



William Earl Barnes

July 9, 1938 - January 6, 2023

W. Earl Barnes, 84, of Hornbrook California passed away peacefully in his home on January 6th. He suffered a heart attack earlier in the week but returned home to be with family.

Earl was born in North Platte, Nebraska to Ellis W. and Alice E. Barnes, where he grew up with sister Mary Jane Barnes. Earl graduated from Sidney High School in 1957 and joined the US Navy the following year where he served until 1961. During this time, he married the love of his life Dona LaNell Perryman on January 17, 1959. After serving our country, he and Dona or "Nell" as she was known by many, settled down in Contra Costa County where they raised 3 children. Earl went to work for AT&T in the telecommunications field where he remained for 29 years. Upon retiring, he and Nell traveled across the country seeing and visiting family and friends moving to Siskiyou County.

Earl enjoyed spending time outdoors at his home near Iron Gate Lake as well as fishing on the lake or the Klamath River by his home. He would take many friends and family out fishing with him and was a great teacher of the sport. He was loved by so many and very respected for the wisdom he passed on to others along the way.

He was a loving husband to his wife LaNell and a great father to his 3 children Mike, Scott and Tammy. He is preceded in death by his parents, Ellis W. Barnes, Alice E. Barnes and sister MaryJane Lacy. He is survived by wife Dona LaNell Barnes; 3 children: Mike Barnes, Scott (Carrie) Barnes and

Tammy (Steve) Pastorino; 7 grandchildren: James Barnes, Nicole Barnes-Hodges, Kaitlyn Runck, Jessica McElroy, Collin Barnes, Cody Barnes and Haleigh Briggs; 8 great grandchildren: Joshua Briggs, Juliana Briggs, Harley Barnes-Hodges, Nicolas Barnes-Hodges, Emily Feeney, Mason Runck, Kassandra McElroy and Corrin McElroy.

Earl will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him. The family held a private service on January 14th and will hold another Memorial service with Military Honors later in the spring. The family asks that any donations be made in Earl's honor to the Wounded Warrior Foundation or Madrone Hospice 255 Collier Circle Yreka, CA 96097.

Tribute Wall



“ 25 files added to the album Obituary Wall



Girdner Funeral Chapel - April 27 at 03:52 PM

TP

“ William Earl Barnes

Tammy Pastorino - February 20 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ We will remember him always. Frank loved going fishing with him.
Blessings Frank & Louise

Louise Delia - December 16, 2023 at 12:00 AM

EG

“ Met them in VW. We made a RV trip with them to Alaska. Our
Prayers for Nell and their family.

Ernie & Cheri Gore - December 16, 2023 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ Loved your Dad and mother. So sorry.

Earla Mae Dunning - December 16, 2023 at 12:00 AM

FD

“ Lousie and I met Earl & Nell on a trip to Alaska some twenty years ago, I was fortunate enough to have him as my friend, stayed there in our motor home loved fishing with him many times, I miss my good friend. I have wonderful memories. Friends Frank & Louise

Frank Delia - December 16, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ William Earl Barnes

Tammy Pastorino - August 11, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ William Earl Barnes

Tammy Leigh Pastorino - August 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ William Earl Barnes

Tammy Leigh Pastorino - August 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ William Earl Barnes

Tammy Leigh Pastorino - August 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

PS

“ NOTES ON EARL BARNES EULOGY 4/29/23

In Preparing for Earl's service, it has been an honor and a challenge.

I want to get it right!

You know 80 plus years-84 years.

How can you sum up somebody's life in a eulogy?

I came to the conclusion; it can't be done!

But what can be done is to capture a glimpse of the spirit of that life.

You know, the beat, the measure of the time of that life.

You know people say at funerals that pastors exaggerate.

That everyday mundane events become exceptional and exceptional events because astronomical-awesome.

That is because that is how we want or need to remember that person.

We do it for us, so we will be comfortable with the pain, the grief, that vacuum left in our lives.

And I am not going to break that rule today, honestly.

Everything I say here is from mt head and heart and from those who shared their memories of Earl with me!

So, I dug deep, Nell, to get some dirt on Earl, I really did! I left no rock un-turned and interviewed all those who wished to contribute to Earl's memory.

Well, All I can say is Earl came out smelling like roses!

Now I'm not saying Earl was perfect, I mean goodness's sake we all have an ornery side, a side we don't often show the public! But that was hard to detect in Earl.

I'm sure Michael and Scott could share an episode or two as I could with my own dad growing up, but if we're looking at percentages it wasn't putting on the chart.

