

Robert W. Barnes Obituary



VOLUSIA

ROBERT W. BARNES JR., 94, New Smyrna Beach, died Dec. 15. Tri-County Cremation and Funeral Home, Longwood.

Hull#	Ship's Name	Rate/Rank	Years
SSBN/SSN-601	Robert E Lee	MT2(SS)	1977-78
SSBN-643	George Bancroft	MT1(SS)	1981-85
SSBN-655	Henry L Stimson	MT1(SS)	1987-89

Robert W. Barnes, New Smyrna Beach, left this life on December 15, 2007, surrounded by his "dahlin' girls" and the supportive, loving caregivers of Hospice. Bob was a proud Navy veteran, an Emory University alumni, a die-hard Dallas Cowboy and Atlanta Braves fan, and one of the most interested-in-everything men on planet Earth. Bob read voraciously-biographies, history, the Encyclopedia Britannica and anything about nature. He could see a speck in the sky and tell what kind of bird it was and all its habits. He understood 5 languages and could tell a joke in 3, delighting all with his infectious laugh. He passed the Georgia bar exam after 9 months in law school and was an attorney during the depression for a short, and lean, time. He was a brilliant and quick thinker but never superior; he didn't let anyone feel foolish for being less gifted, a truly humble man. As bright as Bob was, we loved him for being an incredibly sweet and endearing man. He and Will Rogers had much in common, never meeting a man they didn't like. He championed causes with compassion and zeal, and was an early proponent of equal rights. In his 70's, he and his wife marched on the capitol in Florida, one of the most thrilling events of his life. He knew how to persevere, and his favorite saying was, "Never give up." The consummate teacher, his children and grandchildren were gifted with his wonder of the universe. Some of his last words were, "Life is beautiful." He and his "bride", Jean, fished mountain streams and Florida rivers. They loved their road trips and up until age 92, they would jump in the car and drive to Georgia for peaches. They were married 68 years and hardly a day passed without Bob exclaiming how Jean was "the most gorgeous woman on Earth." He truly believed that the best gift a father could give his children was to love their mother. He is survived by his son, Rob; and wife, Janet, Eugene, Oregon; daughters, Meredith and husband, Willy, Dallas, Texas, Liz and husband, Kim, also of Dallas and Beverly, North Carolina; and granddaughters, Sally, Kate, Hannah and Stephanie. Memorial Service to be held at a later date. Memorials can be made to Hospice of Volusia/Falglar (www.hovf.org) or Cal Farley's Boys Ranch in Texas at (800) 687-3722.

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