

Obituaries



John Wayne Barber
John Wayne Barber, 73, of Donalsonville, Georgia, passed away Sunday, June 6, 2021.

The funeral service will be held at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 10 at Bethany Baptist Church with Rev. Marty Anderson officiating. Interment will follow at Bethany Baptist Church Cemetery with Phil Long, Mallory Miller, Johnnie

Nichols, Devin Morris, Trey Faircloth, Chris Barber, and Nazario Trejo serving as active pallbearers.

The family will receive friends prior to the service, from 1:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m., at Bethany Baptist Church. Online visitors may sign the guest register at www.clarkfuneral.com. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: Fellowship Baptist Church, 2861 Spring Creek Road, Brinson, Georgia 39825 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

John Wayne Barber was born January 20, 1948 in Donalsonville, the son of Mallory Curtis Barber and Virginia Nichols Barber. He was a graduate of Bainbridge High School, Class of 1966, and proudly served his country in the United

States Air Force during the Vietnam War. John Wayne married Cheryl Smith in 1968 and they made their home in Southwest Georgia. He retired from John B. Sanfilippo & Son and was a member of Bethany Baptist Church.

Family was always first; John Wayne knew the importance of a strong foundation in the home and lived as an example to others. He was a US History buff and could spout off random information at the drop of a hat. John Wayne loved the outdoors and spent many hours fishing and gardening. Crossword puzzles were a favorite indoor activity but only if his Georgia Bulldogs were not playing.

Survivors include his wife of 53 years, Cheryl Smith Barber; his children Alecia Barber Kelley and her

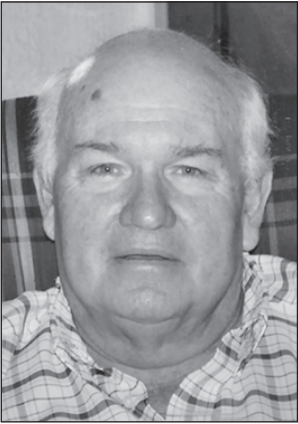
husband, Bruce, and Corbitt Barber, all of Bainbridge; his grandchildren, Kendall, Caroline and Levi; and his siblings, Curtis Barber (Jan) of Roanoke, Virginia, Cecilia Barber Miller (Donnie Ray) of Donalsonville, and Shea Davis Smith (Barry) of Jackson, North Carolina.

In addition to his parents, John Wayne was preceded in death by his brother, Cecil Barber.

The Barber Family would like to extend special thanks to Dr. Sydney Cochran, Regina Jones, and the staff of Kindred Hospice for their kindness and compassionate care.

Max Bryant and the staff of Clark Funeral Home are assisting the family with arrangements.

Guests may sign the online register at www.clarkfuneral.com.



Joseph David Pearce
Joseph David Pearce, 74,

of Dothan, Alabama and formerly of Jakin, Georgia, passed away May 28, 2021 in Dothan.

Graveside memorial services will be held at Jakin City Cemetery Saturday, June 12 at 10 a.m. with Rev. Ron McCaskill officiating.

The son of Joe Pearce and Corrie Jo Pearce, he was born December 7, 1947. He was a Baptist by faith. He attended Oklahoma State University. He was a farmer at one time, and had worked at Seminole Nitrogen, as

manager of Beall Peanut Company, and retired from Jakin Peanut Company, a buying point for Birdsong Peanuts, where he was manager for many years. David was always interested in the young people of the area and was a loyal supporter of the FFA, Young Farmers and other organizations for the youth.

Survivors include his children, Mark Pearce, Kristin Pearce and Daniel Pearce; cousin and caregiver, Jenny Holman and her

husband, Merritt, Dothan; cousins Hill Clements and his wife, Dollie, Pine Level, Alabama, Rosemary Josey and her husband, Charles, Atlanta, Georgia, Kay Armstrong and her husband, Joe, Midland City, Alabama, and Carol Clark, also of Atlanta; several nieces and nephews, including Todd Pearce, Susan Sims and Nena Pearce.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, Jerry Pearce; and his nephews, Alan Pearce, Mike Pearce and Clark Pearce.

Grief: Coping with the loss of your loved one

Research shows that most people can recover from loss on their own through the passage of time if they have social support and healthy habits.

Coping with the loss of a close friend or family member may be one of the hardest challenges that many of us face. When we lose a spouse, sibling or parent our grief can be particularly intense. Loss is understood as a natural part of life, but we can still be overcome by shock and confusion, leading to prolonged periods of sadness or depression. The sadness typically diminishes in intensity as time passes, but grieving is an important process in order to overcome these feelings and continue to embrace the time you had with your loved one.

Everyone reacts differently to death and employs personal coping mechanisms for grief. Research shows that most people can recover from loss on their own through the passage of time if they have social support and healthy habits. It may take months or a year to come to terms with a loss. There is no "normal" time period for someone to grieve. Don't expect to pass through phases of grief either, as research suggests that most people do not go through stages as progressive steps.

