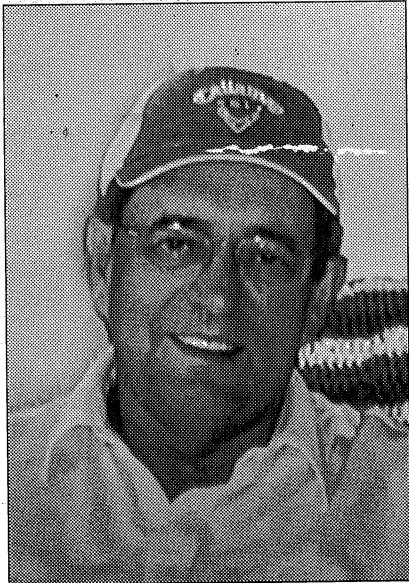


6H-R 5-6-2024

James Owen Barr



James Owen Barr, 80, died May 3, 2024, at Methodist Hospital in Des Moines.

Visitation will be held from 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, May 9, at the United Methodist Church in Monroe. A Celebration of Life service will be held at 10:30 a.m., Friday, May 10, also at the United Methodist Church in Monroe. Memorials may be given to Grace Fellowship Church. The Garden Chapel Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

James was born in Newton on July 3, 1943, the son of Owen and Esther Miller Barr. He attended country elementary schools and graduated from Monroe High School. He then attended Buena Vista College where he played baseball for the BV Beavers and graduated with a teaching degree. He married Connie Lou Nolin, and they had four children.

James began his career as a school-teacher and coach in the BGM schools (Brooklyn, Guernsey, and Malcom.) He spoke fondly of these years of teaching and coaching basketball, track, and softball. Eventually he went into insurance sales and had a successful 40-year career.

James was a lifelong member of the Methodist Church and served on the State of Iowa camping board for several years.

James enjoyed sports and the outdoors. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. He also enjoyed mushroom hunting, golfing, searching for Indian artifacts, and following sports – especially high school sports. He loved his family and particularly enjoyed participating in outdoor activities with them.

He is survived by his children: Shawn Barr, Kimberly Beard, Rebecca Woody, and Jennifer Kramer; 14 grandchildren; 15 great grandchildren; and his brother Ron Barr.

James was preceded in death by his parents, Owen and Esther Barr, and his sister Lavon Dunkle.