



Joel R. Barden

MAR 21, 1946 - OCT 26, 2023



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Joel R. Barden

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Joel R Barden was born March 21, 1946, in Jamestown, North Dakota, to Ward and Helen (McManus) Barden. Joel has a twin sister, Jonell, who was born two minutes before him. Those who know Joel understand this has been a constant fight for the last 77 years, as Joel always argued he was the older twin. Joel and his three siblings moved a few times when they were young before settling in Tioga, North Dakota, where he graduated as valedictorian from his high school class in 1964. He went on to obtain a bachelor's degree in sociology and a master's degree in political science from the University of North Dakota.

Joel taught political science in Nova Scotia and at Sweetbrier college in Virginia before taking a position with the Ohio Secretary of State and then becoming a senior staff representative for the Fraternal order of Police in 1988. He remained a dedicated union representative until the time of his retirement in 2014. Since then, he has proudly served as a board member for the Greater Hilltop Area Shalom zone as well as the vice president of the Homes on the Hill Community Development Corporation. Joel loved community service and being part of something bigger. He was always there to lend a helping hand, whether that was sound advice or a random pearl of wisdom he liked to call "On the Lighter Side". He was an active member of the Democratic party and made this known on all his social media platforms. He was the youngest delegate to the 1968 National Democratic Convention in Chicago.

Joel was once married to Noreena Fox (Jim), and from this union John Ogden and Michele Ervin came into his life and he continued to be a big part of their lives as they grew into adults and always proud of their every accomplishment. Michelle gave him three beautiful grandchildren Lina, Alexis, and Aaron, that he doted on. Watching them grow and become adults is something he always cherished, to say he was proud is an understatement. Joel never met a stranger, and he touched the lives of so many people, not just those that were his family, but also those who became his family. Family is not always blood; it is also those you choose to be your family.



Obituary

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Joel is preceded in death by his parents Ward and Helen Barden, and by brothers Jimmy and Jack. He is survived by stepson John Ogden and stepdaughter Michele Ervin (Ronnie).

Granddaughters Lina Smith and Alexis Kush, grandson Aaron Tompkins (Melanie) and great-grandchildren Olivia Smith, Caroline Smith, Benjamin Tompkins, and Charlotte Tompkins. He is survived by his twin sister Jonell (Jim) Hatlelid and their children. He is also survived by his adopted nephews Tyler and Jesse Barnhill, as well as numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Cremation has taken place. A memorial service in celebration of Joel's life will be held at St. Aloysius Roman Catholic Church in Columbus during the spring of 2024.



Tribute Wall

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John Ogden posted:

There will be a memorial held for Joel Barden on March 4th at 1:00 PM at St. Aloysius Church. St. Aloysius Church 2165 West Broad Street Columbus, OH 43223

February 26 at 3:37 AM



J.D. Birmingham Fop Lodge 140 posted:

The officers and member of the J. Darrell Birmingham F.O.P. Lodge #140 extends our most sincere sympathy and share in the loss of Brother Joel Barden, who was our first Honorary Member of our Lodge. His insight and friendship we will miss very much.

November 16 at 5:40 PM



Shirley Richardson posted:

I first met Joel when we worked for the Secretary of State. Then about 6 years later through both the Western Cafe and Blueberry Hill. Heard many great stories. Always loved when he sang and played his guitar. And singing karaoke at Blueberry. He always teased me that I didn't sing until my 3rd drink. But mostly he loved talking about his kids and grandkids. He was so so proud of all of you. Rest in peace Joel. You have earned your rest !!

