



## James T. (Jim) Barfield

December 18, 1919 - August 9, 2015

James (Jim) T. Barfield, Jr. age 95, died peacefully from natural causes on August 9, 2015. He was born in Atlanta, the son of James T. Barfield, Sr. and Clara Flatauer Barfield. Jim married the love of his life, Josephine Morgan Barfield, in 1941 who predeceased him in 2012. Jim graduated from Boys High in 1939 where he excelled both academically and in sports. He was an All-State running back and a High School Boxing Champion. He led the Georgia High School All-State Football Team to a victory over the Arizona All Stars in 1939 in Phoenix. Years later, after graduating from Mercer University, this special all-star team trip, which included Jim's unscheduled exploits into Superstition Mountain, became the hallmark of his famous storytelling as a teacher to Atlanta students. He always ended each class with a short segment of this never-ending saga. Jim attended Mercer on a football scholarship, was tapped into Phi Beta Kappa, and elected president of the senior class and student body. He served in the United States Army during World War II and was assigned to the medical corps. After the war, Jim relied on a wealth of inexhaustible energy and determination to succeed in life. Among business pursuits, which included his own Insurance and real estate brokerage firms, Jim taught and coached at Bass High and Dykes High School. Additionally, he was the owner of Barfield's Health Center where he worked with injured professional baseball players, performed physical therapy on polio victims, and taught body building to the public. Former Mr. America and Mr. Universe, Harry Johnson, credited Jim as his mentor and role model. Jim was a pioneer

of Educational TV when it was launched in Atlanta on Channel 30 in 1958. He was hand-picked by the Atlanta Board of Education to host his own program devoted entirely to good health and nutrition. "Your Health with Jim Barfield" aired for 5 years. After retiring to his farm in Chattahoochee Hills, Jim and his wife, Jo, enjoyed many years of fishing, tending to farm animals, gardening, family activities, and services at their beloved Palmetto Baptist Church. Jim touched the lives of his students in positive and memorable ways as evidenced by the fact that many of them have stayed in touch with him throughout their lives. Jim is survived by his three children and their spouses, Clare Barfield Hoche (Henry), Judge James T. Barfield, III (Beverly), Robert Morgan Barfield (Pam) and 7 grandchildren; 12 great grandchildren. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, August 12, 2015 at Palmetto Baptist Church with Dr. Jimmy Orr officiating. Interment will follow at Holly Hill Memorial Park. Those wishing may sign the online guestbook at [www.parrottfuneralhome.com](http://www.parrottfuneralhome.com). In lieu of flowers those desiring may make donations to Southwest Christian Care, 7225 Lester Rd., Union City, GA 30291. The family will receive friends Tuesday evening from 5:00 until 7:00 p.m. at Parrott Funeral Home and Crematory, 770-964-4800.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 11. 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Parrott Funeral Home & Crematory  
8355 Senoia Road  
Fairburn, GA 30213  
(770) 964-4800  
info@parrottfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.parrottfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

KB

“ *James T. (Jim) Barfield*

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**K.L. Banks** - September 03, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *My condolences go out to Jims family and friends. He trully was a great man,m inside and out! He would come to Palmetto High School while I was attending,72-77, and teach classes when there was a teacher absent or any classes needing assistant teachers or coaches. I had him in Political Science class, P.E. class, English and Woodworking classes. He was always very friendly, attentive, and helpful in all classes. He was very smart and he had a lot of great advice to give and stories to tell. He was very entertaining and fun to be around. I once went to his house in Rico for some reason, maybe fishing related, cant remember, but he was very welcoming easy to talk to ! We will miss you Jim Barfield! R.I.P.SIR! We will see you again in Heaven!*

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**Joel Laster** - September 01, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ *Well done, Coach Barfield.  
Alumni of Dykes are united in our praise for you.  
Thanks again for all you did for us.  
God bless you and yours.*

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**Robert Arnold** - August 15, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Dear Bob and Family,  
We are so sorry for your loss. You and your family will be in our thoughts and prayers. With love and deepest sympathy.....Craig, Dawn, Taylor and Kayla

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**The Caldwell Family** - August 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ Jim and Beverly: So sorry to hear of your family's loss. My hope is that you will draw strength from his legacy every time you think of his life's story and example.

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**Claudia Bannister Barnes** - August 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ Our condolences to the Barfield family. May God's love comfort you during this time and bring you peace. Mr. Jim was a wonderful man and is now in his Heavenly home. Love to you all, Joyce, Sam, Cindy and Savanna, Ronnie and Randy

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**The Cotton Coggin Family** - August 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

RT

“ Jerry and I were blessed to know Jim and Jo.  
My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

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**Rebecca Thompson** - August 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

BL

“ May he rest in peace. We only knew him for a short period of time but really enjoyed talking to him and working for him.  
Our sympathy and prayers for the family.

