



Dr. E. Leon Barnes

APR 28, 1941 - FEB 24, 2023



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Dr. E. Leon Barnes, Jr., 81, of Bethel Park, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, February 24, 2023. Born in Jonesboro, AR, on April 28, 1941, the son of the late Elvis Leon and Gladys (Bratcher) Barnes, Sr., Dr. E. Leon Barnes, Jr., was a world-renowned Surgical Pathologist of the Head and Neck.

Following his graduation from Jonesboro High School, Leon entered Arkansas State University and graduated in 1962 obtaining his B.S. degree in Biology. He then entered the University of Arkansas School of Medicine and was awarded both his M.D. and B.S. in Medicine in 1966. Following graduation, he immediately began his internship and resident training in anatomic and clinical pathology at the University of Pittsburgh. Before being able to finish his residency, Leon was drafted into the US Army due to the Vietnam War and served two years as Chief of Pathology at Darnall Army Hospital in Fort Hood, TX. After being honorably discharged from the Army, he returned to Pittsburgh to complete his residency where he met the love of his life, Carol, who was working as a medical secretary in the department.

Dr. Barnes held his first academic position as Assistant Professor in Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and, except for one year spent in private practice, remained in that institution until his retirement in 2010 as an Emeritus Professor of Pathology. During his 38-year tenure at the University of Pittsburgh, Dr. Barnes served as Director of Anatomic Pathology, Chairman of Oral Medicine and Pathology, and Director of the Division of Head and Neck Pathology. He received an endowed Chair of Pathology established in his honor in the Department of Pathology at the University of Pittsburgh.

During his career he had the opportunity to write seven pathology textbooks and over 200 peer-review manuscripts. In addition he has given numerous invited lectures and continuing educational courses throughout the world including in Australia, Hong Kong, Canada, Italy, France, Spain, Switzerland, Slovenia, Hawaii, Argentina, and Mexico.



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He was the recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Arkansas School of Medicine and was also awarded the Honorary Diploma from the European Society of Pathology for outstanding achievements. In 2005, Dr. Barnes was selected by the World Health Organization to edit the book on The Pathology and Genetics of Head and Neck Tumors. In 2012, he received the Fred Waldorf Stewart Award from Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center Department of Pathology for an individual deemed to have contributed significantly to the study of human neoplastic disease.

Perhaps Dr. Barnes' strongest contribution to Head and Neck Pathology is his education of young pathologists. His legacy lives on through the graduates of his program who are distributed all over the world and are the future of Head and Neck Pathology.

His great joys following retirement came from the time spent and memories made with his family. He enjoyed catching up on reading books, and working in the yard as an amateur landscaper. He will be greatly missed by friends, family, and colleagues.

Leon is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Carol (Terkay) Barnes; his two beloved daughters, Christy Barnes and her husband, Joseph Vilella, and Lori Lauffer and her husband, Daniel; and his two grandchildren, whom he adored, Lucas Vilella (9) and Ava Vilella (7).

Relatives and friends are invited to join the family for visitation on Monday, February 27, 2023 from 2- 8 pm at Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home, 301 Curry Hollow Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15236. A service in celebration of Leon's life will be held at the funeral home on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 10:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions in Leon's honor may be made to Shriner's Hospitals for Children, 2900 Rocky Point Drive, Tampa, FL 33607. To leave online condolences please visit www.jeffersonmemorial.com



Tribute Wall

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SK

Somboon Keelawat posted:

My deepest condolences to the family for the passing of Prof. Leon Barnes. My name is Dr. Somboon Keelawat from Thailand. I was so lucky to have an opportunity to be Prof. Barnes's visiting pathologist at the University of Pittsburgh during 2000-2001. He was my great teacher and mentor who has played a big part in the success of my career and life, and I am greatly indebted to him. It was so sad for me to hear this news. May he rest in peace. Somboon Keelawat Professor and chair-Department of pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Chulalongkorn University Bangkok, Thailand

March 13 at 12:49 PM

AF

Alfio Ferlito posted:

What a sadness to hear that Leon passed away. He has been a very good friend and a valid colleague for so many years. He was a worldwide known eminent pathologist and a very gentle person. I published 29 papers with him and, in 1988, he invited me to give a lecture on "Non-squamous cancers of the larynx: implications for treatment and prognosis" at the University of Pittsburgh. On that occasion, which I will always affectionately remember, he gifted me with a copy with his dedication of Volume 25 Second Series "Tumors of the Upper Respiratory Tract and Ear". I have always enjoyed collaborating with him and I will miss him so much. My deepest condolences to the Barnes family, Alfio Ferlito Professor of Otorhinolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery Padua - Italy

