



## Billy Edward Barrow

April 25, 1927 - December 19, 2023

Another WWII Veteran has been lost. Billy Edward Barrow, 96, of Sharpsburg, formerly of Jacksonville, IL passed away peacefully at his home Tuesday, December 19, 2023, surrounded by his children and their spouses. He was born April 25, 1927 in Patterson, IL to the late Aaron Elbert Barrow and Grace Viola Walker Barrow. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia Ann Ring Barrow, and daughter, Carol Ann Davis. In addition, he was preceded in death by sister, Bernice Yeck, brother, Amos Barrow, sister, Betty Spradlin, sister, Helen Leaverton, brother, Donald Barrow. Bill grew up in and around Jacksonville, IL. In 1944, on his 17th birthday, Bill enlisted in the US Navy. His mother had to sign his enlistment papers as Bill was too young to join on his own. Times were tough and he knew if he went into the Navy he would have regular meals and a place to sleep. After completing boot camp at Great Lakes Naval Training Center, Bill was transported to San Francisco and shortly thereafter, to Pearl Harbor to board the USS Claxton, DD571 (a Fletcher Class Destroyer), thrusting him into some of the major battles in the Pacific Theater of WWII. During one of the battles, a Kamikazi plane hit the Claxton near the waterline, killing 5 men on board and injuring several others. The ship was close to sinking when the hole in her side was plugged and she managed to limp across the sea to a drydock in the Philippines for repairs. While there, Bill came down with Dengue fever, a mosquito-borne disease similar to Malaria. Bill never went back to sea and came back home to Jacksonville. He applied for his VA benefits and attended

Bailey School of Electricity in St. Louis, MO to get a degree in Commercial Electricity, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning in 1947. Bill went to work for Mojonnier Brothers based out of Chicago, IL and serviced dairies and food and soft drink manufacturing facilities in the Midwest. Bill traveled back home to Jacksonville where he met and married Patricia Ann Ring in 1948. After they married, Bill traveled in the Midwest and Pat traveled with him. Around 1952, Bill was assigned to the northeastern territory Mojonnier and settled near their Philadelphia office. Bill started his own service company and continued to travel, moving his family to Maryland in 1966. Tired of winters traveling in ice and snow, in 1969, Bill moved his family to Florida where he worked for a refrigeration company in Tampa, and later for Coca-Cola in Miami, FL, and later Hollywood, FL. as Plant Engineer. In 1977, Bill and Pat started Barrow Systems, Inc. in Hollywood, FL and moved the business to Sharpsburg, GA in 1980. Bill and Pat retired from the day-to-day operations of the business in 1992 and began RVing soon thereafter. They traveled the US extensively and continually upgraded the manner in which they traveled. For the last 20 years, they traveled in a 40 ft. motor coach, towing a Jeep Grand Cherokee behind it. They spent summers in Gunnison, CO, and winters in Yuma, AZ with many points of interest in between. Bill was always proud of the fact that he took Pat to all 50 states, including Point Barrow, Alaska, and Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. They left a trail of friends everywhere they went and will be missed by so many. Bill and Pat were married for nearly 68 years. A memorial service will be Saturday, January 20, 2024, at 2:00 PM in the chapel of McKoon Funeral Home, 38 Jackson Street, Newnan, GA with Deacon Steve Swope officiating. The family will greet visitors following the service. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the WWII Memorial in Washington, DC or Tin Can Sailors ([www.destroyers.org](http://www.destroyers.org)) in Somerset, MA. Survivors include sons, William (Tracy) Barrow of Newnan, Michael (Charlene) Barrow of Sharpsburg; daughters, Elizabeth (John) Moore of Newnan, Barbara (Steve) Harris of LaGrange, GA; grandchildren Erin (Brantley) Gilbert, Megan (Joseph) Mulheron, Lauren (Kevin) Gough,

Stephanie (Zack) Stephens, Samantha (Christian) Spradlin, Andrew (Johanna) Harris, Patrick (Kathleen) Tunnell, Chad Tunnell; nine great grandchildren; sisters-in-law, Sandra Newby, Jacksonville, IL, Carolyn Ring, Balwin, MO; brother-in-law, Howard Spradlin, Dearborn Heights, MI; many nieces and nephews throughout the US.

