



John Barr

October 29, 1939 - February 24, 2012

John Barr, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, went to be with Jesus on February 24, 2012, at the age of 72. John Lewis Barr was born October 29, 1939 to Homer and Verna Barr in Winnebago, MN. He attended school in Amboy and graduated in 1957. John married Betty Robben on October 10, 1959. They had two children Julie Rose, born in 1960, and Timothy John, born in 1964. John worked in Amboy at Paul's Tire Service and Blue Earth County Co-Op. The family moved to Wadena in 1969, where John was employed by John Deere Implement in the Parts Department. In 1983, John went to work for Gulbranson's Equipment in Park Rapids. John retired in 2003 and he and Betty spent the winters in Pharr, TX. He was an avid pool player and bowler. He enjoyed a good game of pool or bowling some lanes. In December of 2011, John was diagnosed with mesothelioma. John's fight was short, and a miracle was not meant to be. John died early Friday, February 24th, under the care of hospice and his wife and daughter. John is survived by his wife, of 52 years, Betty; daughter Julie (Anthony) Lamb of West Fargo, ND; son Timothy (Cyndi) Barr of Cottage Grove; grandson Joseph (Nikki) Tuinstra of Erie, ND; granddaughters Jen (James DeGroot) Tuinstra and Laura Tuinstra both of Fargo, ND; great-grandchildren Justin and Hunter Tuinstra, and Jacob and Autumn Radebaugh. John had many friends in Pharr, TX and in Wadena. He will be missed by everyone who knew him. Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m. on February 28, 2012 at St. John Lutheran Church in Wadena, with Pastor Stephen Meltzer presiding. Pallbearers were

Josh and Joe Lustilla, Shawn Denman, Mike Tast, Anthony Lamb, and Tony Schilling. Burial was in Wadena Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

MH

“ *Betty & Family:
Our hearts are saddened! We have just lost a good friend.*

John was a wonderful person. Betty & family, we know that he will be sadly missed. Remember all the good times and treasure the memories!

Our thoughts and prayers go out to you all at this time. We will be in touch.

*Sincerely,
Milo & Betty*

Milo & Betty Helgerson - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ *Betty & family, we are so sorry to hear about John. He was a great person and we are glad we got to know him. We had a lot of good time in the park and will miss him a lot. Betty, remember all the fun we had, and we will always be there for you, Carol & Dan-take care and jeep in touch.*

Carol & Dan Grawe - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ *Betty and family;
Our Deepest sympathy... We must all be on the alert, We never know when 'GOD' will need us...
Mavis and Dave Kietzer*

Mavis & David Kietzer - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ My dad was an incredible man. He was an honest, loving, humble man. He worked hard his whole life He loved my mom, she was his life. They grew up a couple houses apart, fell in love at 14 years of age, married years later and kept the honeymoon going for 52 years. They held hands everywhere they went, they depended on each other for strength through the hard times. Yet their love never faltered. Dad was an amazing father. He was tough though, he didn't tolerate my sister or I being disrespectful to anyone, at any time, and I am grateful for that now, though I wasn't at the time. I regret that after spending 12 years in college, which time I didn't take the time to spend with my dad due to a busy schedule, I regret so much that I have missed out on so much precious time with such a wonderful man. I will miss him dearly and can only pray that I can be half the man that he was. I love you dad.

Tim Barr - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ John was an amazing man. I had only three short years with him, not nearly long enough. He and Betty are the most amazing in laws I could have ever asked for. They accepted me with open arms. We had many great times as a family, Twins games, 4th of July at Joes, strawberry picking, crab legs and oh yes the yummy cinnabons. Even when he wasn't well he loved those cinnabons. He was a man of few words, but his great hugs said it all. He gave me the greatest gift ever, my husband Timmy. They shared many similarities, their intelligence, their good looks and beautiful hair, and oh yes, don't let me forget, a little bit of stubbornness. I will miss you greatly John. Rest in peace my beloved father in law. I Love You!

Cyndi Barr - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ *Our hearts and prayers are with you, We send much love and wish you well.*

Josiah Robben & Joseph Lopez - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SN

“ *So sorry to hear of John's passing. He was a fine gentleman and family man that served as an example for all us.*

Steve Nelson - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ *Betty and family,
Words can't express the sorrow we feel for you and your family.
Those of us that knew John and you feel blessed. He was a wonderful man and great friend. Remember all the good times we had. My favorite memory was last fall when you came down with my 5# squash. Forever friends. Mavis and Jim Chamberlain*

Mavis & Jim Chamberlain - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Dear Dad,
It has taken me awhile to write a tribute to you.
You were always there for me. Through every milestone, every move, every child born, you were there. You taught me how to ride a bike, how to drive a straight stick, how to change the oil in my car. You always told me I can do anything I put my mind to, and I can be anything I want to be. You always encouraged me, even though I know there were times you were disappointed in me.
You were nice to everyone. My enemies were not your enemies, and even though it was frustrating at times, it was the right way to be. You were the person we all strive to be. You were a great dad, and I love you, and I miss you every day. Thanks for everything, Dad. I hope when my time comes, you are there waiting for me.
Love,
Julie

Julie Lamb - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LA

“ Grandpa I miss you so much. There are times I have to remember your not here... but I think I am finally okay. I know that your watching over me. You taught me so many things. I hope your proud of me that I went back to school, I am going to finish and be a great nurse so I can take care of people. I know you would have wanted that for me. You and Grandma were always there for everything and anything. I hope one day I am lucky enough to find a man who treats me like you treated grandma. A love like that is hard to come buy these days. I love you, I miss you everyday. I know we will meet again when my time comes. :)

Laura - February 24, 2012 at 12:00 AM