When Earl looked in the mirror, he saw Nell and when Nell looks in the mirror she sees Earl, I immediately liked them.

I told my wife these folks are my kind of people- and although I didn't know them, know them, I felt like I always had known them-

*and I don't think I am the only one who felt this way.
Earl had a warm comforting spirit, nature about him-
He was likeable because he liked other people.
The Bible says you reap what you sow and Earl had sown a
boatload of friends.
He didn't put on airs; he was just Earl.
I mean good gracious; his old neighbor and friend Geno drove all
the way off the peninsula near Seattle to visit when he heard he was
ill. That speaks of loyalty- an attribute that his friends & family felt
about him.
He was the husband, dad and breadwinner in his family, and
everyone knew it!
I'm sure Earl said the buck stops here often in his life.
His family was so important to him.
His boys Michael and Scott he spoke proudly about and of course
wonderful Tammy the best of both parents who doted on her dad.
He ruled his family fairly and gently when they agreed with him and
the same when they didn't.
I've never seen a man compliment his wife as much as Earl.
Husbands could take lessons from that. I did!
After being married almost 64 years, Earl still spoke to Nell like he
was getting ready to invite her to the prom.
He would often state, without Nell I wouldn't have been a success in
this or that..
Earl had a self-deprecating sense of humor, often describing
himself as a chubby bald-headed man or worse-which made you
love him all the more!
Earl is a hard act to follow.
Of course, the stories flowed out of this man! Phew!
Michael clued me in on some of them!
Earl had a passion, no a calling to fish.
The other character trait that stood out was Earl's memory-House
addresses, phone numbers, names, dates, births, friends, etc.
Unbelievable and Nell also!
I can't remember where I put my cars keys and he's talking with Nell
about what they ordered for dinner on their first date.
Earl also had a great mind for numbers, math and what not. We*

*learned that in our fellowship hall meeting after church.
Now let's talk about what is really important- Earl's faith.
Earl is a loyal person as is Nell, and that loyalty was no less evident
than in our Lord.*

*He admitted to me that he did not know a lot about the bible, that's
okay because he confessed his belief in Christ.*

You see it's not what you know, but who you know!

He lived his life with Christ in mind.

He was Charitable when charity was required.

*He often looked away when he was taken advantage of and was
kind when kindness was required.*

*I'm not saying he was a push over, but he saw the struggle in
people probably better than they did.*

*Earl was a standup guy and knew when to diffuse a problem
whether relationally or financially.*

Wisdom comes with age, and I think Earl had a lot of wisdom.

*One day lying on his bed in the hospital he asked me if he was
going to Haven. (I think Audra, Tammy and Nell was there)*

I asked him 3 questions-point blank-

- 1. Do you believe Jesus died for your sins?*
- 2. spend eternity with him?*
- 3. Is Jesus your lord?*

I believe Earl is with the Lord and that we will see him again.

*If I didn't believe that then there is no integrity in anything I have
said today-but there is-*

Listen our lives are not scripted, nor is our salvation..

*We all have to figure it out and eventually we learn if were listening
to surrender our lives to Him!*

Death is real and causes wounds and those wounds need to heal.

There is no getting around that!

Grief and mourning are part of that process.

They are often as real as death itself.

*That grief needs to be walked our, worked, out and then shared all
in God's time. Outwardly we sympathize with family and friends.*

*Inwardly we pause to consider our own humble mortality and place
in God's plans.*

Listen, Jesus himself wept when he heard of Lazarus' death.

*Death is real but so is life-eternal life.
I'm not going to stand here and tell you different.
But, God's love is greater than death.
I want Nell and hi family to know that death steals but God adds.
Hosea 13:14 I will ransom them from the grave. I will redeem them
from death. This means He paid our ransom.
Isaiah 26:19 Your dead "believers" will live; your bodies will rise-
awake and sing who dwell in the dust. Rejoice for heaven sake!
Resurrection is for whom? All those that believe on the name of
Jesus. It doesn't matter how you live life it at the end of it you can
say-I trust you Lord for my salvation!
Death will not have the last word-life will.
Jesus is the deliverer of that.
Scripture says all that the father gives to me will come to me and
the one who comes to me I will in no way cast out.
That what scriptures call election!
So Earl, husband, dad, business owner, faith partner, fisherman and
friend we're going to miss you for awhile but just for awhile.
We will catch up sooner than we probably think, and then the
celebration will being and continue without end.
Scripture says, the mind cannot conceive, nor imagine what the
Lord has waiting for us!
We can't wait, but Earl, you already know what's in store for us!
You can probably see us but we can't see you, but we're going to fix
that soon.
Thanks for loving the Lord, your family and friends like you did.
We can't wait to hear your new stories, but we know we'll all be
together again when that season comes around.*

We Love you Earl-until next time-Amen.