Condolences may be expressed online at [www.mckoon.com](http://www.mckoon.com)

McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

JAN 20. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home Chapel  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

## Visitation

JAN 20 (ET)

McKoon Funeral Home  
38 Jackson Street  
Newnan, GA 30263

# Tribute Wall



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Webcast in memory of Billy Edward Barrow*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - January 20, 2024 at 09:31 AM



“ *McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Billy Edward Barrow*



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**McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory** - January 19, 2024 at 11:53 AM

CC

“ I was unaware that Bill had passed until now. We met Bill and Pat on the golf course at Cocopah RV and Golf Resort in Yuma Arizona and were instant friends. Over the years we traveled with them some including trips to Gunnison, Colorado and Jasper, Alberta, Canada. My husband Darrell passed away in 2014. Bill came to Cocopah again a few years later and met my new husband, Loyal Knight, of Carmi Illinois. Bill was proud of our gardening and my canning and always wanted to come to see us on the farm, but never was able. Our wishes of comfort to the family as Bill led a full and dynamic life and left all of us with wonderful memories. Carolyn Colwell

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**Carolyn L Colwell** - May 09, 2024 at 07:42 PM

GV

“ Hello William, Michael and Elizabeth, I have just learned of Bill's death. So very sorry for your loss. Bill and Patricia were such sweet people, I was fortunate to be able to know them in my career at Edward Jones and it was my privilege to be able to work with them and you through my years in Newnan. I know how he missed Pat and now they are together again! My prayers are for you and your families as you grieve and also celebrate Bill's life and know that he is made new in the presence of God and with his beloved Pat. God bless you all.

Glenda Viverette,  
Formerly with Edward Jones, Newnan

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**Glenda Viverette** - January 24, 2024 at 05:39 PM

RM

“ So very sorry for your family’s loss! In lieu of flowers, we have made a donation (IN MEMORY OF BILLY E. BARROW) to “The Warriors Journey” organization which provides assistance to veterans in need. <https://thewarriorsjourney.org>  
We’ll be with you in Spirit,  
Rick and Dianna Mulheron

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**Rick & Dianna Mulheron** - January 19, 2024 at 11:45 AM

GS

“ Sending condolences and praying for comfort and peace! What a great pleasure it was to know Bill and the Barrow family!  
Greg & Theresa Smith

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**Greg Smith** - January 17, 2024 at 07:23 PM

CB

“ Simply put, I loved this man and his family. My family and the Barrows were like one big family growing up in PA. I had a profound respect for Bill. He was strong, confident and all knowing. You knew everything he said was the truth and he lead with discipline but fairness. He was strong and brave but always kind and genuine. I will treasure my many memories together, they are the foundation of my youth and he along with his lovely wife Pat, Carol and all the Barrows, were the main cast. Sending hugs to Billy, Mike, Liz (Little Bit), and Barb.

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**Cynthia Boehmer** - January 16, 2024 at 11:05 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Billy Edward Barrow.*



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January 16, 2024 at 10:57 AM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Billy Edward Barrow.*



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January 16, 2024 at 10:39 AM



“ *Working out in the warehouse one cold winter day he brought me a warmer to set my coffee cup on so I drink a warm beverage all day,Charlie He will be missed by many*

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**Charles Widner** - January 14, 2024 at 05:34 AM



“ *we were so blessed to have been next door neighbors to Bill and Pat for almost 50 yrs. Although we did not get to spend much time together, I was glad our paths crossed in this life. and I know we will see each other again! Lamar and Pat Lee*

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**Pat Lee** - January 13, 2024 at 02:31 PM

CP

“ I met you on your birthday in 2021 . I cared for you for almost 2 years . I grew to love you and your children. You taught me what patience was mr bill . I think of you everyday and I miss you . I know your wings are so beautiful and you're above with your wife and daughter. Thank you Mr Bill for allaying me to be your caregiver for almost 2 years I was there with your beautiful handsome sons and daughters when god called you home . I will miss you always

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**chrystal pettus** - January 13, 2024 at 01:43 AM

JF

“ Judy Schenck & family purchased the Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet for the family of Billy Edward Barrow.



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**Judy Schenck & family** - January 12, 2024 at 07:40 PM

DE

“ Denise sent a virtual gift in memory of Billy Edward Barrow



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**Denise** - January 12, 2024 at 06:38 PM

DE

Liz I am so sorry to hear about your dad. Just know I a Praying for yall..

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**Denise** - January 12, 2024 at 06:39 PM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Billy Edward Barrow.



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January 12, 2024 at 10:43 AM



“ Chuck and Polly Tholen planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Billy Edward Barrow.

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**Chuck and Polly Tholen** - January 12, 2024 at 10:43 AM



“ I will miss those phone calls and his smile. My heart is with all of the Barrow family members. Wish I could be with you. Aunt Carol

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**Carol Ring** - January 11, 2024 at 10:30 PM



“ So sorry for your loss Mr. Barrow was a fine gentleman and a delightful person. I enjoyed working with him in the past as well as all the family. Prayers and love to all of you.

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**Pauline Duncan** - January 11, 2024 at 04:02 PM