



Gilbert M. Barrett Obituary

March 1, 1923 - August 15, 2010

Born March 1, 1923 in Albany, GA; younger son of Alva Wallace Barrett & Marilu Byne Barrett. He attended Dougherty County schools, and graduated from Albany High School in the class of 1942. Mr. Barrett attended Auburn University and was an avid supporter and fan throughout his life. He was a member of Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity at Auburn. He was a member of St. Teresa's Catholic Church. Mr. Barrett served in the US Army, 244th. Combat Engineer Battalion during World War II. He saw action in the European Theatre of operations from 1943-1946. Mr. Barrett farmed in Lee & Dougherty Counties for most of his life. He was elected in 1958 and served as a Dougherty County commissioner for 40 years. He was elected chairman of the Dougherty County commission in 1978 and served until 1998. Mr. Barrett was appointed by President Reagan to Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations in 1982, reappointed in 1985, one of only 3 County Commissioners appointed by President Reagan who helped form "New Coalition" of counties, cities, and states, and was the sole appointee by President Ford to Federal Commission on Paperwork in 1975. He was elected as President of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia in 1981. He was honored by the dedication of SR234, Gillionville Rd., from Slappey Drive to the Calhoun Co. line as the Gil Barrett Highway by GA D.O.T on March 25, 1998. He testified before both Houses of Congress regarding the construction of roads. The Emergency Room and Trauma Center at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital was named in his honor on April 26, 1997.

In May 2010, in his last public appearance, he was honored with the first key to Dougherty County for his role in making the landfill gas project a reality. Mr. Barrett had been member of many non-profit organizations over the years. He served on the boards of: Lions Club, Elk's Club, Albany Touchdown Club, Auburn Alumni Association, Phoebe Foundation, Knights of Columbus, Quail Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, Kiwanis Club, the Walter Burt American Legion Post 30, and the Darton College Board of Trustees. A longtime member of the Chamber of Commerce, he served on the military affairs committee. He served as Chairman of the Dougherty Area Regional Transportation Board and the Albany/Dougherty Payroll Development Authority. He always enjoyed bird hunting, boating, and fishing. He always enjoyed the comfort & beauty of animals & had a lengthy list of dog's names over the years. Mr. Barrett was very interested in the success of Chehaw Wild Animal Park. He was very interested in Native American history as well as the history of War Between the States and WWII. He married to former Alice Norris Barrett who preceded him in death by four months. They were married for 64 years. He is survived by his 2 daughters: Ginny Morehead and her husband Lyon, Tulsa, OK, Becky Barrett, Albany; 4 grandchildren: Byne O'Lear, Gil Salemi, Mollie Morehead, Jacob Morehead; 2 great grandchildren: Ryan O'Lear and Hannah O'Lear; many nieces and nephews. Mr. Barrett's funeral service will be THURSDAY 10 AM at St. Teresa's Catholic Church with interment to follow at Crown Hill Cemetery. The Rev. Finbarr Stanton will officiate. The family will receive friends at Kimbrell-Stern on Wednesday from 4-6 PM. Those desiring may send memorials to the charity of your choice. The Barrett family would like to thank the many friends who have been there for all of us especially the staff of caregivers who have been with the Barrett family for the past year and whom Mr. Barrett loved as his family. We also thank the Albany Community Hospice for their care.

Tribute Wall



“ *Gilbert M. Barrett Obituary*

May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



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May 22, 2023 at 01:29 AM



“ *I am very sad to think I'll never see Gill and dear, sweet Mrs.Barrett again. I am over joyed that the two of them are again back in each others arms. To Gill's family my sincerest regrets over your loss. Your parents were a great influence to me thru over 40 yrs of friendship & guidance. They are both surrounded together by Angels now in the presence of our Lord. You will remain in my prayers asking the Lord to help you thru your sorrows. God Bless you all, Carole*

Carole Langley (Erwin) Kenny - September 13, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Becky, Sorry for your loss. You are in my thoughts and prayer's god bless.*

Jonathan Cloud - August 20, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *We loved Gil for many years, the Heidt Family did. I can still hear his voice now, it was so distinctive and authoritative. I think Gil was a great man.*

Emmett H Heidt, III - August 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

EO

“ *My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family,*

Emma B. Quimbley-Do. Co. Coroner's Office - August 18, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ *My condolences to Gil's family. He was truly an amazing person - so giving and caring. I've known Gil for 30 years and he will be truly missed.*

Cherry Rizer - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ *Ginny,Becky, Mollie and Family, So sorry to hear the news of Uncle Gil. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers. What a great guy!! Love, Chris and Julie*

Chris and Julie Norris - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *From the staff of Winn Dixie Pharmacy, we send our deepest condolences to the Barrett family. We were honored to serve such a lovely couple throughout the years. Heaven just turned a brighter shade of orange and blue. War Eagle, Mr. Barrett! You will be missed.*

Tracey Howell - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ *Jenny and Becky, please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers. Alice and Gil were such special friends to Mama and Daddy for a very long time and she will truly miss those weekly visits. God bless and keep ya'll. Tom and Ruthie Shemwell*

Tom Shemwell - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ Deepest sympathy to Ginny and Kathy and their families. Mr. Gil was a special man and will be missed. War Eagle and rest in peace, Mr. Gil.

Patty Gerst - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PG

“ Deepest sympathy to Ginny and Becky and their families. Mr. Gil was a special man and will be missed. War Eagle and rest in peace, Mr. Gil.

Patty Gerst - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Mr Gil was a friend to the County Police.He was a special friend to my husband while he was on the county police force. I have a good memory of the times we spent fishing in his little pond. Dougherty County lost a great man. H stands alone as the best. Will miss him and his help he gave my husband James McDowell Do. Co. police and Sheriff Office retired . May god bless the family.

Mrs.James McDowell - August 17, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ Our prayers are with the Barrett family at this time. I always looked up to Mr. Gil and will continue as he makes his journey to heaven. He will be deeply missed but never forgotten. I grew up swimming at the family pool and sitting in front of Mr and Mrs. Barrett at church. They have taught me so much in there actions and I will never forget them. I will tell stories to my children about Mr. Gil being a true Southern Gentlemen. Prayers are with you.

Robert and Kim Haggerty - August 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ Mr. Barrett was one of my favorite people. He and Alice were such a wonderful couple and I so enjoyed working with them over the years. They were both very special to our family and Albany has lost a special couple. Our sympathy and prayers to his family. Sharon and Bill Hughey Katie Hughey Gatewood Callie Hughey

Sharon Hughey - August 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BH

“ Becky and Family---My love and prayers are with each of you in this time of loss. One of South Georgia's FINEST has gone home to be with the Lord. As the Bible said, "Well done thy good and faithful servant"--This certainly applies to "Mr. Gil"!! Over all the many years that he and I had together we both had a very deep respect and regard for one another. He was certainly a "Class Act"--such a fine example of a "Southern Gentleman". I always looked forward to calling "Mr. Gil" at his house after normal hours, as I was able to always talk with Mrs Barrett first and then to Gil. Both such fine and devoted people. Enjoy the legacy that you have been given by "One Of Georgia's Finest"--If I can ever help in any way, please call.-- Buck Hartley--

Buck Hartley - August 16, 2010 at 12:00 AM