



Fred Estel Barnett

November 22, 1937 - December 26, 2024

Fred Estel Barnett was born to the late Robert Grene Barnett and Thelma Edna Day Barnett on November 22, 1937, in Rural Scott County (Alsey, Illinois) and died December 26, 2024, in Gilbert, Arizona. Fred attended Winchester elementary school and Campbell Hollow and then to Bluffs School to begin 6th grade. He graduated from Bluffs High School in 1956.

Fred enlisted in Basic Training at Great Lakes Naval Station on August 21, 1956. He was stationed at various locations throughout his Navy career; Pensacola, Florida at Chase Field for one month, Norman, Oklahoma for six weeks for airplane mechanics school, Jacksonville, Florida for eleven weeks of aviation ordinance school. He spent two and a half years in Beeville, Texas at the Naval Aviation Air Station. He was then aboard the USS Hancock for a Pacific Voyage Cruise lasting one and a half years. During the voyage he traveled to San Francisco, Guam, Philippines, Hong Kong and Okinawa, Japan. He played on the USS Hancock fast pitch softball team as the only person that could catch the heat. In July of 1960 he ended his active duty at Treasure Island, California. He served four years of active duty and two years inactive. He was honorably discharged in August of 1962. Fred attended Central Missouri State at Warrensburg and studied Physical Education and Business. He was employed at Oscar Mayer from 1967 – 1987 and the Illinois Department of Corrections from 1992 – 2002.

Fred was blessed with a loving family and friends. He married his best friend and fellow classmate since the 6th grade, Roberta on August 21, 1961, in Jacksonville, Illinois. Fred helped raise two children: Michael and Melissa with patience, humility and lots of love.

Fred enjoyed collecting stamps and knives. Playing bingo, pinochle, kings in the corner and nickel knock with his friends at Copper Springs. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. Fred was a man of integrity and truth. A man of few words but, when he spoke, we listened. Truly the strongest man in our lives. He will be dearly missed by his loved ones.

Fred is survived by his son and daughter-in-law Michael and Kathleen Barnett, daughter Melissa Barnett-Carr, grandchildren Steven and Samuel Barnett, Myles and Malia Carr, granddaughter-in-law Molly Carr and great granddaughter Callie Grace Carr.

A service will be held 10:00 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025, at the Daws Family Funeral Home in Bluffs with interment in Hillcrest Cemetery in Bluffs. A visitation will be held 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Friday, Jan. 17, 2025, at the funeral home. Memorials are suggested to Hillcrest Cemetery.

Cemetery Details

Hillcrest Cemetery

Bluffs, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 17. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Daws Family Funeral Home - Bluffs
109 East Oak Street
Bluffs, IL 62694
(217) 754-3595
mackeydawsfuneralhome@yahoo.com

Service

JAN 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

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109 East Oak Street
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Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Fred Estel Barnett.

January 17, 2025 at 11:26 AM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Fred Estel Barnett.



January 17, 2025 at 11:26 AM



“ I don't know what is going to be the hardest for me ... to miss hearing Fred say, "Hello, dear!" whenever I called him; missing his big heart; his genuine love; or just knowing that he was there. As her little cousin, Roberta was always a Fairy Princess in my eyes, and Fred was her Prince Charming. That image of them never changed throughout my life. And when she left us, he continued to love me as his own, picking up where she left off. And now they are together once again; their love as alive as it's always been. I am so thankful for the love and caring we shared. Fred was an exceptional and amazing man and I will miss him terribly! What a privilege to have loved (and been loved by) him!

Much love to his family!

Pam (Ellison) Kohler

Pam (Ellison) Kohler - January 16, 2025 at 04:23 PM



“ *Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Fred Estel Barnett.*



January 16, 2025 at 04:00 PM



“ *My deepest condolences. Your dad was a true gentleman. I am so glad that I had the opportunity to know your parents. Keeping you close to my heart in prayer.*

Deborah L. Freesen - January 13, 2025 at 08:55 AM



“ *My favorite memory of Fred stems from his mother-in-law's final illness. Grace was bed fast and Roberta and Fred were providing care. Fred was so kind, sweet and sympathetic! I don't remember the specific endearment he used but he was so intent on keeping her as comfortable as possible. It stood out to me! I felt it was a rare thing to see, especially in a son-in-law. He was a hands on caregiver. Vonna Park*

Vonna Park - January 12, 2025 at 09:07 AM



“ *My sympathy to all family. I have known Fred and Bert most of my life as grew up in Bluffs. My Aunt and Uncles went to school with them and were life friends. Patricia Hall Engelbrecht*

PATRICIA ENGELBRECHT - January 12, 2025 at 08:52 AM