March 3 at 11:00 AM

AR

Alessandra Rinaldo posted:

My sincere condolences to the Barnes family for the loss of Dr. Leon Barnes. I am deeply honored to have collaborated with him in many scientific projects. May he rest in peace. Dr. Alessandra Rinaldo (Padua, Italy)

March 2 at 12:57 PM

BW

Bruce Wenig posted:

Dear Barnes Family: I was extremely sad to hear/read that Dr. Barnes passed. I never worked directly with Dr. Barnes but he and I shared common interests in Head & Neck Pathology. For many years I would see Dr. Barnes at the annual USCAP meeting and it was always a pleasure to have a few minutes to speak with him. Aside from being the consummate professional, Dr. Barnes was a very kind and generous person. He was an example of the type of pathologist/human being who set the standard that many of us try to follow and try to live up to. My deepest sympathies to your entire family on his passing. Bruce Wenig

March 1 at 3:33 PM



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BD

Bobby M. Collins, Dds, Ms posted:

I was very fortunate to have Dr. Barnes as a mentor and friend. His knowledge and humor were such an essential part of my development as a professional educator and diagnostician. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and colleagues who share a profound sadness. Bobby Collins

February 28 at 3:01 PM

SW

Steve Wilson posted:

Dr. Barnes was a wonderful teacher and mentor for me. I learned how to be a good pathologist and a better person at his side when I was one of his residents. He represents the pinnacle of excellence in our profession. His teaching and spirit guide all of his students that are spread around our region and the whole world. Steve Wilson MD FCAP

February 28 at 5:31 AM

TP

The North American Society Of Head And Neck Pathology posted:

With Gratitude and Respect From the Community Dr. Barnes Fostered

February 27 at 9:43 AM

MM

Maryann Mient posted:

Many great memories of you Dr. Barnes; great pathologist and friend I worked for many years ago. You will be truly missed; sympathy to you and your family. MaryAnn Mient mary.mient@Va.gov

February 27 at 8:23 AM

LT

Lester D. R. Thompson posted:

Leon was such a great mentor to so many in the discipline of head and neck pathology that his influence cannot be meaningfully measured. He always put others ahead of himself, tried to advance their careers, but more importantly, try to instill in them the importance of being humble, thoughtful, and inquisitive simultaneously. There are so many dozens of research projects, lectureships, speaking engagements and books that we have shared together, but none are as meaningful as spending time over dinner just chatting and sharing. His influence will continue, but he will be missed tremendously.

February 27 at 8:10 AM



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Anonymous posted:

With deepest sympathy, from Perry and Diana, Perugini & Family

February 27 at 7:56 AM



Adel Assaad And Family posted:

With loving memories of Dr. E. Leon Barnes, caring teacher and mentor, and all around wonderful person. Our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathy

February 27 at 7:49 AM



Anonymous posted:

Sending our heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathy during this difficult time.

February 27 at 5:21 AM



Mary Jo, Mike And Tracee Zubic posted:

We are all saddened at the loss of a wonderful man that was always kind and caring. He epitomized a life well lived and will be missed. -Mary Jo, Mike and Tracee Zubic.

February 25 at 2:33 PM



Anonymous posted:

Christy and family, Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

February 25 at 2:32 PM



Anonymous posted:

My deepest sympathies, Carol. Love, Norma

February 25 at 2:00 PM



Bob Peel posted:

In memory of a valued friend and colleague for over 50 years.

February 25 at 10:41 AM



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Carol Boehm posted:

Lori, Dan, Carol and the Barnes family: I was shocked to learn of your father's/husband's passing. It was so nice to get to see everyone at Christmas and he made me laugh when all he could talk about were the desserts! He sure did have a sweet tooth! He was such a gift to the medical community and to everyone in general. He will be greatly missed and I offer you my most sincerest condolences.

February 25 at 9:28 AM



Jim And Jude Lauffer posted:

To the Barnes family, No words can ever convey how sorry we are about the loss of Leon. Distinguished doesn't begin to describe him but somehow, he always remained humble. If you are fortunate enough to positively impact the life of another, consider yourself blessed. Leon impacted thousands. Not only family but those he taught, the patients who benefitted from his dedication and the practitioners who imitate him. May God grant him rest and prayers for the Lord's warm embrace-- holding you close.

February 25 at 9:06 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring E. by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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