



Neal Arthur Barton

December 15, 1953 - September 12, 2022

Neal Arthur Barton, age 68, passed away suddenly at his Woodbury home on September 12, 2022. Neal was born on December 15, 1953 in Minneapolis, Minnesota to Neal A. and Emma Theresa (Little Bear) Barton. Neal's family eventually settled in Albert Lea. In high school, Neal was a star athlete, participating in wrestling, football, and track. He graduated from Albert Lea High School in 1972 and went on to play football at Iowa State University.

Neal married Gwen Gordon on June 3, 1978. They were married 27 years and their union was blessed with four sons, Adam, Jacob, Caleb, and Noah. Neal steadfastly devoted himself to his sons, coaching them in football and basketball and teaching them to be loving, patient, kind, strong, independent, and responsible. He loved refereeing their games and continued to referee even after his sons graduated from high school.

On May 25, 2007, Neal married Lori Burgan (Burkowske) by the shores of Lake Minnetonka in Excelsior, MN. He loved to spend time with Lori at the Minneapolis lakes. His favorite vacation spot was beside the Pacific Ocean in San Clemente, CA. He also thoroughly enjoyed visiting Italy and Greece and had hoped to one day return there. He loved fishing with his sons and getting together for family gatherings. He was delighted each time a new grandchild arrived and loved watching them play and grow.

Neal accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior and surrendered his life to God in January 1979 at the age of 25. Thereafter, he devoted his life to the study of God's Word and ministering to others. He graduated from Bethel University, with Honors, in 2011 with a B.A. in Christian Ministry. He felt privileged to later serve as the Prayer Pastor at Cedar Valley Church in Bloomington, MN. He also served as a Marriage Mentor and leader of the Recovery Group there. Neal impacted so many lives with his wisdom and encouragement. His family and friends will truly miss the light he brought to their lives.

Neal was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by his best friend and loving wife, Lori; sons and daughters-in-law Adam Barton and long-time partner, Ashley Jaros, Jacob and Katie Barton, Caleb and Ericka Barton, and Noah Barton; step-son John Radoush; grandchildren Zane Vogel, Paige, Dexter, and Evelyn Barton, Blake Hasbargen; step-grandchildren Brittany Kost-Radoush, Blake Radoush, and JohnniLynn Anderson; step great-grandchildren Oliver and Olivia Gossen and Nova Rohn, ex-wife Gwen Day, and brother, Franklin Barton.

A memorial service will be held on Friday, September 23, 2022 at Cedar Valley Church, 8600 Bloomington Avenue South, Bloomington, MN. Visitation will be from 10:00 to 11:00 am followed by the service. Lunch will be served at the church following the service.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **23**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Cedar Valley Church
8600 Bloomington Ave. S.
Bloomington, MN 55425

Memorial Service

SEP **23**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Cedar Valley Church
8600 Bloomington Ave. S.
Bloomington, MN 55425

Graveside Service

SEP **23** (CT)

Dawn Valley Memorial Park (Bloomington)
9940 Bush Lake Road
Bloomington, MN 55438

Tribute Wall



“ We met Neal when he was a part of Cedar Valley Church's Prayer Ministry. Several years ago he helped us to manage a difficult spiritual and emotional challenge that was affecting both of us. His wisdom and compassion gave us the insights that allowed us to prevail. He was, and is, a friend and brother in Christ.

Bill and Cheryl Bader

Bill Bader - September 23, 2022 at 03:09 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Neal Arthur Barton.



September 22, 2022 at 08:40 AM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Neal Arthur Barton.



September 21, 2022 at 09:29 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Neal Arthur Barton.



September 20, 2022 at 10:13 PM



“ *Bethel Christian Ministry Cohort 2011* purchased the *Beautiful Dreams* for the family of Neal Arthur Barton.



Bethel Christian Ministry Cohort 2011 - September 20, 2022 at 09:42 PM



“ *Serene Retreat* was purchased for the family of Neal Arthur Barton.



September 16, 2022 at 09:16 PM



“ *Neal's death was such a shock - I was looking forward to seeing him at our upcoming high school reunion. He was a great person and a good friend. He'll be missed.*

Stacey Bush - September 16, 2022 at 03:15 PM

JS

“ I’m so glad I got to see him recently! He helped me organize get togethers in the cities for people from Albert Lea that were very fun! He will be missed!

Jackie Stanley - September 16, 2022 at 01:57 PM

RB

“ Our condolences to Neal’s family. We were classmates from the 1972 class. Neal and I played football together and competed with and against each other in the shot put and discus in track. I would do well but then Neal would always be a little better. We had a fun competition with each other. I was looking forward to seeing him at our 50th class reunion next week. He was a great person and a great competitor. Rest In Peace Neal.

Rick and Karen Boyer - September 16, 2022 at 12:39 PM