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**James Barnes**

**WASHINGTON** - Captain James A. "Jim" Barnes, [United States Navy](#) (Retired), 85, of Washington passed away at 9 a.m. Sunday, July 5, 2015, at UnityPoint Health-Methodist in Peoria. He was born March 27, 1930, in Highland Park, Mich., to Harvey and Mary Carney Barnes. Surviving are three children, Joette (Kip) Blakesley of Germantown Hills, Jill Talaeai of Alexandria, Va., and James "Jim" (Christine) Barnes of Ottawa, Canada; four grandchildren, Colleen (Justin) Vandenberg of Pecatonica, Ill., Kylee McGann of Peoria, Kerisiano Talaeai of Alexandria, Va., and Andrew Barnes of Ottawa, Canada; and great-grandson, River Vandenberg of Pecatonica, Ill. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Harvey; and sister, Ruth Baker.

Jim graduated from Manual High School in 1948 and, upon graduation, played in the New York Giants Minor League organization. In 1953, he graduated from Bradley University as a proud member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Jim was commissioned into the United States Navy in 1956, retiring in 1982, after 26 years of service. He earned his wings becoming a U.S. Naval aviator, where he flew more than 16,000 hours in several aircraft, with the majority in the P-2 and P-3 maritime patrol. Jim also served on the USS Hancock aircraft carrier during the [Vietnam War](#). During his career, he commanded Patrol Squadron Four and two regional Navy recruiting commands. Some of his decorations include Legion of Merit, [Bronze Star](#) Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal and Vietnam Service Medal.

Jim loved the game of golf. He achieved the status of scratch golfer and had six holes-in-one, with the last one at the age of 75.

Most of all, he loved and treasured his family, especially spending time with them, and was very proud of his grandchildren and great-grandson. He enjoyed and was thankful for his friendships with so many beloved friends.

Jim's family extends their heartfelt gratitude to the compassionate and caring staff at UnityPoint Health-Methodist. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Easter Seals Central Illinois, 507 E. Armstrong, Peoria, IL 61603.

Burial will be at Arlington National Cemetery at a later date.

Deiters Funeral Home and Crematory in Washington is in charge of arrangements.

**Funeral Home****Deiters Funeral Home & Crematory - Washington**

2075 Washington Road Washington, IL 61571  
(309) 745-5999

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