November 11 at 11:43 PM



Tim Jochim posted:

I met Joel for the first time during a meeting of the College Democrats at the University of North Dakota Student Union during 1965. Joel stood up and made a motion in opposition to the Vietnam war. It was soundly defeated. A year later, Joel's position prevailed. He was the youngest delegate to the 1968 National Democratic Convention in Chicago. Joel was born old in terms of the issues he addressed at an early age, but always with humor. He was a giver and, if he had a fault, it was giving too much. Tim Jochim

November 11 at 10:25 AM



Alexis Kush shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



November 11 at 5:04 AM



Tribute Wall

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AK

Alexis Kush shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



November 11 at 5:04 AM



LE

Lenore posted:

Joel will always be remembered as my sexy man beast. He would come into Teejayes almost every day and I loved his corny dad jokes. I will miss his advice and wisdom. His wit his caring words. And his greeting back to me.you beautiful wonderful woman you.thank you Joel for all this years of friendship

November 10 at 4:01 PM

RL

Robert L. sent a Basket of Memories to the Barden family.

November 10 at 5:39 AM



JR

Janice Ritchey posted:

Joel was a wonderful man. I loved his jokes. He was always a happy man. I met him when he worked for the FOP. He will be missed. Hugs and prayers for his family.

November 9 at 5:36 PM

TB

Tom Bell posted:

Joel was such a "down to Earth" guy, he was always trying to help someone. His FOP years were so beneficial to so many. His heart was special. Rest in Peace, my friend.

November 9 at 4:35 PM



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Susan Hove-Pabst posted:

I first met Joel in eighth grade. Our high school years brought friendship and sometimes challenges, as when he haughtily said, "Susan, you are a Democrat; you just don't know it." We shared music, leads in the school plays, valedictory honors and more. Joel was so talented and so dedicated to his causes. In the last few years we renewed our friendship on social media and I treasure that.

November 9 at 12:32 PM



Susan Hove-Pabst November 9 at 12:33 PM

We also shared a love of his twin sister, JoNell.



Gary Fossaceca posted:

So sad to learn of Joel's passing. We worked together on many labor issues and Joel's wisdom was always appreciated. Although we were at the opposite sides of the spectrum politically, Joel always made me valuable. I'm proud to have called him my friend.

November 5 at 11:00 AM



Richard Nester shared a photo to the **Joel R. Barden - Photo Album** album.



November 2 at 8:04 PM



Richard A Nester November 16 at 5:36 PM

When Brother Joel Barden announced his retirement to the State Unit #2 Negotiations Team, the four Fraternal Order of Police Lodges that comprised the Unit pooled funds to purchase a Taurus revolver for Joel as a retirement gift. Brother Joel was a Lifetime/Honorary member of the J. Darrell Birmingham F.O.P. Lodge #140.



Tyler Barnhill lit a candle in honor of Joel.



November 1 at 10:16 PM



Tribute Wall

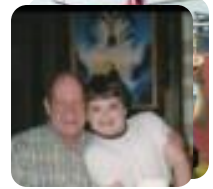
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Tyler Barnhill shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

I have too many memories from playing guitar together, talking about politics or the great wisdom you gave my brother and I. You were always there for school concerts, birthdays, holidays, or a call away for some advice. I couldn't have thanked you enough for all the love and support you gave Jesse and I. Your jokes and puns always lighten up what ever environment you were in. You showed me how to be a respectable and loving man. Thanks for always be there for Jesse and I and loving us.



November 1 at 8:18 PM



John Ogden lit a candle in honor of Joel.



November 1 at 1:03 PM



John Ogden shared 2 photos to the **Joel R. Barden - Photo Album** album.



November 1 at 1:02 PM



Media

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Alexis Kush shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

