



## Dr. Reuben "Barney" Kirkpatrick

April 7, 1931 - January 1, 2020

Reuben A. (Barney) Kirkpatrick passed away surrounded by family on January 1st, 2020, at the age of 88. Barney was born April 7th, 1931, in Tulsa Oklahoma to parents E. Austin Kirkpatrick and Edna Boston Kirkpatrick.

Barney spent his youth in Eufala, later moving to Tulsa with his family, graduating from Will Rogers High School in 1949. While in high school Barney joined the Naval Reserve and spent several summers as a Seaman Recruit on destroyer cruises in the Caribbean. He was also an active member of the Boy Scouts of America, attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

Upon graduating high school, Barney attended Oklahoma A&M College (OSU) where he majored in Mechanical Engineering and was a member and Vice-President of Sigma Chi Fraternity. While at OSU Barney worked at the Alpha Chi Sorority house as a houseboy where he met Mary Allen Gray. They married in 1954 and enjoyed a long and blessed marriage.

Following their graduations from OSU, Barney and Mary moved and lived throughout Oklahoma and Texas while Barney worked for Mobile Oil Company as a petroleum engineer. He answered the call of service to our country and entered the Air Force as an engineer working in the Rocket Laboratory at Wright Patterson AFB in Dayton Ohio. While stationed there Barney decided to refocus his engineering efforts to pursue a career in dentistry and enrolled in the University of Missouri/Kansas City Dental College. He graduated from Dental School in 1960 and was immediately accepted into the Orthodontic Masters Program. Barney began his orthodontic career in Tulsa in 1962 and continued at the same location on Harvard Avenue until his retirement in 1995.

Barney was a member of the Tulsa County and Oklahoma State Dental Society. He also served as President of the Oklahoma Orthodontic Society, as well as President of the Southwest Society of Orthodontists. During his career, Barney championed the idea of the

satellite office and expanded his practice to northeast Oklahoma, making orthodontics readily accessible to those underserved communities.

Although his practice kept Barney busy, the home life he built with Mary Allen was busier, raising five kids. Barney was an active Indian Guide Leader and rarely missed a little league baseball or softball game. While his kids were in high school and college he chaired the Board of Young Life and served on the OSU Foundation. Barney and Mary were members of Asbury United Methodist Church. After retirement, Barney and Mary moved to Monkey Island at Grand Lake. There they rekindled college friendships and made new friends, enjoying hobbies of fishing and golf. They were known to host infamous firework shows with the grandkids, as well as festive hog roasts and Halloween parties. At the lake Barney and Mary were active members of Cleora Methodist Church and Meals on Wheels.

Barney is survived by Mary Allen, his faithful wife of 65 years, and one brother, Jerry Kirkpatrick and wife, Mary Scott Kirkpatrick, of Miami, Oklahoma. Barney leaves five children: Tom and wife Lee Anne of Tulsa, Steve and wife Lori of Bartlesville, Greg and wife Alice of Tulsa, Doug and wife LaDonna of Tulsa, and Kathy and husband Rusty Hendrickson of Edmond, Oklahoma. Barney had fourteen grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

Barney was a devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He was a Loyal and True supporter of OSU sports and the Oklahoma State College of Engineering. He will be remembered by his family and friends as a man of integrity and devotion, with a good bit of prankster on the side.

A memorial service will be held Monday, January 6th, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in the Mason Chapel of Asbury Methodist Church, 6767 South Mingo, Tulsa, OK. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Oklahoma State Foundation/College of Engineering or to The Oklahoma Family Network, supporting Oklahoma children with cancer and special needs, in memory of Barney Kirkpatrick: P.O. Box 21072, Oklahoma City, OK 73156-1072.

# Events

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**JAN Memorial 01:00PM**

**6**

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Asbury United Methodist Church  
6767 S. Mingo Rd., Tulsa, OK, US, 74133

# Comments

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“ It hasn't been 24 hours since I learned of Dr. K's passing, and so many good memories have come back. I'll confess to laughing out loud a few times. I was a patient of his in the late 1970s and was hired by Dr. Tom to work in their lab some years later. What a good man, great example, and kind friend. I haven't met another person who accomplished so much, did it so well, with as much joy. Thoughts of him remind me to lighten up--and work a little harder! My sincerest condolences to Mrs. Kirkpatrick, and to his family.  
David Watson

David Watson - January 08 at 05:13 PM

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“ I am so sorry to hear about the passing of Dr. K. I had the PRIVILEGE of getting to work with this WONDERFUL man at the beginning of my orthodontic career!! He was a GREAT teacher and I will forever be GRATEFUL for getting to know him, Mary and his kids! He was always laughing and smiling and such a GENUINE man! I have thought about him so many times over the years and when doing so always had a smile on my face! Oh those early morning road trips to Miami, Ok! Lots of fun! And this man loved his corn nuts! Peace be with you Dr. K. and your family! Love Tammy Anderson

Tammy Anderson - January 06 at 03:21 PM

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“ Sad to hear about Barney. My brother, Sam, and I were just talking about some memories we had of Barney when we were children. He was always so fun to be around, even when we were in "the chair". We both admired him and Mary. They were adults to look up to and be inspired by. So glad to have gotten the chance have those wonderful memories. Cathy Highfield McFarland

Cathy McFarland - January 06 at 02:03 PM

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“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Dr. Reuben "Barney" Kirkpatrick.



January 06 at 10:57 AM



“ My husband was Dr. Robert B. Taylor, Jr., and we have know Dr, Kirkpatrick for many years! He and one of his sons, the name escapes me as I am 89 years old and my memory isn't quite as clear as it once was took care of my children's orthodontic needs! He and his family were very kind and gracious and my husband shared many meetings together, locally and nationally! My prayers are with the family as they mourn his death and may God strength you in the days and years to come! Caryl Taylor and family

**Mrs. Robert B (Caryl) Taylor, Jr.** - January 05 at 05:35 PM

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“ I am so sorry to hear about Dr. Kirkpatrick. He was a wonderful colleague to my father and straightened my teeth perfectly! Sincerely, Ms. Robin E. Taylor

**Robin E. Taylor** - January 05 at 02:05 PM

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“ Will forever remember Barneys kindness to my family, his humor was infectious, he was a role model and mentor to my husband. Great men are never forgotten, their morals and integrity are passed to the next generation. Mary, you and your children are in my prayers.  
Zandra Christy

**Zandra Christy** - January 04 at 05:03 PM

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“ Dr Kirkpatrick was a Prince of a man. I worked with him as a assistant back in 1967 he always a a smile on his face and he loved his work and family he will be missed. My prayers to his family.  
Maralana Cunningham



**Maralana Cunningham** - January 03 at 04:59 PM

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“ Written in the Stars was purchased for the family of Dr. Reuben "Barney" Kirkpatrick.



January 03 at 12:05 PM

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“ I had the privilege of working for "Dr. K" for a number of years in his orthodontic practice. He loved a good story, and told me he had gotten a lot of mileage out of a story I had told him on myself. Can still hear his laughter when he told me that.

**Melvena Panter** - January 03 at 10:48 AM



“ Our condolences to Mary and the Kirkpatrick family. We have many fond memories of get togethers on Monkey Island and the ROMEO group.  
Barney was a great guy.

**John and Chris Podger** - January 04 at 12:49 PM