



Dr. Jerry N. Barlow

June 13, 1945 - November 11, 2017

DR. JERRY N. BARLOW, AGE 72

And a resident of Covington went to be with the Lord on Saturday night November 11, 2017 at St. Tammany Parish Hospital. He was born on June 13, 1945 in Petal, MS and graduated from Petal High School before studying chemistry at William Carey College. During his time there, Jerry was selected to work at the Oak Ridge nuclear power plant in Tennessee, an honor he was always very proud of. Jerry joined the United States Navy and served during the Vietnam Era. Upon returning, he surrendered to the ministry which would remain his devotion for the next 40 years. Jerry graduated from the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and after short tenures at various churches his family moved to Franklinton, where he served at First Baptist Church from 1981 until 1996. He always had a desire to be a church pastor as well as being a teacher so he returned to NOBTS and began serving in that ministry that continued until his passing. Jerry taught in the Leavell College, as well as the Master's Program and also served as Dean of the Graduate Studies Program. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping and the outdoors. Jerry cherished the time spent with his family and adored his young grandchildren. He had a saying "I'm gonna live until I die, and I'm gonna serve the Lord until I die", and he most certainly did.

Survived by:

Wife of 47 years: Lynne Barlow of Covington

Daughter and Son in law: Cathy and Kirt Edmonston of Prairieville

3 Grandchildren: Sarah Jane Edmonston,
Spencer Edmonston,
Susanna Edmonston

4 Brothers and Sisters in law: Larry and Sandy Barlow of Tallahassee, FL,
Gary Barlow of Chicago, IL,
Barry and Dina Barlow of Warrenton, VA,
Carey and Janet Barlow of Petal, MS

Mother in law: Betty Oberst of Hattiesburg, MS

Sisters in law and Brothers in law: Bettye Tyner of Hattiesburg, MS,
Robert Oberst, Jr.,
Ricky and Barbara Oberst all of Petal, MS

Also numerous nieces, nephews and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents William G. Barlow and Nordeen Sanders Barlow, father in law Robert Oberst and brother in law Thomas Tyner.

A memorial service for family and friends will be held Thursday November 16th at First Baptist Church of Covington (16333 Hwy. 1085, Covington, LA 70433). Visitation will be from 2 pm until the time of the service at 4 pm with Dr. Waylon Bailey, Rev. David Rockett, Dr. Charles Kelley, and Dr. Larry Barlow officiating. A family graveside service and burial will take place in Hillcrest Cemetery in Petal, MS on Friday with Rev. Grant Stegall officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family prefers memorial donations to the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary c/o Dr. Jerry N. and Lynne O. Barlow Bi-Vocational Scholarship (3939 Gentilly Blvd., New Orleans, LA 70126)

Obituaries can be viewed online at www.crainfh.com

Tribute Wall

WS

“ I served under Jerry as first division officer on the USS Desoto County, an old style LST. This was in the very early '70's when many naval officers came into service via OCS. Jerry was a fine officer and role model, poised and well spoken. I think of him often with respect and fondness. He found his calling and, no doubt, brought a sense of peace to all those who knew him. William (Bill) Squires, MD, Chesterfield, VA

William Squires - March 20, 2025 at 10:02 PM

“ Dr. Barlow was so super special as my preaching professor during my time as an undergraduate at NOBTS. I did not find out that he had passed on into glory until today (February 2025) as I was reflecting over my time at NOBTS. I can always hear his voice when I find myself in a difficult pastoral situation. I remembered him sharing that during one of his weeks in the pastorate that he had done seven funerals causing him to wonder when he would see the light of day. I am so thankful that the Lord gave him the spiritual and physical perseverance to run the race. My wife, Frances, spent a lot of time with Lynne and we knew Cathy as well. I can remember during a time of dark spiritual oppression as Dr. Barlow passed me in the hallway near his office that he suddenly veered in my direction, came over to me, and immediately laid his hands on me and prayed. The oppression left immediately!



