



## Jacob Charles Barnhardt

April 21, 1936 - May 12, 2018

Jacob Charles Barnhardt, Jr. (a.k.a., Jake, Dad, ole Granddad and others) died peacefully on Saturday, May 12, 2018. His legacy of 82 years will live on through his many wonderful contributions to his family and community. Those who were fortunate to know Jake had the opportunity to be entertained by his many stories. He particularly was known for his "brevity of and quick speech." No one could tell a story with as many details for as long as he could which was one of his special signatures. Jake was a long-time avid sailor and a member of the Lake Norman Yacht Club in Mooresville, NC. He provided the opportunity for his children and grandchildren to learn how to sail and race. After his retirement, he began building wooden boats. He was self-taught and the first ones that he built were for his grandchildren to learn how to sail. Each boat afterwards became more refined and classic. The last one was a stunning Herreshoff Coquina. Community service and helping those in need were very important values to Jake. He was a proud Eagle Scout which influenced him for the rest of his life. Jake was a board member, advocate and supporter of the Children's Hope Alliance in Barium Springs, NC. He also served on the Missions Committee at the First Presbyterian Church in Mooresville, NC as well as volunteered with the Mooresville Soup Kitchen until his death. In addition, he was a long-time donor to the United Way. At the end of each meal blessing, he would pray "please help us be mindful of the needs of others," another wonderful signature of his. What brought Jake the most joy and pride was his family: his loving wife, four children, eight grandchildren,

three step-sons and 10 step-grandchildren plus more family in-laws. He lived for family gatherings at his Lake Norman home, especially the food, music and entertainment that always ensued. At some point during a gathering, each grandchild had to explain their goals in school and life and received a good 'ole Granddad' lecture. He provided each a compass of his values and expectations. It was his way of passing down his legacy and all his grandchildren adored him despite the lecturing. Jake was extremely proud of his grandchildren and wanted the best life for all. Jake was born in Charlotte, NC, to Jacob Charles Barnhardt, Sr. and Sara Johnston Barnhardt and was the older of two sons. He graduated from Central High School in Charlotte in 1954, then majored in textile engineering at the George Institute of Technology graduating in 1958. He served in the United States Navy from 1958-1960, then began his career at the Barnhardt Manufacturing Company in Charlotte, NC. In 1964, he was transferred to Mount Airy, NC, and worked at North Carolina Foam Industries (NCFI), a subsidiary and division of Barnhardt Manufacturing Company. He rose to serve as President at NCFI until his retirement in 2001. He then lived by Lake Norman with the love of his life enjoying sailing, building boats, helping others, family gatherings and telling many stories. Jake is survived by his wife, Amy Pitser Barnhardt, her three sons and their families; his children, Gwynn Barnhardt Sullivan, Virginia (Jennie) Johnston Barnhardt (Rodney Clay Sutton), Jacob McIntyre (Mac) Barnhardt (Kristina Von Cannon Barnhardt) and Caroline Barnhardt Stuart; grandchildren, Victor James Sullivan, Evan Gwynn Sullivan, Clay Barnhardt Sutton, Kelsey Barnhardt Sutton, McIntyre Lynn Barnhardt, Jacob Paul Barnhardt, William Meier Barnhardt, and Jesse Kuykendall Stuart; and his brother Jack Barnhardt (Patsy Barnhardt). Jake is preceded in death by his parents and son-in-law Trevor George Stuart. A memorial service to honor Jake's life will be held Saturday, May 19, 2018, at the First Presbyterian Church, Mooresville, NC, at 11 am. Visitation with the family will begin at 10 am in the church parlor and following the service, a light reception will be held in the fellowship hall. In lieu of flowers or other gifts, memorial donations may

be made to the Children's Hope Alliance, Post Office Box 1, Barium Springs, NC, 28010, or [www.childrenshopealliance.org](http://www.childrenshopealliance.org). Cavin-Cook Funeral Home in Mooresville, NC, is serving the family. Condolences may be sent to the famiy at [wwwcavin-cook.com](http://wwwcavin-cook.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ *Jacob Charles Barnhardt*

February 14, 2021 at 11:24 AM



“ *Jacob Charles Barnhardt*

February 14, 2021 at 11:04 AM



“ *Jacob Charles Barnhardt*

February 14, 2021 at 11:03 AM



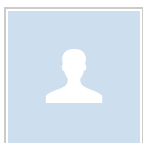
“ *I never met Jacob, but am quite sure that he was proud of his daughter, Jennie, who I work with and hold in admiration for her compassion, her attention to detail, and her determination to care for others. Jennie, you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers as you grieve the loss of your Dad.*

