



Thomas Michael Barlow

February 26, 1953 - November 15, 2015

Thomas Michael "Mike" Barlow, 62, died suddenly at his home in Tampa, Florida, on Sunday, November 15, 2015. Funeral services will be held at noon at Trinity Memorial Gardens, Trinity, Florida, on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, with visitation from 10:00 to 12:00.

Graveside services will be at the Crystal Springs Cemetery in Crystal Springs, Mississippi, on Saturday, November 21, 2015, at 11:00 a.m.

A memorial worship service will be held on a later date at the United Methodist Church in Wesley Chapel, Florida, where he was an active member.

Mike is preceded in death by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Lee Barlow; his brother, Virgil Lee Barlow, Jr.; and nephews, Daniel Scott Knight and John Barlow Knight. He is survived by his wife, Hyun Joo Lee Barlow; sisters, Ella Katherine Knight, Rachel Sherman and Janet Moss; a number of nieces and nephews; and many other relatives and friends.

Mike was born in Covich County, Mississippi, on February 26, 1953. He attended Crystal Springs High School where he was an honor student and outstanding athlete. Mike lettered in four sports (football, baseball, basketball, track) all four years in high school being the only athlete to achieve this. After high school, he received a football scholarship from the University of

Mississippi and graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

For the past twelve years, Mike was President of Everest University. He began his career at Everest as president of the Melbourne campus and has been leading the Tampa campus for the last nine years. Mike was an integral part of the successes at Everest and was a strong advocate for his students and his campus. At the same time, his leadership style was comforting, and he didn't hesitate to help students when they needed him. He led other campus presidents and often mentored others helping them succeed. Mike leaves behind so many employees and students whose lives he has touched over his very successful career. HE WILL BE FOREVER MISSED!!!

In lieu of flowers the family asked that you make a donation in memory of Thomas Michael Barlow to United Methodist Church, 26211 County Line Road, Wesley Chapel, FL 33544.

Tribute Wall



“ *Thomas Michael Barlow*

January 28, 2023 at 04:45 PM



“ *Mr. Barlow was President at the school I attended, South College, in West Palm Beach FL in 1995. All of the students, faculty and staff thought the world of him. I later went to work for Mr. Barlow at what is now called South University in WPB. During my last year in class and my first year of employment I was diagnosed with breast cancer. Mr. Barlow was always there for me. He was the most kindhearted person and friend that I have ever had the privilege to know. I will forever have a special place in my heart for him. My thoughts and prayers are with the family.*

Sharon Jackson

Sharon Jackson - November 20, 2015 at 02:44 PM



“ *Too many stories to share...elementary, Jr High and High School. And yes, Greg Brock, Ms Lawrence's Geomentry class and Mr Lee's History class and the antics played....with Mike leading the bunch. What a great classmate.....wish all of us could've kept closer in touch with each other through the years. Awesome man. We love you Mike and we'll see you one day. My prayers of comfort are with his family.*

Marsha Bryars Young - November 20, 2015 at 02:20 PM

GB

“ Though Mike and I never crossed paths after leaving Ole Miss, he is one of those people you just never forget. If someone asked me to play a "word association" game and they said "Crystal Springs," my split-second response would be "Mike Barlow." He was synonymous with our town and school. And if any members of his Class of '71 got together today and started telling school stories, you can rest assured stories about Mike would come to mind quickly. Though this news is heart-breaking to hear, just seeing his name brought back funny memories of Mike -- particularly stories about Mike and our math teacher Francis Lawrence. We all remember how Mrs. Lawrence loved *The Jocks* in school. And Mike had to have been her favorite. He could do no wrong. I remember the specific desk he sat in in geometry class -- back row, next to the window. About 10 minutes into a class, when we were certain we could not last another 50 minutes hearing about the Pythagorean theorem, Mike would do or say something to get her off subject. The weather would do it. "It's too hot in here, Mrs. Lawrence." She agreed, noting that she just wanted to go over and hang out the window. "Let it all hang out, Mrs. Lawrence." Oh, boy. Here we go: "Just what do you mean by IT, Mr. Barlow?" And she was off and running, giving one of her *Girl-Boy* lectures. "Below the neck and above the knees is off limits to boys." But Mike got her so flustered once that she reversed it: "Above the neck and below the knees is off-limits to boys." The class roared. She was furious -- until, of course, Mike made some joke and got her on another subject. He's gone too soon. But what a lasting impact he made -- something most of us can only dream about." Greg Brock, New York.

Greg Brock - November 20, 2015 at 11:57 AM

SS

“ My sincere sympathy to the Barlow family.

Sara Thomas Simpson - November 19, 2015 at 06:54 PM

YH

“ HE WAS MY FIRST BEST FRIEND IN C.S. I ALWAYS FELT LIKE HE WAS A BROTHER NO MATTER HOW FAR APART WE WERE. THANK GOODNESS HE HAD OLDER SISTERS TO HELP US GET OUT OF THE TROUBLE THAT SEEMED TO FOLLOW US IN THOSE YOUNG YEARS. I LOVED MIKE AND ALL YOU GUYS. THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES.

YOGI HARRIS - November 19, 2015 at 10:09 AM

JD

“ I am so saddened to hear of Mike's death. I will always remember him fondly from our years in school and church in Crystal Springs. He even made it over to Mississippi State a few times to visit while he was at Ole Miss! My prayers are with you all.
Janet Hennington Davis

Janet Davis - November 19, 2015 at 09:58 AM

DD

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with all of the Barlow family.
Andy and Debbie Donahoe

Debbie Donahoe - November 19, 2015 at 08:39 AM