I worked on the NOBTS maintenance crew during my time at NOBTS and one day I needed to repair something in Dr. Barlow's office. He was sitting behind his desk reading through a student's paper and greeted me warmly as always. He asked about my family and how ministry was going at the church that I served in (which he attended as well when not preaching as an interim somewhere else). I noticed the large stack of student's papers on his desk and asked him how he found the correct paper for each individual student. He reached into a stack about a foot high and said "Do you mean like this one?" He pulled out my personal essay from Pastoral Ministries class! Dr. Barlow left a deep impression on my life and that of my family. He was also part of my ordination council into the Gospel Ministry at FBCNO in February of 2000. He signed his name along with the rest of the ordination council and wrote Phil. 4:19 in parenthesis next to his signature. Truly, Dr. Barlow knew how the Lord would meet every need as the verse impresses. because his life was the perfect illustration of this verse. God used Jerry Barlow to mold the lives of so very many students at NOBTS. As my wife, Frances, has sacrificed for the ministry that the Lord has called us

*to together along with our children I am so thankful that Lynne and Cathy also stood behind Dr. Barlow as well. Whenever I find myself in the midst of spiritual oppression I can hear Dr. Barlow's gentle voice praying over me with strength and conviction. I am where I am because of Dr. Barlow. There will never be another Jerry Barlow!
(Dr. Frank B. Pratt).*

Frank Pratt - February 10, 2025 at 06:26 PM

DD

“ *During my M. Div. work at NOBTS my preaching was thoroughly "Brysonized". I am thankful for Dr. Barlow and his contribution to that preaching journey, as he also had been trained by Dr. Bryson. I am saddened to hear of his passing.*

David Deming - November 16, 2017 at 04:39 PM

KJ

“ *Dr. Barlow was one of my favorite professors at NOBTS. He was always so kind and gentle and I thoroughly enjoyed the class I had with him even though I was the only female in the room with about 40 men. He was a joy to be around and I am so saddened to learn of his passing. My thoughts and prayers are with the family and the NOBTS family .*

Kelly Jones - November 16, 2017 at 12:49 PM

RS

“ *Dr. Barlow always had a smile and a hello as he passed you in the hall. When we had time to talk in the Registrars office he would show me pictures of his grandchildren. He loved his family and he showed love to all. May God hold Lynn and Cathy close.*

Rhonda Smith - November 15, 2017 at 08:21 PM



Raymond
Davidson

“ Lynne, Cathy and family. Ya'll have been on my mind often as I remember our shared lives in Virginia Beach as Naval Officers and at NOBTS as neighbors. I kinda lost track of you following graduation, but I've never forgotten the fun times we had together. i was very shocked to hear of Jerry's passing. Ginny and I, as well as you, know that he is in heaven with our Lord and Savior. We cherish the relationship we have had together. Please know that you are in our thoughts and prayers and have our sincerest sympathies. He was a great man and even greater Christian. Ray and Ginny Davidson

Raymond Davidson - November 15, 2017 at 04:49 PM

DS

“ I have known Dr. Jerry Barlow since I went to serve just across the state line in Mississippi at Tylertown back in 1982. Later as I pursued my doctorate at NOBTS he was a great encouragement . The way I will always think of Dr. Barlow is that he was a scholar with a pastor's heart. My prayers are with the family in your time of grief.

David Smith - November 15, 2017 at 03:42 PM

JG

“ Barbara and I wish to express our sympathy to Lynne, Cathy and family in your loss. We can't express how much Bro. Jerry meant to us and our entire family. His words of comfort at the funerals of our Mom and Dad were exactly what we needed to hear. His ministry in Washington Parish and at NOBTS touched numerous lives and I believe had an eternal impact on the Kingdom. His kindness and concern showed through everytime we encountered him. Our prayers are with you. J & Barbara Gilbert, Cherokee, NC

J Gilbert - November 15, 2017 at 10:13 AM

HW

“ I was very shocked to hear that Dr. Barlow had gone to be with the Lord. He was like a father to me in seminary. I told him that I felt like a double minority at times and he listened, encouraged me and made me really feel apart. I know heaven has gained a seasoned general of love and encouragement but our seminary has lost one. Love you Dr.Barlow and I will be praying for your family...

