



## Barney Lyman Shumate Jr.

March 28, 1953 - May 29, 2019

Barney Lyman Shumate, 66, died May 29, 2019 at his home in Bristol, VA. Barney was the son of the late Barney L. Shumate, Sr and Martha Eleanor Davis Shumate. Barney was born in Bristol and was a past employee of the City of Bristol, VA.

For the past 30+ years Barney was a fixture at the Bristol Virginia Sheriff's Office, spending his time between delivering mail in the Courthouse, making coffee, playing practical jokes on his many friends there and taking an occasional cigarette break.

Barney loved, and was loved by, lots of people including his many special friends from Leisure Park Towers, the police departments and fire departments of both sides of Bristol, the staff at the Bristol Virginia Courthouse, and especially his family at the Bristol Virginia Sheriff's Office.

Barney's life was made special by all the friends he had, past and present. He was a man of few wants and needs, and could usually be found with a smile on his face. He was happy, content, and would tell everyone that tried to get him to stop smoking, "If I die today, I die happy" and he actually meant it. If only we could all feel that way about our lives.

He was also fond of hot dogs with chili and onions, potted meat, Busch beer, bologna, Coke, shirts with snaps (usually a size too small) and cornbread, but coffee and cigarettes were his all-time favorites. You would rarely see him without his hat, covered with the many pins given to him by his friends, and he cherished every single one. He also loved to play the lottery, collecting pawn shop bling, and listening to his police, fire and EMS friends on the scanner, which was usually going 24/7. He was also a fan of NASCAR, especially #18 Kyle Busch, and could often be seen sporting a NASCAR t-shirt under his flannel shirts with the snaps. You just couldn't look too long for fear of one of the snaps popping off from the strain and putting your eye out. He also liked pro-wrestling and his favorite TV shows included the Price is Right and the Young and the Restless.

Per his wishes, Barney's remains were cremated and his ashes will remain with his adopted momma, Pam. As he was fond of saying, "Ashes to ashes, dust to dust." Barney was very guarded about certain aspects of his past, leaving us to speculate on who amongst his family may still be living and what their relationship was to him. We would

hope they would all join his many friends and adopted family in celebrating his life on Saturday June 8th, 2019 beginning at 6pm in Cumberland Square Park, downtown next to the Bristol Virginia Courthouse at the corner of Lee and Cumberland. Per Barney's desires, we will eat some hot dogs with chili and onions, drink some Cokes or coffee, and share our stories of all the great times and fond memories. Condolences for the family may be sent and viewed by visiting [www.BlevinsCares.com](http://www.BlevinsCares.com). Mr. Shumate and his family are in the care of Blevins Funeral & Cremation Services.(276) 669-6141.

# Events

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**JUN** **Celebration of Life** 06:00PM - 08:00PM

**8**

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Cumberland Square Park

Bristol, VA, US

# Comments

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“ Barney, I'm going to miss you very, very much. I'll always love you. Tim Barker

**Tim Barker** - June 07, 2019 at 01:06 PM

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“ Barney,  
It will always be Monday when I go into the court house and think of you. Rest in Paradise!  
Monday gal

**Charlotte Clark** - June 05, 2019 at 04:02 PM

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“ "Hey Lady, Hey Lady, what's your name and it didn't matter how many times you told him you were still Hey Lady. When I first started working at the courthouse in 2000 Barney was there and would always come by and speak to me. I'm not sure if he realized just how special he was and made coming to work each and every day a great day to be there. He was always winning on those scratch tickets, but I am not sure how many he actually won on or gave you the money for the winning ticket. He was so proud of his family at Leisure Park Towers and when given the chance would want you to come over there so you could meet them. He was truly a courthouse icon and will be greatly missed. I'm sure he is flying high and smiling down at each and everyone of his adopted family members he made while here on this Earth. Fly high Barn, fly high."

**Penny Fuqua** - June 05, 2019 at 09:48 AM

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“ Billy And Tina Mc Daniel lit a candle in memory of Barney Lyman Shumate Jr.



**Billy and Tina Mc Daniel** - June 04, 2019 at 08:01 PM

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“ Juvenile Court lit a candle in memory of Barney Lyman Shumate Jr.



Juvenile Court - June 04, 2019 at 07:28 PM

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“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Barney Lyman Shumate Jr..



June 04, 2019 at 06:34 PM

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“ So sorry to learn of Barney’s passing. He was a true “character” always coming in the the bank “cutting up” with me. Always had a smile and kind spirit. I’ll miss you Barney!

Sonya Jones - June 04, 2019 at 03:17 PM

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“ Barney ever since we met when I started in 1986 I knew you were a special kind loving soul and always made me smile. Our last time we spoke at the front doors of the courthouse on Friday and you told me you loved Jesus I knew then were you was going. Heaven has gained another angel and barn you earned your wings go fly high my dear friend in heaven.



**Joe mink** - June 03, 2019 at 10:44 PM

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“ I am so very sorry to hear of Barney's passing. He was such a sweet soul and so funny. Everyone loved "Barn". He will certainly be missed by all. RIP Barney.



**Andrea Rambarran** - May 31, 2019 at 05:18 PM