



## Richard Olson Barrett

November 8, 1930 - November 8, 2014

Richard Olson Barrett, 84, of West Hartford, beloved husband of Mary Downer Barrett for 59 years, passed away at home on Saturday November 8, 2014. Besides his wife, Richard is survived by children John (Kathleen) of Hudson, Ohio; Susan and Andrew of West Hartford; grandchildren Sarah Costigan (William) of Los Angeles, CA; Meagan Hughes (Steve) of Manhattan Beach, CA; Charlotte and Rocco Vernia of Hudson, OH; great-granddaughter Charlotte Costigan of Los Angeles, as well as brothers S. Alfred of Norfolk, MA and Howard of Phoenix, AZ and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by parents Silas and Hannah and twin brother Ronald.

Richard was born in Hartford and grew up in Columbia, CT. He remained in close contact with childhood friends from Columbia throughout his life. He graduated from Windham High School in 1948 and the University of Connecticut School of Business Administration in 1952 and worked at Aetna, Inc. for 32 years in Detroit, Trumbull and Hartford. Richard was a director in the property casualty division at Aetna when he retired.

Upon retirement, Richard became an active swimmer at Cornerstone Pool in West Hartford, swimming a mile a day, five days a week for over 20 years. He was an avid reader, a lifelong New York Giants and UConn fan and most importantly, a loving, devoted and cherished husband, father, grandfather and friend.

Calling hours will be from 4:00 to 6:30 PM on Tuesday November 11 at Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home, 136 South Main Street, West Hartford. Funeral services will be held at 10:00 AM on Wednesday November 12 at Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home. Burial services will be private. Donations may be made to the West Hartford Food Pantry or McLean Hospice of Simsbury. For online condolences and directions please visit [www.taylorandmodeen.com](http://www.taylorandmodeen.com)

# Comments

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“ To all the Barrett family, We are so sad at the loss of your father, husband and grandpa. Although we have never met him, we feel as though we know him because of all of the warm stories you have shared about him. You are lucky to have him for so many years, and even luckier to know that he will meet you in eternity, and will greet you with open arms when your day comes.

**Barbara and Dave Sechler, Samantha and Scott - Cleveland, OH** - November 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ John and Kathleen -  
I am so sorry to hear of the passing of your father and am sending warm thoughts and prayers to you and your extended family. Although I did not know him personally, he must have been a great man. Character and values are passed down from our parents and, through you, he lives on.  
Fondly,  
MaryFrances

**MaryFrances McCourt - Bloomington, IN - Friend** - November 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Mary- I am so saddened by the passing of Dick. He was such a sweet nice friendly man who cared so much for his family. He would smile say hi and or wave driving down the street, raking the leaves, watering the lawn, walking to Cornerstone, to or from the store, or taking walks with you around the school and I could see how much love there was between you both. I loved how we were invited to ur birthday party u guys had years back. I know how he loved his Huskies and Giants:-) When we were moving to FI back in 2010 he came over to my parents house with the upcoming Huskies schedule and I always made sure I followed them as well :-) He was a great neighbor, friend, and like a granddad to me :-) You will be missed Dick. Hugs and Love Rest in Peace Prayers Love and Hugs Mary and to the entire Barrett Family God Bless

**Carrie Howard - Newington, CT** - November 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Sue and family -- I hope you're taking strength from one another and comfort from all your wonderful memories during this sad time. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers, now and in the coming days.  
Martha

**Martha Camp - Naples, FL - Friend of Sue** - November 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Sue and Barrett family:  
Please accept my deepest condolences on the passing of a dear and special man. My thoughts are with all of you. Louise

**Louise Murphy - Dallas, TX - friend and colleague of Sue** - November 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Mary, Sue, Andrew, John  
Regardless of the pain of the loss of Dick (husband,father,), you are lucky to have had him in your lives. He was a wonderful, kind, warm human being and everyone whose life he was a part will keep him alive in memory.I send all of you my prayers, my love and my wishes that you will find peace in knowing he is no longer in pain and that you will always have him with you in memories of a very special person whose life was a part of yours.Most of all, Mary--peace be with you  
Love,Barbara

**Barbara J. Salkin - Silver Spring, MD - friend/relative** - November 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Sue - Sending you love and support during this very difficult time. Though you held him close in life, you will hold him even closer in your memories. Tracy

**Tracy McKee - CT - Friend of Sue Barrett** - November 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Having known Richard ( I called him Barrett) since the 7th grade in Columbia, he was my oldest and dearest friend growing up. We went to more dances, sporting events, movies and other places than I could count. Later when he married, we continued to travel together and share memorable times. I think my fondest memory of Barrett is that we never had an argument, we got along so well and shared a great mutual respect. So many times I have bragged to people about the friend I had who swam a mile 5 days a week. Far, far too many memories to share. I will miss him terribly---his infectious grin and wonderful sense of humor. I am grateful that he was a friend of mine.

Allan "Cappy" Robinson, Jr. - Roanoke, VA - Long time friend, cousin of Mary - November 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Dear Aunt Mary, John and Kathleen, Susan, Andrew, Sarah, William & baby Charlotte, Meagan and Steve, Charlotte, Rocco, and Alfred and Howard,

My husband Alan and son Robert (both with the last name Gordon), and I are so sorry to hear of the loss of Uncle Richard. I remember him as a calm, steady, warm father figure, and I have many happy memories of visits to 19 Bridlepath Rd. We wish you love and comfort at what must be a very sad and difficult time.

My mom, Vesta, and my sister Ann and her husband Ed Hazell and their son Ben Hazell also send their love. They are with you in spirit. Alan and I expect to join you on Wednesday for the funeral.

Many hugs,  
Judy

P.S. Special hellos to Lucy and Duncan, who are also beloved family members.

Judy - Rego Park, NY - niece - November 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM

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“ Our heartfelt sympathies in this, your time of grief.

Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home - West Hartford, CT - November 10, 2014 at 12:00 AM