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**Bud and Joan Land** - August 12, 2015 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Jim and family,  
What a wonderful legacy your father leaves, and to his family he leaves the treasured gift of a good name. He has positively influenced so many lives and he leaves this world a better place. And the Master replied, “Well done my good and faithful servant”.  
Matt. 25: 21.  
Our sincere sympathy,  
Margaret & Gordon

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**Margaret & Gordon Kilgore** - August 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ Clare, we just found about about your father's death and we want to let you know that our hearts and thoughts and prayers will be with you. We think of you often and the wonderful place up there. I know that there are many memories of his long journey that will fill you with joy in the future. I know he will be missed.  
Blessings,  
John and Patty Fitts

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**John and Patty Fitts** - August 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DB

“ My favorite teacher and coach. I use stories when I teach in the style that he did. A great man and role model.

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**David Berta** - August 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ *Jim and Bev;*

*We are so saddened by the loss of your Father. I remember your Dad well, although I was afraid of him since he was a body builder. What a wonderful life he led, and what a wonderful job he did raising his family. His legacy will live on.*

*We love you guys,*

*Dennis and Sandra*

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**Dennis H King** - August 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ *I remember Coach Barfield for his sense of humor and storytelling abilities. He was a true character - I thoroughly enjoyed my 2 years at Dykes and Coach Barfield was a big reason. I am sorry for the Barfield family's loss but I know you have a million great memories to bring you comfort. God Bless you Coach!*

*Go Colts!*

*Jamie Morrison*

*Dykes HS: 1971-73*

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**Jamie Morrison** - August 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ *Mr. Jim Barfield was one of the most colorful personalities we've ever met. He was always a joy to be around. Even when he was not feeling well, he would brighten up our day with a joke, a story, and a laugh. He was such an encouragement to us and we already miss him more than we can say. What a great man along with his awesome wife, Mrs. Jo! Love them so much! A great legacy!*

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**Jimmy & Amanda Orr** - August 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

CV

“ Coach Barfield was one of my favorite staff at W.F. Dykes HS. He was so kind and such a good story teller. I pray for the family at this time and will always remember him. Rest in Peace until we meet again!

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**carol voglesonger** - August 11, 2015 at 12:00 AM

AH

“ My prayers and thoughts are with you, Coach. You were, and are, a very special person loved and respected by many of your former students. You will be greatly missed.

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**Albert Handmacher** - August 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SR

“ Thank you for all you did for us at Dykes High School.

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**Sharon Hudson Roeble** - August 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ I remember Coach Barfield so well and loved his classes. He was such a good man and teacher. We will miss him.....he was a wonderful person that all teachers should emulate. My prayers for your family.

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**Laura Rainey Chambers** - August 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ My deepest sympathy to the Barfield family. Coach Barfield was a great to us at Dykes High. He also knew my father at Boys High. May he rest in peace and one day I will see him again to finish that story about Superstitious Mtn.

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**Phillip Whiteman** - August 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

GV

“ We are so sad to here of Coach Barfield's passing. He was an amazing personality, storyteller, and teacher in the classroom, and on the field at W F Dykes, and in the community. I just read his obit and see he graduated from Boy's High with my father in 39'. I wish that I had stayed in touch somehow. I wish for the family to heal from their loss, and thrive from the memories of his and their lives together.

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**Greg Veal & Lyra (Golden) Veal** - August 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

VM

“ Coach Barfield and coach Theodosian used to come over and fish all the time in a small lake behind our house on Tall Pines Drive and Lake Forrest. After dealing with us rug rats all day I think it was the closest lake to Dykes where they could get to quickly after school and sports practices. Fishing was their drug of choice to escape, they chose wisely. They both are deeply respected and missed.

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**Vance McGaughey** - August 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

JT

“ To Bob and family: What a life well lived. Coach Barfield was a a great inspiration, a person who brought encouragement and a smile to many a young person. Who will ever forget the tales of Superstitious Mountain! He was also my eighth grade health teacher. I celebrate his life.

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**Jim Thompson** - August 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM

DJ

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Please accept my sincere condolences. I would like to share something that has given me comfort when I have lost loved ones. It is found in the Bible at John 5:28,29 and Revelation 21:4. These verses tell us that soon God is going to bring about a resurrection of our loved ones as well as do away with all causes we have for suffering, including sickness and death. Knowing this has always comforted me and it is my hope that these thoughts will comfort your family also.

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DJ - August 10, 2015 at 12:00 AM