Hilton R. Wells - November 14, 2017 at 11:06 PM

RB

“ I knew Jerry for over 30 years, going back to our time together as pastors in Washington Parish. I preached a revival for him while he was pastor of First Baptist, Franklinton. I knew Jerry to be a man who possessed a gentle, Christ-like spirit, a keen mind, and a delightful sense of humor. It was a privilege to count him as a friend.

"For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down, we will have a house in heaven, an eternal body made for us by God himself and not by human hands."

II Corinthians 5:1 (NLT)

Roger Bowers - November 14, 2017 at 10:33 PM

 Titus
Terrebonne

“ Always enjoyed going to *Interpersonal Relationship Skills* class, with Dr. Barlow teaching. I have never heard so many stories from a teacher that impacted my ministry so closely! He is missed but what a gift knowing he is walking on streets of gold now!

Rev. Titus N. Terrebonne

Titus Terrebonne - November 14, 2017 at 10:19 PM

RM

“ *I had Dr Barlow for a class in doctrinal preaching
He was always encouraging in his comments on my outlines and
had an easy going manner
I am grateful to have had him as a teacher during my MDIV work
Charles Moore*

Rev Charles Moore - November 14, 2017 at 10:00 PM

SS

“ The most influential people in my life have been teachers. Dr. Barlow was one of those people. He was my teacher, my advisor, and my faculty mentor on my Doctor of Ministry degree. Our first exchange was a confrontation. I said something derogatory about a reading assignment--the book was difficult and the material didn't make much sense to me. Dr. Barlow said, "Well Steve, this is doctoral work. There will be some challenges." Wow. A couple of years later we were eating breakfast together at the seminary cafeteria and talking about my D. Min. Project. He asked, "Steve, do you know what the purpose of a project is?" I wanted to say something smart and intelligent and the best I could do was, "no sir, what is the purpose." He responded, "to get a degree." Wow. His directness and wit are what led me to ask him to be my faculty mentor. He graciously agreed and was my advocate throughout the process. I went through by-pass surgery and a move during that time. I'll never forget how pleased he was to see back on campus. Just before oral exams, I confessed that I sure was nervous about passing the oral exams. He said, "Steve, I'm the dean, you are going to pass." Wow. Good teachers pass on information and teach us to do our jobs. Great teachers motivate us to live life and to live it more abundantly in Christ. Dr. Barlow was a treasure in my life. I will always be grateful for the faithful deposits he made in my life. May God bless the Barlow Family. Your husband, your dad, your grandpa, your loved one left a big fat foot print on this planet. He made the deposit of 1 Timothy 2:2--teaching men who will in turn teach others. He paid it forward and lived well. He will most definitely graduate to the only commencement that is eternal: "Well done, good and faithful servant." Dr. Steve Speer D. Min 2010 His Church in Pineville

Steve Speer - November 14, 2017 at 09:30 PM

WS

“ My mother, Nurcelia M. Stringfield, commented often on what a wonderful pastor and friend he was to her. Now that I realize that he and I were separated in age by only a few months I better understand why mother thought of us together. I am sorry to learn of his passing.

William Butler Stringfield - November 14, 2017 at 03:30 PM

RT

“ Sandy and I want to express our deepest sympathy and prayer support to Lynne, Cathy, and the entire family at this time of great loss. We consider it a privilege to have known and served with Jerry over a number of years from Covington to New Orleans Seminary. Only eternity will reveal the tremendous breadth of his life and ministry. No doubt there will be a great multitude!

