



Larry Malone (Butch) Barber

March 17, 1951 - July 14, 2023

On July 14, 2023, Larry M. Barber, known as “Butch” to friends, went home to be with his Eternal Father. He passed peacefully at home with his beloved dog at his feet. He was 72 years old.

The son of Harold and Hazel Barber, he was a seventh generation Floridian and descendant of the infamous Mose Barber. Born in West Palm Beach and raised in Ft. Pierce, he graduated from Dan McCarty High School in 1969. In 1971 he married his high school sweetheart, with whom he celebrated 52 years of marriage this past March.

He attended Florida State University and during his 42-year career worked for Sears Roebuck, the U.S. Air Force, Sonitrol of Tallahassee, co-owner/operator of Charles Chips/CC Snacks of Tallahassee, Prudential Insurance Company, Florida Department of Financial Services, Mike Vasilinda Productions, Inc., and retired from FSU Printing and Mailing Services in 2013.

He was a devout Christian and 50-year Golden member of First Baptist Church where he served on the television ministry team. He also volunteered with FSU Film School productions and graduation programs for several years.

He is preceded in death by his parents and sister, Patty Brogato. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen Shortt Barber; two daughters, Jacki Barber and Jennifer Barber Jones; son in-law Daniel Jones; granddaughters, Morganna Barber and Tessa Jones; brothers in-law Jim Brogato, Dennis Shortt, Charles Shortt; nine nieces and nephews as well as many people for whom he served as a father figure and friend.

A visitation will be held at 10:00 AM followed by a Celebration of Life service at 11:00 AM on Saturday, July 22, 2023, at First Baptist Church of Tallahassee (corner of College and Duval), A guest book may be signed at the church. In lieu of flowers the family has suggested donations in his name to the International Fellowship of Christians and Jews at <https://help.ifcj.org>

Dayne Parker of Bevis Funeral Home (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com) is assisting the family with their arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 22. 10:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Tallahassee
108 West College Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Celebration of Life

JUL 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

First Baptist Church of Tallahassee
108 West College Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Tribute Wall

JA

“ My most cherished memories of my Dad are those in which he instilled our shared odd sense of humor and pondering outlook on life.

From an early introduction to Pink Floyd's "Careful with that Axe, Eugene", to attempting to explain to my friends exactly why "it's always hotter in the country than it is in the summer," Dad was always looking at things from a slightly different angle.

I recall one day he had a large mirror on the floor, (I guess he had been cleaning it though I never really knew why it was there), and he beckoned me over to sit next to him and look down into the mirror at our ceiling. We sat there for 15 minutes just imagining what it would be like to live upside down. Even at my young age, I knew this was more than a simple thought experiment. As he explained, this was a lesson in how a change of perspective can change everything.

It was important to Dad that we never stop dreaming, and wondering. I was pretty young when he first asked me, "How do you know what you're experiencing now isn't all just a dream, and when you dream, you are really awake?" I recall that one throwing me for quite some time.

Of all of his lessons, the one that left the most lasting impression was when I was about eight or so and I was upset about something, I don't recall what. He had me put my hand on the solid wood door and asked if I knew what it was made of. He went on to explain the concept of atoms, but this was not a science lesson - it was an example of how a seemingly impenetrable barrier could be surmounted. As he told of invisible objects held together by strange forces, he shared what would become my life's mantra: "See," he said, putting his hand on mine. "You can walk through walls if just you believe you can."

Jacki - July 22, 2023 at 01:31 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Larry Malone (Butch) Barber.*



July 20, 2023 at 08:23 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Larry Malone (Butch) Barber.*



July 20, 2023 at 06:16 PM



“ *Barber Family, was sorry to learn of Larry's passing. All of you are in my thoughts.*

Pam Rocco - July 20, 2023 at 07:15 AM



*So sorry for your loss.
Caroline Richards*

Caroline Richards - July 21, 2023 at 05:02 PM

JJ

“CATS!!!

Everyone who knew Dad knew he loved dogs and didn't like cats. When I was a young teenager a stray cat wandered up drooling with messed up teeth. Me and my mother took him to the vet and treated him. My dad said "Don't feed that cat he might stay."

Fast forward several months and "Crackpipe" was the friendliest cat who would always run over to rub on Dad anytime he was out working in the yard, much to Dads's dismay. That year was an unseasonably cold winter. I came home one day to find he had built a two-story luxurious cat house complete with a heat lamp. When I asked why he built it he said he was worried he may get cold.

Dad couldn't stand to see any animal or person in need.

-Jennifer

jennifer Barber Jones - July 20, 2023 at 02:59 AM

KB

Frizzy Haired Girl

When I was 13 my family moved from our first house in Ft. Pierce to a new neighborhood. Most of the teenagers in the new neighborhood went to the public high school nearby. I went to the Catholic school miles away so I had to take the bus. I was in the band so I would lug a very large saxophone and a stack of books up to the bus stop every school morning.

I noticed the cute boy who mowed the yard across the street from us known as Butch, but I didn't think he noticed me.

After our five years of "going steady" from age 14-19 and many years of marriage (final count 52 years) he admitted that he did notice me at first. His dad would drive him up the street to school and they would pass me lugging my saxophone and books and his father would say, "We should give her a ride." He told his dad not to offer me a ride "Because she's kind of ugly and has frizzy hair. "

Kathleen Barber - July 20, 2023 at 03:43 AM