



Ralph Olin Barry

December 20, 1944 - July 24, 2020

Ralph Olin Barry Sr., 75, of Center Hill passed away on July 24, 2020 at home surrounded by his family. He was born on December 20, 1944 in Plant City, Florida to Ernest and Evelyn (Swinderman) Barry. He was a Veteran of the U.S. Navy, assigned to the USS Thor. Ralph served his community throughout his life in many ways. He was a Constable for Sumter County and Mayor of Center Hill for 10 years. Mr. Barry was also the Police Chief in Center Hill for 10 years and finished his career as the Records Clerk for the Leesburg Police Department until his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Nita (Holmes) Barry of Center Hill; son: Ralph Olin Barry Jr. of Lake County; stepdaughters: Carolyn Vidler (Eric) of St. Augustine, Betty Mercer (Robert) of Center Hill, and Ann Branch (Chris Morris) of Orlando. Ralph is also survived by many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, August 7, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at Purcell Funeral Home, 114 W. Noble Ave., Bushnell. Visitation will be held from 10:00-11:00 a.m. prior to the service. A Committal Service with Military Honors will follow at the Florida National Cemetery at 12:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made in his memory to: SPCA Florida, 5850 Brannen Rd. S., Lakeland, FL 33813.

Arrangements entrusted to Purcell Funeral Home, Bushnell, Florida.

Tribute Wall

DC

“ I'm very sorry about your Dad Ralph, My thoughts are with you and your family.

David Courtney - August 04, 2021 at 12:41 PM

DC

“ I'm sorry to hear of your loss Ralph. Please contact me at RANGER DAD68@live.com It's been too long....

David Courtney - August 04, 2021 at 11:51 AM

RG

“ As A child, every Sunday we would go for a ride, me, my cousins, Grandpa and Grandma. We would be riding down the road and Grandpa would blow the horn and wave, he did this a couple of times, we all looked at each other like, what is he doing? So I said Grandpa what are you doing? He said (as he blew the horn again) Im waving at the cows of course. I have so many of those memories that I will cherish for ever. I miss you so very much, Grandpa

Renea Grubb - August 05, 2020 at 03:45 PM

DC

“ when James was about 2 or 3 I worked at Winn Dixie and Pop babysat for a while. He was excited to be having James come over all day and hang out with him. one day Pop went out and got one of those blow up pools. It was about 6 ft. long and only tall enough to come up to your knee maybe, but he got that pool filled and he would take James out there and Pop would sit in it and James would just have a ball and splash around. He was the best.

Every Christmas Pop would buy James some of the most noisiest toys. When James was one he got James this little piano that could play animal noises. it was so annoying and it could make the noises if you left it on, so Ralph Jr and I decided to hide it in Pops house so that it could drive pop crazy for a while. Next time we came over he brought it out and he had his goofy grin on his face. That did not stop him from buying noisy toys.

Deanna Cowfer - July 30, 2020 at 06:37 PM

DC

“ Pop, I have so many words I want to say but nothing seems quite right. You meant so much to so many people. On more than one occasion you were a saving grace for James and I. I was thankful and Blessed to be a Barry. WE love and miss you. Please never leave our hearts and look in on us from time to time.

Deanna Cowfer - July 30, 2020 at 09:12 AM

RG

“ Grandpa, I miss you so much, but I know you are in a happy place and are never going to hurt again. And one day I will see your smile face again. You were the light of every Birthday Party, Thanksgiving and Christmas of my childhood. I have those memories to hold and cherish forever. You were a wonderful Grandpa, Father and Husband. We love you and miss you. love Renea

RENEA GRUBB - July 28, 2020 at 03:06 PM