



Owen Merrill Barrus

August 27, 1941 - April 16, 2017

Owen Merrill Barrus passed away unexpectedly due to cardiac arrest on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2017 in Lehi, Utah. Owen is survived by his cherished wife, Sherry (Chickee Babe), his children Lisa (Jon Dionne of Gainesville, VA), Michelle (Glenn Tautkus of Spanish Fork, UT) and Paul (Kristin Barrus of Lehi, UT); his 12 grandchildren: Stephanie Young (Michael), Jessica Hayward (Matt), Renee, Nicole, and Michael Dionne; Tyler, Heather, Justin and Kimberly Tautkus; and Rory, Zoe and Marshall Barrus; 3 great-grandchildren: Carter, Kaylee and Ethan Young; and his brother, Lowell (Monika) Barrus of Boulder Creek, CA, and his sister, Diane (Tony) Anderson of Grantsville, UT; brother in law Alan Miner (Evelyn) of Fate TX, sister in law Shauna Miner of Groton CT, and brother in law Andy Ponce of Greeley CO, and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Owen was preceded in death by his parents, Wesley and Lois Barrus of Grantsville, Utah; Harry and Vera Miner of Tooele; sister in law Sue Ponce, Utah, along with many other loved ones and friends whom he is now with in the Spirit World.

Owen was born on August 27, 1941 in Grantsville, Utah to Heman Wesley Barrus and Lois Brim Anderson. After graduating from Grantsville High School in 1959, he enlisted in the United States Navy (1959-1962). Following his military service, Owen served in the LDS Central British Mission (1962-1964).

Upon returning home, he met and married his sweetheart Sherry Miner in the Salt Lake LDS Temple on June 11, 1965.

Shortly after their wedding, he began working as a camera man for KUTV Channel 2 and then at the Tooele Army Depot. His family moved to Loveland, Colorado where he worked initially for DURA Business Machines and subsequently began his 35-year tenure at Hewlett-Packard in Fort Collins, Colorado, as well as in the Lake Stevens Division in Marysville, Washington for a few years. He enjoyed cycling, appreciating wildlife and serving others in whatever capacity he was needed. He could fix anything and loved doing this for anyone at any time. He served 3 LDS missions with his beloved companion, Sherry, and died in the service of the Lord: CES mission at the St George Institute of Religion at Dixie State (2004-2005), Technology Specialist at BYU Hawaii (2005-2007), and Facilities Management Group in St. George, Utah (2014-present).

The viewing will be held on Sunday, April 23, 2017 from 6 to 8 pm and Monday, April 24 from 9:30 to 10:30am at the Sunset Stake Center, 82 N. Dixie Drive, St. George. The funeral service will follow at 11am Monday. The burial service will take place at the Tonaquint Cemetery, 1777 S. Dixie Drive, St. George, Utah for close friends and family members.

The family would like to thank Mountain Point Medical Center, the Lehi Fire and Police Department and Mike Powell for their love and compassion extended during this time. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to LDS Perpetual Education or Temple Fund.

Please share memories and condolences at www.serenitystg.com.

Cemetery Details

Tonaquint Cemetery

1777 S. Dixie Drive
Saint George, UT 84770

Previous Events

Viewing

APR **23**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (MT)

Sunset Stake Center
82 N. Dixie Drive
St. George, UT

Viewing

APR **24**. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (MT)

Sunset Stake Center
82 N. Dixie Drive
St. George, UT

Service

APR **24**. 11:00 AM (MT)

Sunset Stake Center
82 N. Dixie Drive
St. George, UT

Tribute Wall

JH

“ I'm so sad that I just saw this obituary. Owen and Sherry were very special to me. When I was on Eugene Jelesnik's Talent Showcase, Owen was the cameraman. When Owen and Sherry had their first baby, I was a babysitter and loved their baby girl. Both are very special people to me. Love and prayers. -- Junie Gay Hunt Harlow

Junie Gay Hunt Harlow - June 27, 2017 at 10:55 AM

SL

“ Owen was instrumental in my reactivation in the church. I got a phone call early one Sunday morning from someone introducing himself as Bishop Harris - at least that's what my ears heard. We had never met, yet this kind voice asked me if I would consider coming to the church to visit with him. I had only stepped foot in a church about 5 times during the previous 15 years, for the baptisms of me nephews and niece. Something in his voice had me agreeing to get dressed and meet with him. We had a nice chat, and he invited me to stay for sacrament meeting. I gulped, and said, "Okay." He then walked me out and introduced me to his wife Sheri, and his sister-in-law Evelyn. I made it through sacrament, then bailed out and went home. But I kept coming back, usually just for sacrament, and not even every week, but often. He always lit up when he saw me and welcomed me personally every time. For me, he was the shepherd that went in search of the one lost sheep, and brought me back into the fold. I will never forget him. Owen is / was / always will be a shining example of becoming like Christ and exuding Christ-like love to all.

My condolences to each member of his family.

*With love,
Sandy Loucks*

Sandy Loucks - April 25, 2017 at 09:31 PM

RL

“ Ryan and Shannon Lamb purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Owen Merrill Barrus.



