



Robert James Barrett

December 24, 1926 - March 15, 2020

Robert James Barrett, March 15, 2020, 93

Robert James Barrett, of Towanda, died Sunday evening, March 15, 2020 at the Towanda Memorial Personal Care Home following a brief period of deteriorating health. Bob, as he was known to his many friends, was born on December 24, 1926, the youngest of four children of Richard and Winifred Fox Barrett. He was raised on the family farm in Marshview, and graduated from Towanda High School in 1944, where he was a member of the baseball and basketball teams.

Bob married his wife of 67 years, Shirley Ohart Barrett, on October 4, 1952, and together they raised five children of whom he was extremely proud. He was a devoted and caring father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

In 1954 he enlisted in the US Army and was stationed in Germany. He had the opportunity to travel extensively throughout Europe playing baseball while in the service, as well as football and basketball. He was honorably discharged from the Army on October 17, 1956. After the service, he returned to his job at GTE Sylvania and retired in 1989 after more than 33 years.

Beyond his family, sports was his passion. This included playing, coaching, refereeing and encouraging, often all at the same time! It's safe to say that

Bob gave some form of coaching, advice or encouragement to most area youth who kicked, caught, shot, batted or threw a ball in Towanda from the 1960's until his passing. He never lost his love for competition. He was a Little League coach, a youth basketball coach, and he organized and ran the adult Towanda "City League" basketball for decades at the former SCI. He was a PIAA baseball and basketball official for many years. He was an accomplished softball pitcher and hitter, priding himself in being able to place a ball wherever he wanted. He played for several local teams through the years and was one of the last living members of the Wysox Owls baseball team.

In later years, he traded in his bat and glove for a set of golf clubs, and after retirement became a daily fixture at the Towanda Country Club. Golf seemed like the perfect challenge for him. If not chipping close or rolling in a long birdie putt, he could be spotted in the woods or leaving a creek bed with a pocketful of lost balls. He also enjoyed bowling, shuffleboard and was one of the original members of the Bradford County pool league.

He passed on his love of sports to his children and grandchildren. He thoroughly enjoyed watching them compete in a variety of sports through high school, college, and beyond. He was a faithful Notre Dame fan, and the Pittsburgh Pirates and Steelers were his favorite teams. He was a loyal spectator of Towanda Black Knights athletics and could always be seen and heard cheering on the home team.

Bob was a life member and past commander of the VFW, member of the American Legion Post 42, Towanda Gun Club, Towanda Country Club, and Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church.

Bob was predeceased by his parents, his brothers Bernard in 1947, Richard in 1989, infant sister Donna in 1922 and his son-in-law, Lyle Williams, in 2006. He is survived by his wife Shirley, daughters Christine (John) Sullivan of Towanda, Lynda Williams of Elmira, NY and sons Robert (Cheryl) Barrett of

Elmira, NY, Michael Barrett of Marion, IN, and Paul Barrett of Elmira, NY. He is also survived by nine grandchildren who he dearly loved; JB (Colleen) Sullivan, Erin Sullivan, Jodi Barrett, Bobby Barrett, Jeffrey Williams, Carling (Waseam) Dannaoui, Hunter Barrett, Tamara Barrett, Kelli (Andy) Holloway and his great grandson, Thomas Robert Sullivan.

The family is grateful for the wonderful care Bob received from Roxie Wells, and later from the staff at the Towanda Personal Care Home. Funeral arrangements will be announced at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the Bradford County Humane Society, the Towanda Little League, or a charity of one's choice. Memories and condolences may be expressed by visiting www.bowenfuneralhomes.com

Cemetery Details

S.S. Peter & Paul Cemetery

30 James Street
Towanda, PA 18848

Tribute Wall



“ *Robert James Barrett* ”

October 22, 2023 at 08:10 PM



“ *Robert James Barrett* ”

October 08, 2023 at 10:34 PM



“ *Robert James Barrett* ”

October 06, 2023 at 09:57 AM



“ *Robert James Barrett* ”

October 06, 2023 at 03:29 AM



“ *Robert James Barrett* ”

October 05, 2023 at 02:02 PM

LM

“ Shirley & Family,
Sending Love, Comfort & Many Prayers on the
Loss of a Great Guy. We are Blessed to have
Many Great Memories with Bob & Family
especially with Sports, no matter where you
ran into Bob he took the time to talk about mainly sports but always
ask about your Family .
He will be Missed Much by Many!
RIP Bob
Lee & Robin Moore