Chip & Sandy Turner

R. Chip Turner - November 14, 2017 at 12:14 PM

MB

“ Dr. Barlow was my boss for 8 years as I worked by his side in the Graduate Dean's Office at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. We laughed and cried together, and stressed and rejoiced over getting tough assignments accomplished. What you saw on the outside was who he was on the inside. He was the real deal, and no one showed more care for the NOBTS family than he did. We all called him our "Campus Pastor" because he was always the first to show up and pray with us--in births, weddings, graduations, ministry challenges, illnesses, losses, and death. We will notice his absence for many years to come, but we are so thankful the Lord gave him to us for the time we had. I am a better person, and certainly a better administrative assistant, because of Jerry Barlow!

Thank you Lynne and Cathy, for sharing him with Rex and me. We will continue to pray that God will give you strength and peace in the days ahead.

Margie and Rex Butler

Margie Butler - November 14, 2017 at 11:30 AM

AW

“ I had the privilege of having Dr. Barlow as my professor in a couple of pastoral ministry classes when I was in seminary at NOBTS. He had a way about him that showed he really cared about me as a person, not just a student. His door was always open to talk about more than weekly assignments. I appreciated his genuine heart for the Lord and how it translated to teaching others the way to shepherd people. I'm grateful for his impact on my life.

Adam Wallace

Adam Wallace - November 14, 2017 at 11:26 AM

 Terry Hicks

“ *The first time I met Dr. Barlow and his wife Lynne was when my husband Tony and I came to Franklinton to interview with the pastor search committee at Clifton Baptist Church, where Dr. Barlow was serving as interim pastor. The committee brought us over to see the parsonage, and Dr. Barlow and Mrs. Lynne were there. What I remember most is that after a while, I was standing in the kitchen with some of the committee members, and Tony was chatting away with Dr. Barlow, sharing stories like the U.S. Navy veterans they were!*

Terry Hicks - November 14, 2017 at 10:49 AM

PG

“ *The greatest joy Dr. Barlow had in life was serving the Lord, loving his family and being the pastor to the faculty of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. I will miss our conversations and his concern for my family and I. Will see you again but not too soon. Ms. Lynn and the rest of the family keep the Son in your eyes.*

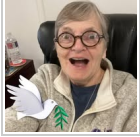
Paul Gregoire

Paul Gregoire - November 14, 2017 at 10:18 AM

JR

“ *Jerry and I were fellow pastors, he at First Baptist, Franklinton and I at Bethel. Lynne and I were classmates at Clarke Baptist College. Together they were a strong team in the service of our Lord. Jerry was a man of integrity and wore the Saviours name proudly. Our prayers are with His entire family. He will be missed!!*

Jim Richardson - November 14, 2017 at 09:46 AM



“ *Dr. Barlow was a great boss and friend. He was always there for any and all of us. I along with everyone else here at NOBTS will miss him. Mrs. Barlow and Cathy please know that you and the rest of the family are in my prayers.*

God Bless

Love,

Vanee

Vanee Daure - November 14, 2017 at 09:38 AM

CC

“ *I would like to express my deepest sympathy to family and friends. May all your good memories outweigh your sadness during this difficult time. (Isaiah 25:8)*

chris c - November 14, 2017 at 07:05 AM



“ *My heart is sadden to hear this news. I grew up with Bro. Jerry and First Baptist Church. Prayers for all family. I remember asking Bro. Jerry to please officiate my wedding. He was a bit surprised to find out I would also have a cow in attendance. Bro. Jerry you will be missed.*

Cheryll Lasco-lee - November 13, 2017 at 11:11 PM

JF

“ *What a sweet, kind and humble man. He had such a comforting countenance about him. Our family "grew up" with Bro. Barlow, and we all loved him so much. We all send sincere condolences to Lynne and Cathy and family. It was a privilege to know Bro. Barlow and his sweet family.*

Jennifer Fleming - November 13, 2017 at 09:13 PM

DC

“ *Such a wonderful, Godly man. I have many fond memories of Dr. Barlow. I was on the search committee that brought him to FBC and Karl and I were the first couple he married in Franklinton. He was always warm and friendly anytime we saw him. He was a wonderful pastor, teacher, and friend. Praying for Lynn, Cathy, and family.*
Love, Diana

Diana Casanova - November 13, 2017 at 06:54 PM