Pastor Guy Scott - August 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ Sending our love and condolences. Earl will be missed.

Gary & Barb - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BB

“ *Fish-firewood-financial*

That and other things are rich memories. You have beautiful family and plenty soon enough you'll be together again.

Bob & Hazel Buckner - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ *We Met Earl & Nell, a year ago. They came by to see us and who brought his friends house. It was a day to mee them. Earl told about the area, the Eagles and the river that has good fishing.*

Rick & Monica Mello (Gino's old place) - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ #1. When Earl & Nell Visited Alaska Earl photographed every eagle and moose he saw. He had lots of video of moose rear ends disappearing into the bushes.

#2. I visited grandma Barnes in Modesto when i was in my 20's, Earl & his family drove in from Concord. When I asked grandma why they were coming a long drive for a day trip- she said "to see you" I hadn't seen them in years was surprised my visit was that important. Everyone hugged me warmly when they arrived. I was surprised and even awkward about the such affection. When I told Earl years later about my surprised and how unusual that was for me, he said at some point he realized how important it was to show love and began hugging his kids. He carried that love and demonstration it through his life.

#3. When I was a toddler, Mom (Earl's Sister Jane) & i lived with grandma & grandpa Barnes. I looked forward to the time Earl came home on leave from the Navy and wanted to spend every moment with him. We have a photo of me peering under the bathroom door when Earl was doing his business.

Morgan Grey - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ *William Earl Barnes*

Tammy Pastorino - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *I'm glad I got to know Earl.*

James Schock - July 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ I Love you. You were my mentor and you helped me. You are the man I inspire to be. I miss you.

Sam Neasbett - July 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ I have so much fun on the little Honda motorcycle. Thank you for always welcoming me with open arms. I can't wait to see you again with my lord.

Laura Neasbett - July 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ He was an awesome guy. I always had fun around him. He will be missed. (earl's great niece)

Jessica Probasco - July 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ William Earl Barnes

Tamm Pastorino - July 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ Arriving at the old house on the RIVER BEFORE DAWN- to get ready to fish. XO

Myna & Dave - July 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ Every Saturday morning I hear the tractor running and I would think.... I better get my ass out of bed. Because if a 70 year old is up and moving about, I sure as heck get my 30 year old butt up.

Auda Mylan - July 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RK

“ You could tell Earl loved people. He just had a way about him that made you want to know him better and be his friend; he was easy to like. At first I was a little overwhelmed that his wife, daughter, and dog all came to his first PT appointment, but everyone was so kind that after a few visits I felt like part of the family. I quickly learned what a great sense of humor Earl, Nell and Tammy all have and from there we developed our own inside jokes. "Butt walking" was a favorite, and never failed to have us all laughing in seconds. And Earl didn't just laugh a little, he laughed with his whole body.

You never had to guess what Earl was thinking because he would tell you from the heart, whether it was his frustrations, his accomplishments, or the most recent adventure he had on his tractor. He was one of the most kindhearted and genuine people I have met. I didn't have the privilege of knowing him for very long, but he was a bright spark on earth that now lights up Heaven.

Robin Kacos - April 25, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ *William Earl Barnes*

Richard Stump - February 16, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ Earl was truly an exceptional pearl of great value that will truly be missed by family and friends and friends that are family! He was more than a mentor and friend, even a father for guidance at times. He and Nell embraced me as family along with Mike, Scott, and Tammy and I grew with them all.

Earl was responsible for teaching me how to ski, both snow and water!!! A great fisherman that had me out in freezing weather on the river catching salmon at oh dark thirty in the morning! But caught them we did, it was the biggest fish I've ever caught 😎. He was also responsible for pushing me to try and move up in management at AT&T and it was successful also.

That was Earl, always looking to help and improve or to teach and guide, family or friend, he was always there for you. A great heart and spirit within him that will be greatly missed. Much love and condolences to the family, Earl is in a better place, a place we all want to be as well. God's blessings upon you all in Jesus name!

Benjamin Ratliffe - February 12, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ *William Earl Barnes*

Barbara Lacy - January 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ *William Earl Barnes*

Gary Lacy - January 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TP

“ *I love you and miss you dad!!!*



Tammy Pastorino - January 26, 2023 at 12:00 AM

EJ

“ *So SORRY GOD BLESS*

Elieene Jones - January 24, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AE

“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Girdner Funeral Chapel*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Earl - January 24, 2023 at 12:00 AM