Ryan and Shannon Lamb - April 23, 2017 at 05:12 PM

DL

“ Much love to Sherry and family. You and Owen have a special place in our hearts.
Layne and Dorri Lee

Dorri Lee - April 22, 2017 at 10:06 PM

TY

“ I just heard about Owen from a Sunset Ward member. I really appreciated Owen and his stable foundation in every day living of the Gospel. He always put the Lord, his wife and family and service to others in the proper order. He was solid in his testimony.

I have moved out of St. George and live in Rexburg so I will not be able to attend his funeral but know my thoughts and prayers are with Sherri and the Burris family.

*Terry Young
Former Sunset 11th ward member*

Terry Young - April 22, 2017 at 07:43 PM

CB

“ Owen is my uncle. Reading all these heartwarming tributes has been moving, and also very familiar, for Owen is a terrific human being, husband and father. These accounts also remind me of when Owen and his family were very kind to me during a challenging time in my teens. I will never forget the wisdom, patience and love shown by all of the Barrus family. Uncle Owen gave me sage advice at that time and it really stayed with me.
He will always be close to my heart.
I know he will be missed terribly by those who were privileged to be close to him.
With Love,
Christine Barrus Barrington

Christine Barringotn - April 21, 2017 at 04:53 PM



“ Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of Owen Merrill Barrus.



April 20, 2017 at 04:22 PM

JJ

“ Our favorite memory is of Owen & Sherry serving as Nursery Leaders when our son Craig was in their class. They gave 100% to that calling. Craig remembers Owen's great big hand! To quote a friend's comment when my dad died: "Hallelujah! Owen graduated and is up there making a difference!"
With love, Judy & Murell Johnson (Loveland CO)

Judy Johnson - April 20, 2017 at 12:00 PM

BG

“ We're grateful that we had the opportunity to get to know him as Bishop and friend. He will be missed and we look forward to seeing him on the other side. Our hearts go out to his family and friends.

Brent and Becky Gardner

Becky Gardner - April 19, 2017 at 10:12 PM

BA

“ Bonnie and Gerald Allen would like to express our deep love and respect for this great man, we call our friend. We could not have picked better people to be our neighbors than the Barrus Family. The countless acts of kindness and service Owen has given us can not be measured. We will forever be grateful for this honorable man and his mark on our lifetime. We know that he will take with him this God given talent and will yet bless many others. With unrivaled respect, we say goodbye.

Bonnie Allen - April 19, 2017 at 05:29 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Owen Merrill Barrus.



April 19, 2017 at 05:23 PM

EB

“ Our dear Owen Barrus kept the computers running throughout the Sunset Stake for individuals as well as the buildings in the Stake. Personally, he was always at my beckon call whenever I had any problem with my computer or copy machine. He even uipdated my computer so as not to have to buy a new one. Not only did have all the electronic skills, but I discovered he had a sweet tooth and enjoyed cookies and candy, especially chocolate, which I tried to supply upon occasion. Our humble giant will prepare a way for his family and friends. Our prayers are with you, Sherry, and your family.. Love, Evelyn Bornstein

Evelyn Bornstein - April 19, 2017 at 03:58 PM

EP

“ Owen was a big man with a big heart and a booming voice. I enjoyed serving with him in the Bishopric and found him to be a very spiritual, fair, compassionate, and at times, a very humorous human being. He will be missed by many on this side, but warmly welcomed on the other side as he continues to serve. Pat and I truly enjoyed his friendship and service.
Ed and Pat Pennington

Ed and Pat Pennington - April 19, 2017 at 01:39 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Owen Merrill Barrus.



April 19, 2017 at 01:06 PM

RY

“ Owen was such a special man of God. He was funny soulful and just downright awesome many memories our family has .He gave my son a laptop and this morning when I told him about Owens passing he was heartbroken he loved him and so did we.
Our love to the Barrus Family
the Yager Family Bob, Anna and Josh

Robert & Anna Yager - April 19, 2017 at 12:37 PM

QP

“ Sherry, Paul, Michelle, and Lisa;

Owen was a great friend. He blessed the lives of those he touched and his great honesty, faithfulness, and humor will be missed.
Please accept our condolences.

Our lives were and are better for having known Owen Barrus.

Quentin and Suzy Price

Quentin Price - April 19, 2017 at 12:02 PM

CB

“ We are saddened at the sudden death of our dear friend & former Bishop. He was so kind to Carita's elderly mother and presided at her funeral. Although space & time have separated us, we have never forgotten the wonderful times we spent together in Loveland. Our thoughts & prayers are with you, Sherry, and your family.....Robert & Carita.

Carita Barlow - April 19, 2017 at 11:24 AM

LJ

“ *Love, The Miners, Hopes, Powells, and Jensens. purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Owen Merrill Barrus.*



Love, The Miners, Hopes, Powells, and Jensens. - April 19, 2017 at 11:04 AM

AB

“ *I will always cherish the memories of the times working with Owen at the Ivins Facilities Management office. He often had interesting and inspiring messages to add to our Monday morning devotionals. He will be greatly missed by all.*

I send my deepest, heartfelt condolences to Sherry. She has always been a wonderful example to me as she has served as Owen's missionary companion at the Ivins FM office.

Alan Bassett

Alan Bassett - April 19, 2017 at 08:41 AM



“ *Owen was a wonderful man. What a joy to know him and to have been blessed by his goodness and his marvelous example. He was open, loving, and kind, and I cherished his love of cycling!*

Mark Waite - April 19, 2017 at 07:10 AM