



Mr. Harrison Pope Barton

December 1, 1944 - February 18, 2025

Harrison Pope Barton, 80, of Watkinsville, GA passed away on Tuesday, February 18, 2025. Harrison was born in Royston, GA, eldest son of the late Judson Doyle and Delina Jane McCrary Barton.

Harrison graduated with the Royston Class of 1962 before traveling to El Centro, CA with a friend for what turned out to be his permanent homeplace for 50 years. While there, he enlisted with the U.S. Navy; U.S. Navy Seabees as a 2nd Class Engineering Aid; Mobile Construction Battalion 53. Harrison served two tours of duty in Vietnam, returning to El Centro, CA.

He is a graduate of Imperial Valley College with further studies at San Diego University and University of California, Riverside, CA. He received his degree with honors in Engineering becoming a Licensed Professional Surveyor and also served in California and Arizona. He was a past president of the Desert Chapter of the California Land Surveyors Association and also served ten years as chapter representative to the State Board of California Land Surveyors Association. Harrison returned to his "home" state of Georgia in 2013 upon his retirement from TESCO Engineering and Surveying, both his company as an employee and his company in ownership.

Harrison is survived by his daughters, Laura (Phil) Esbenshade and Melissa (Keith) Hodgkin; grandsons, Brady Conner Hodgkin, Mason James Hodgkin,

Max Harrison Esbenshade, and Philip Ollie Esbenshade; great grandsons, Jacob William Hodgkin and James Darrow Hodgkin; brother, Judson D. (Rhonda) Barton; sister, Delina E. Bramlett (Steve) Roll; nieces and nephews, Evva and Delina Barton, Lauren and Makala Bramlett, Judson D. (Tasha) Barton, III, Hunter and Harrison S.(Ariell) Barton, Taylor Bramlett, and Laiken Lee Roll.

He is also survived by Harriett R. Lester, his significant partner.

He is preceded in death by grandparents, James Earl and Eugenia Nelms Barton of Bowman, GA and Dr. Harrison Lee and Delina Ann Brown McCrary of Royston, GA; and a nephew, Barton Lee Roll.

A graveside service for Mr. Barton will be held at Rose Hill Cemetery at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2025.

Pruitt Funeral Home in Royston, GA is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Rose Hill Cemetery

Burch Street
Royston, GA 30662

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAR 5 (ET)

Rose Hill Cemetery
Burch Street
Royston, GA 30662

Tribute Wall

KF

“ I worked for Harrison for 8 years at Tesco. He was a great boss and a great friend. He will be missed.

Kim Freire - April 24, 2025 at 08:07 PM

CM

“ I am so very sorry to find out of Harrison's passing. I benefited so much from our recent “conversations” about the ways our families connected over the last generations. He was a carrier of a story that only a few of us remain to tell. Another name-sake, my brother Parks Harrison, passed just 2 years ago, leaving me as the sole witness in my family. I feel as if i have lost kin. Sincere condolences to all his family.

carol majors - April 21, 2025 at 11:57 AM

JB

“ This short essay is about Harrison P. Barton (Mr. B), a licensed land surveyor who recently passed away in Georgia.

Very few people understand land surveying and the value it is to property and boundaries. Scriptures in the Bible call out the importance of landmarks. Proverbs 22:28 states, "Remove not the ancient landmarks, which thy fathers have set."

Mr. B was a Licensed Land Surveyor No. 5397 whose notoriety was boundary surveying. The original General Land Office plats of Imperial County Townships and Ranges are dated in the 1850's and resurveyed in the 1900's. His knowledge and knack to retrace these plats and maps to find old 4 x 4 redwood post and/or "+" rock monuments is without question remarkable.

Every parcel of land starts from the GLO plats and is subdivided down to the blocks and lots that people own today in residential subdivisions. A surveyor's saying is, "Follow the steps of the original surveyor." Not only did Harrison follow these footsteps, he was also well known for setting his tracks, and he set the "standard" for Record of Surveys during his work in Imperial County.

In his 40 plus years of surveying, he has recorded the most records of surveys and other maps in the first 100 years of the county's existence.

Not only did he serve his profession well in the Imperial Valley, he also served his country in Vietnam as a Navy Seabee. A story he told me shows the valor he had in Vietnam. One day he was establishing a control point on a hill at an outpost when he heard an AK-47 crackle and a bullet hit the tripod leg next to him. Needless to say, he grabbed the instrument and hastily ran down the hill.

