



## Robert Maxwell Barnard

May 15, 1925 - August 22, 2020

Robert Maxwell Barnard went to be with our Lord on August 22, 2020, at the age of 95. After a few months of declining health Bob died peacefully in his sleep.

Bob was born in Cromwell, Ok on May 15th, 1925. He met his future wife of 74 years, Nila Jean Vaughan, in high school, but World War II delayed their marriage. While Nila attended Oklahoma A&M, Bob joined the 3rd Marine Division and fought in the Pacific theater. He was involved in the invasions of Bougainville, Guam and Iwo Jima.

After World War II, Bob returned home to Tulsa, Oklahoma, married Nila and went to work as sporting goods manager at Clark Darland Hardware store. Their first son, Gary, was born in Tulsa and a few months later Bob was transferred to the Seminole store to take over as Manager. A few years later they moved to Okmulgee where Bob was Sporting Goods Manager for Jack Bell Lumber. Their second son, Craig, was born a few months after the move to Okmulgee.

Later, Bob spent a decade as an agent for John

Hancock Insurance before becoming one of the investors that built Rebold Manor. He spent 45 years as an Administrator/Owner of Rebold and Leisure Manor before building Plantation House Assisted Living Center.

Bob was a leader at the local, state and national level and earned several awards, including Outstanding Young Man of the Year in Oklahoma by the State Junior Chamber of Commerce, John Hancock National Quality Award Winner and Lions Club President of the Year for Oklahoma.

Local leadership positions Bob held include President of the Okmulgee Junior Chamber of Commerce, President of the Okmulgee Lions Club, Executive Director of the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce, President of the Okmulgee Country Club Board, President of Diversified Investments, Chairman of March of Dimes, Board of Trustees for the First United Methodist Church, Chairman of the United Fund and President of both Tri-Bar Properties and Tri-Bar Energy.

Bob's leadership roles at the state level include being a 2 time President of the Oklahoma Nursing Home Association and a member of that Board for over 30 years, 2 time Chairman of the Board of Oil Law Records in Oklahoma City and a board member of PLC Data Corporation in Oklahoma City.

On a national level Bob was on the American Nursing Home Association and was a Regional Vice President for the American Nursing Home

Association.

In addition to all of that, Bob made time to be a loving husband to Nila for three quarters of a century. He was loved and respected by his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren. Bob is survived by his wife Nila, his sons Craig and Gary, 4 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren, a niece, a nephew and many dear friends.

And he could tell you stories until he lost his voice.

Bob's memorial service is at 1pm, Wednesday, September 2nd at First United Methodist Church, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

Because of cancer in Bob's immediate family, this memorial service will follow CDC pandemic rules by requiring masks and social distancing at the church.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or the Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home of Okmulgee. Memories, condolences, photos and videos may be shared with the family on Bob's Tribute Page of our website at [www.mcclendon-winters.com](http://www.mcclendon-winters.com)

# Cemetery Details

## Okmulgee Cemetery

2601 South Wood Drive  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 756-5109

# Previous Events

## Viewing

SEP 1. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McClendon-Winters Funeral Home - Okmulgee  
303 E. 7th Street  
Okmulgee, OK 74447  
(918) 756-1677  
info@mcclendon-winters.com  
<https://www.mcclendon-winters.com>

## Memorial Service

SEP 2. 1:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church of Okmulgee  
8th Street and Seminole  
Okmulgee, OK

# Tribute Wall



“ *McClendon-Winters Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Robert Maxwell Barnard*



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**McClendon-Winters Funeral Home** - August 31, 2020 at 05:48 PM



“ *Robert Maxwell Barnard*

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December 20, 2022 at 11:29 AM



“ *Bob was a customer of mine at Reeds Jewlers in the Woodland hills mall. always had great stories and an awesome personality. he once bought a builder bear Bear for my son Joshua. One day i know i will see him in Heaven and there we will talk again face to face.*

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**Michael Patuto** - December 15, 2022 at 01:29 PM

RJ

“ Mr. Barnard was a friend of my mother and dad’s. Following WWII, as veterans they started families and began life following their faithful military service to a great nation. I first met Mr. Barnard as a small boy at Jack Bell. It is with great respect and admiration he is remembered as a great example of not only the greatest generation, but also a great American. One of my families cherished memories is he and Craig and my boys and me attending a Missouri/OU game in Columbia. The last opportunity to see Bob and Nila was my dad’s memorial service in Okmulgee in 2005. Both he and Nila were going strong, great examples of life lived to the fullest and great examples of family leadership in the community.

