



Mr. Barry Owen Buell

December 13, 1928 - November 29, 2020

Barry O. Buell passed away, at age 91, on November 29, 2020 following a short illness after falling and breaking a hip on October 26, 2020. Barry was born in Memorial Hospital, Bartlesville on December 13, 1928, the only child of Al and Bea Buell. Excepting university years, Barry lived his entire life in Bartlesville.

Barry graduated from Bartlesville High School. He earned a degree in Physics at OU and went to work for Phillips Petroleum Company full time in 1951. His first job was working in the analytical division microscopy group of Research and Development. Barry later took a sabbatical to study for a PhD in Physics at the University of Chicago but after achieving a Masters, interrupted his academic career to come back home and marry his fiancée Joy Yates. Barry worked the rest of his career in Phillips Research. He retired in 1985 as a Senior Geophysics Scientist on the Phillips highly regarded Scientific Professional Ladder for significant achieving employees. He later did consulting work for Phillips.

Barry was widely known for being the best student or the smartest person wherever he studied or worked. He occasionally was called upon by the Director of Research at Phillips Petroleum to do special projects, usually involving upper level math. He was a person of high ethics, deeply honest and forthright. He did not mince words. Barry was sought after for technical opinions and highly respected by peers for his ability and integrity in solving complex problems. That is the abiding legacy of Barry Buell.

Barry was a giver to the community. He and his wife Joy were deeply involved with the First United Methodist Church. He ardently supported his "Sooners" and was a Lifetime Alumni member. Barry was involved with the local Theatre group for many years. Barry supported his hometown with both time and gifts. He was quietly very social, and comfortable with all walks of life. He was a member of Hillcrest and a regular golfer.

Barry was preceded in death by his parents and his wife Joy. He leaves many good friends who will miss his sly humor and trait of saying exactly what he thinks on any occasion. Special friends Suzie Mnich and Erville Orndorff are acknowledged for their love and support through the years, and especially recently.

Graveside services will be held on Thursday, December 3 at 2:00 pm at Memorial Park Mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Joy Buell Scholarship Fund at Oklahoma Wesleyan University.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

4200 Nowata Rd
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Previous Events

Graveside Service

DEC 3. 2:00 PM (CT)

Memorial Park Cemetery
4200 Nowata Rd
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Tribute Wall



“ *Mr. Barry Owen Buell*

October 23, 2023 at 04:40 AM



“ *Mr. Barry Owen Buell*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *I met Barry when he, Carl Elkan and I were named by Washington County Commissioners in early 1986 as a volunteer Committee to study, evaluate and recommend a computer system for the County. Along my son, Stan, who was County Treasurer and was named as liaison between the Committee and the County, we spent upwards of a year selecting a system. So I got to know and appreciate Barry quite well and his contribution to that project was very significant. Many of you I'm sure as I, have enjoyed the colorful trees each fall at their home on the NE corner of Silver Lake and Price Road.*
Herb Stevens

Herbert Stevens - December 05, 2020 at 11:22 AM



“ *I knew Joy from the old days when I worked with her on some technical projects at Phillips. I later met Barry through Don Peters. He was a warm person with an admirable sense of humor. I liked him. My condolence to his family. He will be missed.*
Max

Max McDaniel - December 03, 2020 at 05:37 PM

KC

“ I was privileged to be friends as well as work with both Barry and Joy at Phillips R&D. When trying to put into words how I thought of them all I could come up with is they were so much more than they appeared from the outside. They were everything good. They accomplished what everyone wants - they lived a life that made the world better.

Kathy Tierney Cain - December 02, 2020 at 07:14 AM