Lee & Robin Moore - April 04, 2020 at 07:14 PM

FF

“ Dear Shirley, Chris and family, Deepest sympathy. We have been so
fortunate that because of the kids many sports and school events
that we got to spend time with Bob and your great family. We have
so many good memories of those times. We will miss his presence.
Muisje , Fred and family

Fred and Muijse Smith family - March 26, 2020 at 01:19 PM

SJ

“ Deepest sympathy Shirley and family.
Bob was one of my favorite members of the country club. I truly
looked forward to having him stop in my office and greet me and
chat for awhile. I know I speak for all of us at TCC we will miss Bob
everyday.
What a great person he was and loved TCC and golfing. Prayers
and hugs to you all.
Great memories to hold onto.
Best Regards, Sue Jackson

Susan Jackson - March 25, 2020 at 06:13 AM

CA

“ Barrett's, Take some precious time to feel the enormous amount of prayers you're all getting at this time. You are truly an amazing family, and it goes far beyond those were able to be around you recently, and beyond those who regrettably weren't able to be by your side. Take a moment to stop and sense this deep connectedness. Very rich.

Chris Appleton - March 24, 2020 at 04:03 PM

CS

“ we are very upset about about bob passing away
Charles and Christine Shearer

Charles @ Christine SHEARER - March 22, 2020 at 11:23 AM

EM

“ My deepest sympathy to the Barrett family. Bob was one of a kind and will be missed by all. God Bless.

Eric Maryott

Eric J Maryott - March 21, 2020 at 02:06 PM

EL

“ Dear Mrs Barrett and families, Our deepest sympathy, we are so very sorry for your loss. Great memories will help you all through the weeks ahead. Warmest Regards, Shirley & Jim McGee, Elaine & Larry Elliott



Elaine - March 21, 2020 at 07:59 AM

SE

“ Dear Shirley & family. I was so very sorry to learn of Bob's passing. Prayers & sympathy to all of you. Shirley Eastabrook

Shirley Eastabrook - March 20, 2020 at 03:14 PM

DM

“ To the Barrett family I'm so sorry to hear of Bob's passing. It was always a joy to meet up with him at the SCI, a softball field, or just anywhere. I offer my condolences and R.I.P. Bob.

David McGuire - March 20, 2020 at 10:32 AM

JF

“ Sincere condolences to Bob's family. Enjoyed Bob's company, his competitiveness, his talent , etc.

John Fedorchak - March 20, 2020 at 09:30 AM

V1

“ Please accept our deepest sympathy.

VFW Post 1536 - March 20, 2020 at 09:12 AM

MW

“ Shirley and family: My sincerest sympathy on your loss. You and Bob were wonderful neighbors when my family lived on Ward Avenue. My prayers are with you all. Mary Kay Ward, Monroeton

Mary Kay Ward - March 19, 2020 at 07:40 PM

AB

“ My heart hurts for all of you. Love to Chris, Shirley and all the family.

Alice Bennett - March 19, 2020 at 07:17 PM

BQ

“ *My sincere condolences to the Barrett Family. I am thankful to have had the pleasure of playing golf, shooting pool, and having a few cold ones with Mr. Barrett years ago. Great attitude and the ultimate competitor. He truly loved his family and was a great guy to run into from time to time on my visits back home. God Bless!*
~Brian Quiggle

Brian Quiggle - March 19, 2020 at 11:00 AM

CB

“ *When I read this morning that Bob had passed, I started thinking about when Abby was playing hs basketball. Her team pretty terrible. It was difficult for even the most loyal Towanda fans to watch but I can still hear Bob yelling from the top of the gym, "shoot the ball...shoot the ball Abby!"*

Please know that I am thinking of all of you as you grieve the passing of your father, grandfather and husband.

The community has lost a LEGEND.

Catherine Mattocks Barrett - March 19, 2020 at 10:19 AM

DH

I am so saddened to hear of Bob's passing. He was a great friend of my father's. I have such great memories of all the softball games I sat through watching them play. Bob was a fierce competitor in anything he did. When my dad became sick, it was Bob that faithfully visited him until the end. That was never forgotten by my family. To the Barrett family I send comforting thoughts and prayers. He will be missed by so many.

Diane Gates Hagadorn - March 20, 2020 at 07:48 AM

CL

“ *Claire Holton- Lizon lit a candle in memory of Robert James Barrett*



Claire Holton- Lizon - March 19, 2020 at 07:09 AM

TA

“ *To The Bob Barrett Family,
Great picture! Just the way I want to remember him. The perfect
example of how to live life....active until the end. I ALWAYS enjoyed
running into Bob. He has left behind a great family. I will miss you
Bob...Rest In Peace my friend.*

Tom Abell - March 18, 2020 at 04:07 PM