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**Robert L Jeffries** - September 06, 2020 at 12:20 PM

NC

“ Bob was a true American hero. He was a great friend and mentor and represented the "Greatest Generation" to a tee!! Godspeed to the family. His stories will live in my mind forever

*Nevyle Cable*

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**NEVYLE CABLE** - September 02, 2020 at 10:48 AM

JM

*Bob was another special guy and personality of Okmulgee. Loved his stories.*

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**Jimmy McClendon** - September 07, 2020 at 11:55 AM

CS

“ My thoughts and prayers are with all the family.

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**Cindy Smith** - September 01, 2020 at 07:52 PM



“ 33 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**McClendon-Winters Funeral Home** - August 31, 2020 at 05:12 PM

JF

“ *Bob was a really good friend of my fathers and turned out to be a good friend of mine. He will be missed by many.*

*John Fidler*

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**John Fidler** - August 31, 2020 at 11:25 AM

KM

“ *Bob was the best business man I ever knew. As well as a great life long friend. He will be missed. ~Kenneth Mann*

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**Kenneth Mann** - August 30, 2020 at 06:37 PM

DE

“ *Bob Barnard was an American hero, talented Businessman, incredible father and husband, tireless Civic Leader and loyal Friend. He was a substitute Grandfather to our children. He left the world a much better place. and a legacy that few people will attain.*

*God bless his life and the family he has left behind. May God strengthen and provide peace to his family during this difficult time.*

*Deepest regrets and sincere condolences,*

*Don and Nancy England and family.*

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**donald p. england** - August 30, 2020 at 06:03 PM

JC

“ *My sincere sympathy to this special family for their loss. Bob was absolutely one of the nicest persons I ever had the pleasure of knowing. Okmulgee has indeed lost a pillar of the community,*

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**Jeneane Campbell** - August 30, 2020 at 02:03 PM

JF

“ *So very sorry, Gary.*

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**Josn Trainir Fels** - August 30, 2020 at 12:50 AM

DM

“ *David Miller lit a candle in memory of Robert Maxwell Barnard*



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**david miller** - August 29, 2020 at 07:07 PM

BO

“ *Barbara OBrien lit a candle in memory of Robert Maxwell Barnard*



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**Barbara OBrien** - August 29, 2020 at 02:39 PM

KA

“ *Kim Angle lit a candle in memory of Robert Maxwell Barnard*



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**Kim Angle** - August 29, 2020 at 02:38 PM

BF

“ *Bob was a dear man who helped me through many tough times! He will be missed!*



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**Becky Fleming** - August 29, 2020 at 12:31 PM

DJ

“ *Bob and I were great friends for many years. Fun times at OU football games. I admired his stories and appreciated his success in the oil business. He loved his family and friends and was always ever so generous. As you, I will miss him.*  
*Duaine Janzen*

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**DUAINE JANZEN** - August 29, 2020 at 10:34 AM

LS

“ *Mrs. Barnard and Boys My name Is Lisa Lunsford - Wilbourn, I worked at Rebold for over 12 years. I loved it when Mr. Bob would come down my hall and stop me tell me all kinds of stories, and he would just tell me if I got into trouble for them to come see him... and just laugh. he was the best boss Prayers for you for comfort .*

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**Lisa Lunsford Swinney** - August 28, 2020 at 08:14 PM

JJ

“ *To many to keep track of but one thing you should know and probably already do your dad, Gary was very special and we loved when he came to visit us at Okmulgee Vision Clinic. He was a story teller about life and his adventures in them. He will be missed but wow what an amazing life. Janette J.*



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**Janette Johnson** - August 28, 2020 at 04:55 PM

PD

“ *Peggy Dangott lit a candle in memory of Robert Maxwell Barnard*



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**Peggy Dangott** - August 28, 2020 at 02:16 PM