November 11 at 5:04 AM





Media

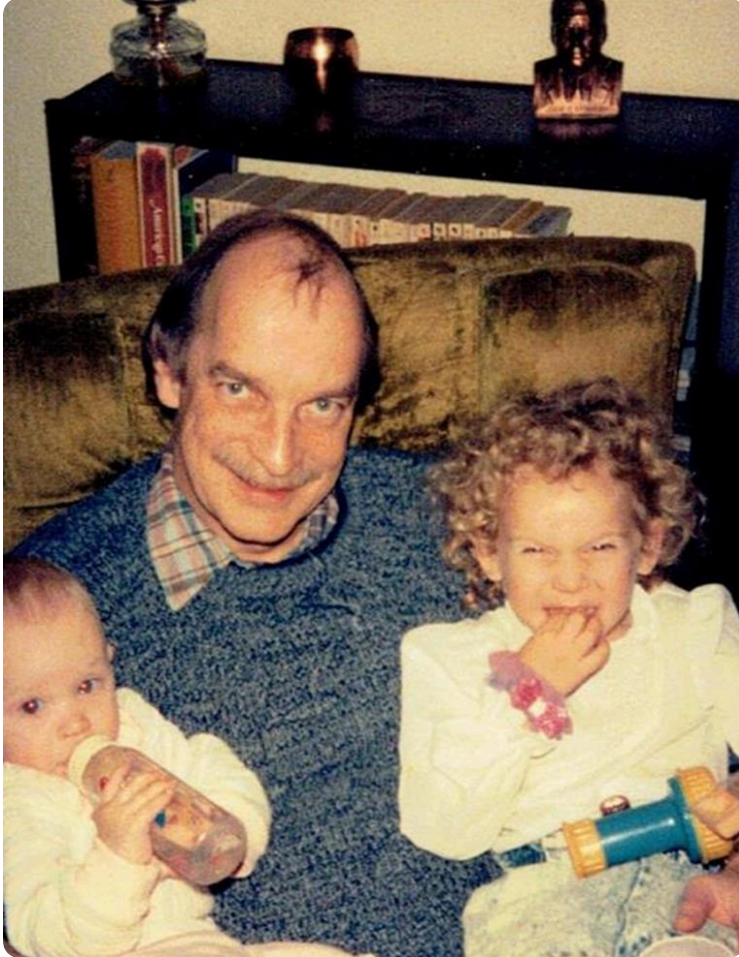
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Alexis Kush shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

November 11 at 5:04 AM





Richard Nester shared a photo to the **Joel R. Barden - Photo Album** album.

November 2 at 8:04 PM



Joel receiving a gift from the grateful members of the State of Ohio Unit #2.



Media

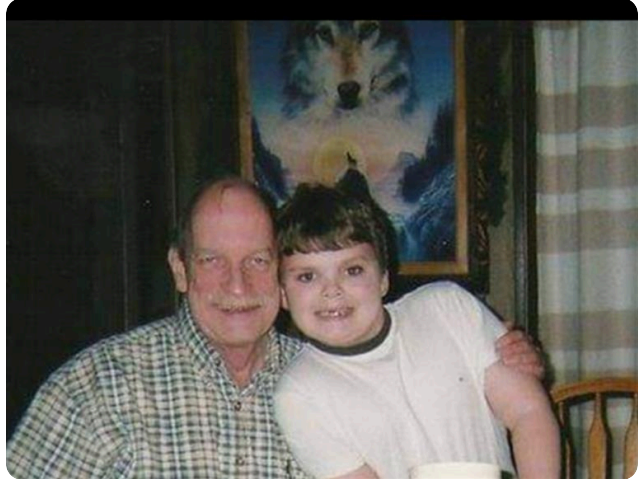
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TB

Tyler Barnhill shared 2 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

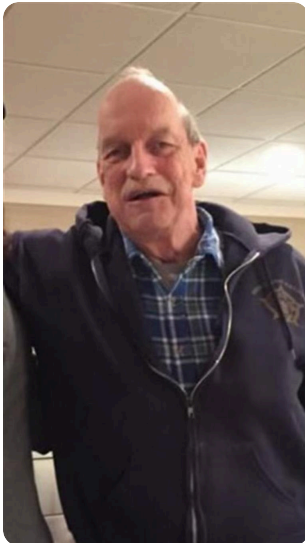
November 1 at 8:18 PM



JO

John Ogden shared 2 photos to the **Joel R. Barden - Photo Album** album.

November 1 at 1:02 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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