I am proud to say Harrison was one of my mentors, and I was a past employee of Tesco. If there was a Land Surveyors Hall of Fame for Imperial Valley, Harrison P. Barton would be high on the

list. It is a pleasure to say I knew him, worked with him, and planned and checked some of his maps.

So long to Mr. B's LS number 5397. It is with pride I can say, "I followed some of his footsteps."

Respectfully,

Timothy B. Jones, LS

Retired County Surveyor

Jay Barton - March 13, 2025 at 07:51 PM

HC

“ *Sending my deepest condolences.*”



Hollye Colbert - March 06, 2025 at 01:11 PM

MH

“ *I'm sorry, Pop that we weren't able to bring you home to California like you wanted the last couple years. We were working on it. Just know you were always loved, and we knew we were your family and your home. Till all of us see you again. Love you, Missy.*”



Melissa Barton Hodgkin - March 04, 2025 at 07:13 PM

JL

“ Harrison Barton was likely the best and most prolific surveyor that practiced in the Imperial Valley of Southern California. We worked together from 1972 to 1982 at TESCO Engineering and Surveying and then were professionally associated until the Georgia Peach departed from El Centro, CA to return to his home state of Georgia. It is always known that if you were following a survey that Harrison had performed, that every survey monument would be in the position that he said it would be. We retraced US Govt surveys from the late 1890's to the early 1900's, finding survey monuments in the deserts, agricultural land and mountains between San Diego and the Imperial Valley. Harrison loved Western History too and was the Sublime Grand Noble Humbug No. 31 for the John P. Squibob chapter of E. Clampus Vitus that erected and memorialized historical sites with stone monuments and bronze plaques throughout California. To say that you survived a "Clamp out" was a fete! Harrison was a great mentor and friend!



Jeffrey Lyon - February 26, 2025 at 02:29 PM

MH

Thank you, Jeff for writing that about my dad. My dad loved his job, California, and the Clampers.

Melissa Barton Hodgkin - February 26, 2025 at 05:39 PM

FH

“ Harrison was one of my right hand Engineering Aids in Vietnam and we continued to be close friends to the end. I would stop by and visit with him at El Centro on my trips to the Midwest. We talked about football every week he would cheer for the Bulldogs and I would cheer for Missouri. Glad your suffering is over old pal and wish eternal peace in the hereafter.

Franklin D Henthorn - February 23, 2025 at 12:31 PM

BE

“ I was with Harrison through both tours in Vietnam. Harrison was solid towards getting the job done and bringing out the best in his men. His brothers from MCB 53, now that he has made his final muster, wish him fair winds and following seas.
Sincerely, Bernie



Bernie - February 23, 2025 at 08:27 AM

SG

“ May the Lord's peace and comfort be with Harrison's family. You all are in my prayers. Harrison was a wonderful high school friend. May you forever rest in peace Harrison! 🙏🕊️❤️



Sandra Graham - February 22, 2025 at 11:12 AM

KC

“ I was very saddened to hear of the passing of Harrison. He left behind two wonderful daughters and their families. He also left behind Brenda, the mother of his daughters. Despite everything that transpired, I know he will be greatly missed by all.

Kristi Cook - February 21, 2025 at 11:29 PM



“ It is so hard to say goodbye. I will never forget the 49 years of marriage we shared and the happy times we had. Maybe now you have finally found the peace you were seeking. Brenda Barton

Brenda Barton - February 21, 2025 at 02:41 PM

EL

“ Elaine LaFayette lit a candle in memory of Mr. Harrison Pope Barton



Elaine LaFayette - February 21, 2025 at 12:39 PM

BJ

“ Bobby Johnson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Harrison Pope Barton



Bobby Johnson - February 21, 2025 at 12:37 PM

BJ

Go easy Bro

Bobby Johnson - February 21, 2025 at 12:38 PM

FH

“ *RIP mi amigo...*

FHesse - February 21, 2025 at 10:33 AM

SG

“ *Suzanne Greenway Gillespie lit a candle in memory of Mr. Harrison Pope Barton*



Suzanne Greenway Gillespie - February 21, 2025 at 09:49 AM

EC

“ *Evelyn Cress lit a candle in memory of Mr. Harrison Pope Barton*



evelyn cress - February 21, 2025 at 08:58 AM

LB

All our of family loved Harrison dearly□□□ He was such a fine, talented and inspiring cousin and we were so proud of his great service to our country, serving God and country devotedly. Harrison will be so very missed always!!🙏🙏

Lucille McCrary Bagwell - February 21, 2025 at 06:39 PM