If your relationship with the deceased was difficult, this will also add another dimension to the grieving process. It may take some time and thought before you are able to look back on the relationship and adjust to the loss.

Human beings are naturally resilient, considering most of us can endure loss and then continue on with our own lives. But some people may struggle with grief for longer periods of time and feel unable to carry out daily activities. Individuals with severe grief or complicated grief could benefit from the help of a psychologist or another licensed mental health professional with a specialization in grief.

Moving on with life
Mourning the loss of a close friend or relative takes time, but research tells us that it can also be the catalyst for a renewed sense of meaning that offers purpose and direction to life.

Grieving individuals may find it helpful to use some of the following strategies to help them process and come to terms with loss:

Talk about the death of your loved one with friends or colleagues in order to help you understand what happened and remember your friend or family member. Avoidance can lead to isolation and will disrupt the healing process with your support systems.

Accept your feelings. You may experience a wide range of emotions from sadness, anger or even exhaustion. All of these feelings are normal and it's important to recognize when you are feeling this way. If you feel stuck or overwhelmed by these emotions, it may be helpful to talk with a licensed psychologist or other mental health professional who can help you cope with your feelings and find ways to get back on track.

Take care of yourself and your family. Eating healthy foods, exercising and getting plenty of sleep can help your physical and emotional health. The grieving process can take a toll on one's body. Make sure you check in with your loved ones and that they are taking the necessary healthy steps to maintain their health.

Reach out and help others dealing with the loss. Spending time with loved ones of the deceased can help everyone cope. Whether it's sharing stories or listening to your loved one's favorite music, these small efforts can make a big dif-

ference to some. Helping others has the added benefit of making you feel better as well.

Remember and celebrate the lives of your loved ones. Anniversaries of a lost loved one can be a difficult time for friends and family, but it can also be a time for remembrance and honoring them. It may be that you decide to collect donations to a favorite charity of the deceased, passing on a family name to a baby or planting a garden in memory. What you choose is up to you, as long as it allows you to honor that unique relationship in a way that feels right to you.



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Financial Focus

Father's Day gifts ... for your kids

If you're a dad, you may be in line to get some nice gifts on Father's Day. But your greatest gift may be your ability to help your children. One way of doing that is to get them started in the world of investing – and making a few investments on their behalf.

Here are three possibilities:

- 529 plan – If you invest in a 529 education savings plan, your earnings can grow federally tax-free, provided the money is used for qualified educational expenses. (Withdrawals not used for these expenses will generally incur taxes and penalties on investment earnings.) If you invest in your own state's 529 plan, you might receive some state tax benefits, too, depending on how your state's tax laws apply to 529 plans. State-by-state tax treatment may vary, so you'll need to consult with your tax professional about your situation.

Provided you stay within certain limits, you can also use a 529 plan to pay for qualified K-12 expenses and registered apprenticeship programs. And you can even use it to repay certain qualified student loans, within limits.

A 529 plan can affect financial aid, but its effect is generally lower than that of other assets. And as the account owner, you have control of your 529, so, if one child decides not to go to college or pursue further education, you can switch beneficiaries.

- UGMA/UTMA account – When you establish a special type of custodial account known as either UGMA (Uniform Gift to Minors Act) or UTMA (Uniform Transfers to Minors Act), you are providing financial resources that can be used for education or another purpose that benefits your child, such as summer programs.

One potential benefit of an UGMA or UTMA is that some of the earnings will be taxed at the child's rate, which is likely lower than your own. Plus, UGMA/UTMA accounts typically allow a wide range of investment choices. However, once children reach the age of majority (typically 18 or 21) they gain complete access to the money and can do whatever they want with it.

- IRA – A child with any taxable compensation, such as money from an after-school job, is eligible to fund an IRA. You may want to open one on your child's behalf – and you can "sweeten" the offer by matching some of their contributions. You can't directly invest in the IRA, but you can give your child money for that purpose. Keep in mind, though, that the total amount contributed can't exceed your child's taxable compensation for the year.

An IRA is a great introduction to the world of investing. For one thing, your child can make small contributions throughout the year, so investing in an IRA doesn't seem burdensome. Also, since an IRA can be invested in different types of securities, your child can learn about various investment vehicles – stocks, bonds, mutual funds and so on. Plus, you can point out that, with a traditional IRA, taxes won't be due on the earnings until your child starts taking withdrawals decades from now. (And with a Roth IRA, withdrawals are tax-free, provided certain conditions are met.)

On Father's Day, you can show your appreciation for whatever gifts you receive from your children. But by investing in their future, you can gain some longer-term contentment.

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Donalsonville News Obituary Policy:

Obituaries published in the *Donalsonville News* are accepted only through established funeral homes, crematories and verifiable out-of-town sources. Death notices, not to exceed three column inches, are published free of charge. Standard obituaries of no more than 300 words are published along with a one-column photograph for \$30. Expanded obituaries will be charged \$30 plus \$5.50 per column inch for space used to accommodate additional words over 300.

The *Donalsonville News* is a weekly, Thursday publication. The deadline for submission is 5 p.m. on Monday.

