.

David will be remembered as being very thoughtful, generous, friendly, good-natured, and full of humor. He thoroughly enjoyed brightening everyone's day by telling jokes and making them smile. David also had a soft heart and intensely cared for all of his family, especially his parents.

He is the second of seven siblings to pass away within the past 10 months. Our family has lost another ray of sunshine, but he will continue to be in our thoughts every time we hear a joke or something that makes us laugh.

A memorial service will be scheduled at some time in the future.

Tribute Wall

HL

“ I’m sorry to hear of Dave’s passing. He came to walk through Dave’s Appliances a few months back & got to see it all renovated. He always made me laugh & the stories he told I’ll never forget. I even recorded one as he told me again how he hit a guy with a croquet mallet bc he broke in the bldg. He will be missed!

Heather Lanker - April 20, 2020 at 11:26 PM



“ I cannot express how much my wife and I loved Dave, the jokes , his view on life . Just stopping by to see him. He saved my butt many times, fixing appliances or selling parts. I have a treasured possession, a stain glass done by Dave . We were so lucky to have known him.

Chris Willis - April 17, 2020 at 06:23 PM



“ I cannot express how much My wife and I loved Dave! What a character, the jokes , the view on life..he saved my butt many times, fixing my appliances, parts . Just stopping in to see him was always a pleasure. I have a treasured possession . A stain glass that Dave did...we are fortunate to have known him.

Chris Willis - April 17, 2020 at 06:20 PM

MT

“ Mary(Morris) Turley lit a candle in memory of David Ray Barnett



Mary(Morris) Turley - April 17, 2020 at 09:18 AM

NM

“ We wish God’s abundant mercy and peace on the entire Barnett family in this time of loss.

David’s loss is magnified, coming so soon after losing Robert. Our prayers are with you. May you seek and find His comfort.

Nathan and Susie McKinney

Nathan & Susie McKinney - April 17, 2020 at 08:22 AM

RN

“ Randy Newton lit a candle in memory of David Ray Barnett



Randy Newton - April 16, 2020 at 10:15 PM

LM

“ Loyce A Meeker lit a candle in memory of David Ray Barnett



loyce a meeker - April 16, 2020 at 05:00 PM

SL

“ Sending my condolences to Johnathan and all of the Barnette family.

Sherry lowery - April 16, 2020 at 01:02 AM

DN

“ Our condolences to Laurine, Johnathan and the Barnett Family. It is unfortunate that we cannot meet as family and friends to remember David.

Duane/Mary Neal - April 14, 2020 at 09:30 PM

DN

“ Our condolences to Laurine, Johnathan and the Barnett Family. It is unfortunate that we can't meet as a group/family to remember David.

Duane & Mary Neal - April 14, 2020 at 09:26 PM

BW

“ David had a wonderful giving heart and even though he was taken advantage of at times, that did not deter him from helping people! I had the pleasure of working with him after he opened up his business downtown and we kindled a lasting friendship I will take with me forever! He always had something funny to say and working with him was very enjoyable! He had a way of making you feel like you were a part of his family! He was one of my best friends and a most unforgettable character! I will miss you my friend!



Butch Wilkerson - April 14, 2020 at 05:07 PM

DM

Mrs. Barnett, Genevieve and I are so sorry to read of David's passing. He was a great friend. David and I would loose touch then run into each other, visit and catch up on everything. We always enjoyed our visits with David. You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.
Dennis Malone

Dennis Malone - April 14, 2020 at 10:18 PM

LH

“ *Lois Jean Hickman lit a candle in memory of David Ray Barnett*



Lois Jean Hickman - April 14, 2020 at 03:43 PM

RH

“ *Renea Hill-Ellis lit a candle in memory of David Ray Barnett*



Renea Hill-Ellis - April 14, 2020 at 01:00 PM

BM

“ *Our prayers of peace and comfort to the family during this time.*

Bob & Lana McCaslin

Bob McCaslin - April 14, 2020 at 09:33 AM

VW

“ *I always remember David from when we were young-teasing me at the Barnett house, complaining if he had to take us places before we could drive-ferrying us back and forth to Ouachita freshman year. Always teasing us to death but always kind. There is celebration going on in heaven.*

Vi Winters - April 13, 2020 at 06:02 PM

LG

“ *Lynne Glass lit a candle in memory of David Ray Barnett*



Lynne Glass - April 13, 2020 at 04:53 PM

DY

“ *We always liked David. He worked for state line supply for years for us. We could trust David and depend on him. He was funny! He had a great attitude. I'm sorry for the family he leaves behind. Steve and Dona Young*

dona young - April 13, 2020 at 03:29 PM

KC

I grew up on a farm adjacent to David's grandparents, have known him as long as I can remember. He was a very good guy, and will be missed.
Ken coones

Ken coones - April 13, 2020 at 09:03 PM

GG

I always considered Dave a good friend and customer. He always told us some pretty good jokes too. He will be missed.

Glenita Guthrie - April 14, 2020 at 11:25 AM