



## William Joseph Barton

April 12, 1943 - June 3, 2026

William Joseph Barton, 83, of Napoleon, Ohio passed away on Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at his home, surrounded by his family. He was born in Napoleon on April 12, 1943 to the late Clyde and Geraldine Lucille (Beard) Barton.

William proudly served his country as both an Army and Navy veteran. An engineer by trade, he was known for his hardworking nature and endless sense of humor. He held many jobs after serving in the Navy. He retired from Sauder Woodworking Co. as a tow motor driver in 2008.

William found joy in life's simple pleasures, especially movies, music, playing Euchre and most of all spending time with family. William and his wife Patricia won many Euchre tournaments together. He was a member of the Moose, Amvets, VFW and American Legion.

On September 3, 1977, he married Patricia Freet in Delta, Ohio, who proceeded in death, beginning a marriage built on love and shared memories. He will be remembered with love by all who knew him.

Bill is survived by his children, Terry (Karen) Barton, Timothy (Shoshanna) Barton, and Tracy (Tom) Metzger; 10 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren; and sister-in-law, Shelia Barton. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Patricia; son, David Kinder; and siblings, Karen (James)

Ellis, and Clyde “Gene” Barton.

According to Bill’s wishes, a celebration of his life, or “pond party” as he would describe it, will be held at Tracy’s house on July 25, 2026 from 12 noon until 5:00 PM or until the beverages run dry. Memorial contributions may be made to Ridgeville Twp Fire Department or Elara Caring Hospice. Online condolences and messages may be shared with the family at [rodenbergergray.com](http://rodenbergergray.com). Arrangements entrusted to Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon.

# Upcoming Events

## Celebration of Life

JUL **25**. 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Tracy Metzger's Home  
Napoleon, OH 43545

*Tracy Metzger's home*

# Tribute Wall

MO

“ *All my love to you Brother and Tracy, amazing all you have done for your parents! Too many memories to post here but Great Humor is at the top of the list! They are all resting peacefully and we have many happy memories to call upon when thinking of them. All my love Sis.....(Micki)*

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**Micki Ortiz** - June 07 at 01:11 PM

“ From the fields, forests, plains of Africa and war-torn Europe, to the frozen tundra of Korea, to the jungles of Southeast Asia, from the deserts of Kuwait and Iraq to the mountains of Afghanistan, brave patriots have protected our nation’s ideals, rescued millions from tyranny, and helped spread freedom around the globe. America’s veterans answered the call when asked to protect our nation from some of the most brutal oppression the world has ever known. Military service demands a special kind of sacrifice. The places where you are sent to live and serve bring risk every day. From the time you put on that uniform for the first time, the interests of the nation move to the forefront and define your life. Those duties are shared by family members who make many sacrifices of their own, sometimes bearing the burden of losing a loved one. Service brings rewards as well. There is pride in developing one’s own character, serving a cause far greater than self-interest. Every person who wears America’s uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor. No single military power in history has done greater good, shown greater courage, liberated more people or upheld higher standards of decency and valor than the Armed Forces of the United States of America. That is a legacy to be proud of and those who contributed to it must never be taken for granted. To honor our veterans, we must keep the promises we have made to them. We must care for those who have been injured in the service of our country. We must honor and remember those who have died. And we must remember those whose fate is still undetermined. We fly the Prisoner of War flag on Veterans Day for a reason, to show that this nation will not relent until we have accounted for every one of our missing Americans. Thank you for your service. Thank you for all that you have sacrificed for this great nation. Thank you for being the backbone of America.

*Major General Mark W. Lee, United States Army*

LW

“ Terry and Tracy I am so sorry to hear about Bill's passing. He was an amazing father in law and person. You are in my thoughts and prayers. I hope to see you in July.

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**Lori Walker** - June 05 at 10:53 AM

DS

“ so sorry Bill a very good man prayers for the family

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**Dave Bost SR** - June 05 at 10:53 AM

LW

“ Lori Walker lit a candle in memory of William Barton



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**Lori Walker** - June 05 at 10:51 AM