



## Emil Carl Birnstein Jr.

January 23, 2018

Emil Carl Birnstein Jr. of Hudson, NH, died January 23, 2018 at the age of 86 after a long brave battle with Parkinson's disease. He is survived by his wife Barbara and his three daughters, Andrea Gallagher, Carla Johnson and Paula Schwear, their spouses, as well as his grandchildren Kayla Ziegwied, Tanner Johnson, Samantha Schwear and Max Schwear.

He proudly served in the Korean War, as a naval submarine electrician.

In 1957 he married the love of his life Barbara Brenner. On September 14, 2017 they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Emil spent the majority of his career working for GTE Sylvania as a lighting engineer. He was most happy talking about incandescent and tungsten halogen lightbulbs.

Emil had a wonderfully creative side. He made nail sculptures that were used as awards for one year's Special Winter Olympics. He enjoyed drawing, woodworking, poetry, calligraphy and making metal lanterns.

He was a tremendously giving and principled man. He served as a Director on the Board of the Salem Boys Club. In 1977 he ran for town Selectman. He read his daughters the children's bible on Sunday mornings and taught them many life lessons about doing right.

He loved Cape Cod, where he and his wife Barbara retired and both of them volunteered at Nickerson State Park and on the Cape Cod Bike Trail. During summers they piled their children and grandchildren into the bed of their truck to enjoy days at Skaket Beach. Emil enjoyed swimming in Flax Pond and going on walks in the woods with his wife and children.

For a period of time, at age 85, he held the world record as the Oldest Ring Bearer, at his granddaughter Kayla's wedding. <https://recordsetter.com/world-record/oldest-ring-bearer/51305>

Emil, who was called Bubbles by those close to him, was diagnosed with Parkinson's 20 years ago. With the expert care of his wife Barbara and his daughter Carla, he enjoyed life (and his favorite homemade foods) until the last week of his life. His hope was to find a cure for this terrible disease in his lifetime. In lieu of flowers, the family would like your support of the Michael J. Fox Foundation <https://www.michaeljfox.org/> so that we can find a cure.

A celebration of life will be held this spring/summer. Check back to this site for details.

# Comments

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“ My father, Dick Collopy worked with and commuted to/fro South Willow St. for years with Emil. I had the opportunity to meet Emil on a few occasions. I never knew he has Bubbles as a nickname, but I have to say it is fitting. I have not seen Emil, probably since my dad's retirement in 1989. However, I recognized his smile while scanning through the Tribune.

My thoughts and prays to Emil and those who loved him.

Sincerely, Bob Collopy

**Bob Collopy** - February 02, 2018 at 01:17 PM

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“ May you be comforted by all your family and friends during this time...lots of love from California...Nancy Pidduck

**nancy pidduck** - January 29, 2018 at 05:03 PM