**Diane Huey** - May 21, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Sending love to all who loved Jacob, especially Gwynn and the boys.*

**Kathy Brandt** - May 21, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Gwynn, Evan, Vic and family, We're sending love and light to you all. Abbie, Rob, Adam and Michael*

May 19, 2018 at 12:00 AM

EC

“ Sending love and comfort to Jennie, Rodney, Clay, Kelsey, and Jennie's entire family. I also wish I had met Jake, and have a feeling for what a good man he was because of knowing Jennie. You are all in my prayers as you navigate this part of life's journey, and I am so grateful that you have such a beautiful family and are surrounded by love as you remember and celebrate Jake's life.

Eileen Carson - May 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ I did not know Jacob, but I work closely with his daughter, Jennie. His legacy will be continued with the quality family he lead and mentored. If Jennie is representative of the entire family, the world will miss his mentorship and contributions to humanity. May you all be at peace and will remain in my thoughts and prayers

Mike Parmer - May 18, 2018 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ My sincere condolences to the family. I didn't know Jake personally, but feel I have some insight into what a special person he was through a 27 year professional and personal association with his daughter Jennie. You are in my thoughts and prayers at this time of loss and transition. Best wishes always to the entire family.

John Langlois - May 17, 2018 at 12:00 AM

MJ

“ Condolences to the entire family in this time of sorrow. I work with Jennie, and we have kept you and your family in our thoughts and prayers as you deal with your loss. I am sorry that I never met Jake- he sounds like quite a sailor.

Morris Jenkins - May 17, 2018 at 12:00 AM

WR

“ *Caroline, Jesse & Family, So sorry for your lost. We're keeping you in our prayers. With Love, Woody & Ann*

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**Woody & Ann Riddle** - May 17, 2018 at 12:00 AM

SM

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*Sue Mills,*

*Mount Airy, North Carolina*

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**Sue Mills** - May 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ ~

*Renate Cassell,*

*Myrtle Beach, South Carolina*

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**Renate Cassell** - May 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *My condolences to the family, sorry for your loss of loved one. May you find strength and comfort from the God of all comfort. 2 Corinthians 1:3,4,*

*Georgia*

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May 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ *Mr Barnhardt will be missed!! He has been a longtime customer at our Barbershop in Downtown Mooresville for many years!! Such a generous man who Loved his family with all of his heart!! I enjoyed hearing his stories of sailing and his love of family every month!! He will be missed!! Prayers for all of you in the upcoming months!!*

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**Nicole Farnsworth** - May 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ To the family, I am sorry to hear about news a about your loss. May God who "binds up the broken hearted" and comforted all who mourns" sustain your family during this challenging time. Isaiah 61:1,2

[Contact Me](#)

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May 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ Gwynn, Vic, Evan and the entire family, I'm truly sorry for the physical loss of your loved one. I remember his stories with Vic and Evan when they were mere babes and the vitality of his speech with the boys who listened and questioned everything which he seemed to love. I wish you healing in the time that lies ahead, I will be here if you need to talk, anything I can offer, I gladly will. Reading this obituary explains so much now about your generosity Gwynn, you have been beyond kind and giving to me, I see the example was set for you. May grace sustain you all on this path of sorrow

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**Debbie Newton** - May 16, 2018 at 12:00 AM



“ Dearest Gwynn and family, We are sorry to hear of the loss of your father, a kind and loving man. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you remember and celebrate his life. Love, Diana Whitney, Ralph Weickel and the CPC team.

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**Diana Whitney** - May 15, 2018 at 12:00 AM

LV

“ Jake was my good friend and he was the kind of friend everybody wants. Jake was patient, he was kind, he was caring and you could take his word to the bank. He and I owned a boat together for many years and enjoyed each others company and conversation on afternoon sails. The Jake I knew was a gentle sole, a painfully slow talker and a deep thinker. I am so glad he was my friend Larry Vitez

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**Larry Vitez** - May 15, 2018 at 12:00 AM

RH

“ I worked for Jake at North Carolina Foam Industries for a little over 30 years. He was a smart business man and wanted to please his customers. He also cared very much for his employees. He was a generous man and could also be very witty at times. Jake was one of a kind. Rodney D. Hawks

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**Rodney D. Hawks** - May 15, 2018 at 12:00 AM