



## Barry Alan Gilmore

April 16, 1954 - September 12, 2018

Barry Alan Gilmore, 64, of Mint Hill, died unexpectedly on September 12, 2018, at the Novant Medical Center Matthews Campus. Barry was born in Madison, Wisconsin, on April 16, 1954, the son of Stuart Irby and Jewel Pollak Gilmore. His family moved around quite a bit, and for the bulk of his life, he lived in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Most recently, he lived in Mint Hill and had recently retired from his work as a Student Life Coordinator with CPCC Levine Campus.

Barry enjoyed many things in life. He enjoyed reading the classics, music (especially blues, jazz, BB King, Eric Clapton, Bob Dylan and Louie Armstrong), cooking (he could make an incredible Caesar Salad), making ridiculous puns, playing cards, dancing and enjoying good food with friends. Barry was also quick to complement good service, going out of his way to locate and tell managers about good employees. Most of all, enjoyed time spent with family and friends, and he never met a stranger.

Barry is survived by his wife, Patti of Mint Hill; a daughter Hilary Gilmore (Tirem Barenosna) of Brooklyn, NY; a brother Eric Gilmore of Baton Rouge, LA; a sister, Harmony Miller of Alameda, CA; a sister Megan Gilmore Colley (husband Gearoid) of Perth, Australia; and a brother, Ford. He is further survived by numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

# Comments

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“ For some reason Barry's name just popped up in Messenger. I am so sorry to hear about his passing. I was searching for him on google and this popped up. He was a gracious and caring soul and the world was a better place with him in it. I always envied his enjoyment of life and everything it had to offer, May you rest in peace old friend. I hope to see you on the other side.

Dennis Hoshman

Dennis Hoshman - July 24, 2019 at 03:02 PM

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“ Barry, what a generous soul you were! You loved laughter, music and ideas. You looked for goodness in people and longed for others to look for that goodness and to live in positive and loving ways. Serving people was important to you and if there was a way to help others, you gave your heart, resources and time to do so. I will miss you my loyal and loving friend and will miss sharing thoughts, good food and even miss your love of “punning”. Barry you were a complex individual and you were many things to many people but mostly you were a bright light!

Vivienne - October 14, 2018 at 12:00 PM

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“ It has been my absolute pleasure meeting Barry at Levine Campus and the wonderful words of encouragement that he always provided. His smile lit up the atmosphere every time that he was around. I will always remember that "You" can make a difference :)  
CPCC will miss you dearly Barry, We love you!



Lashonda Belk - October 12, 2018 at 02:02 PM

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“ I only met Barry once, but it was a lovely occasion at Eric's home in Baton Rouge one Christmas, many years ago. I was honored to be invited by Stu, Barry's dad, to join the amazing Gilmore family's holiday gathering. That is also where I met Patti and Hilary. We all (Stu, Barry, Patti, Hilary, Eric, Harmony, and another Gilmore brother) had a wonderful celebration. Barry was an important part of that gathering. He and Patti were a quick bond. Everything that has been said here so far about Barry's warmth, love of family, sense of humor, enjoyment of music, and culinary expertise resonates with my memories of meeting him during that Christmas celebration.

Although I met Barry only once, I also knew him through the eyes and heart of his amazing father. Stu, who shared updates on Barry's journey through life whenever we talked throughout the years. Stu loved all of his children so deeply. He would have been so heart-broken to learn about Barry's early and unexpected death. My hope is that he and Barry are now reunited together with Jewel in the spirit world, somersaulting through the galaxies, cracking one horrible pun after the other, and celebrating love.

Sending you hugs, Patti, Hilary, Eric, Harmony, Megan, Terrance, Ford, and Sieben too. You are all in my heart. Love, Mareile

**Mareile Koenig** - October 06, 2018 at 05:32 PM



“ Mareille, I just came across this today and I am very grateful for your lovely, loving message. I totally enjoyed meeting you and am happy that you continue to be in touch with Eric.

I continue to be in mourning for Barry, most importantly of how his life changed so incredibly, it was a immensely sad turn.

I wish you all the best, and I still love the earrings you so kindly gave to me that Christmas, playing cards was great, yes?!!!

My best to you, Patti

**Patti Burbank** - May 16, 2021 at 04:19 PM

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“ With many kms separating us I was fortunate enough to be able to visit and see the special person who I was lucky enough to call my Uncle.

Each time his humour, smiles, hospitality and time given to me was such an enjoyment and I will forever etch those times in my memory to cherish until we meet again.

I have such a fond memory of the time I visited him in Alaska and recall the wooden house, folding napkins and being able to help him at his work. I still to this day recall the magical powers he showed me by being able to tell me the traffic lights would be green or red before we even got to them while we were out driving. I was so very impressed as a little boy.

Fast forward to when I was travelling USA at 21 and had the great opportunity to stay with Barry and Patti in North Carolina. The trip to the hills and the hospitality each night. It felt like a 5 star resort and I remember the night like yesterday we sat up sharing stories, singing songs, mixing cocktails. If only Australia and the USA weren't so far from each other I can imagine the times we would have had. Barry rest easy now and you may be gone but you will never be forgotten. Your sense of humour, spirit and fun I will try to continue projecting in my own life as it is such a wonderful trait and hopefully keep generating smiles as you did for so many others.

Lots of Love Terrence

**Terrence Gilmore** - October 04, 2018 at 08:27 AM

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“ Grins, laughter, bear hugs . . . punster extraordinaire . . . kind and gentle spirit. Those were my first impressions of Barry when I met him in 1980. I'd gone up to Anchorage to visit my sister, Patti, and was thrilled to find that her new boyfriend was such a fun and loving man. And through the years -- during family gatherings in Hastings and East Quogue, and vacations with our kids in N.C. -- Barry's love, laughter and joie de vivre radiated to all around him. A hike in the Blue Ridge Mountains became a fun-filled adventure with Barry at the helm.

But of course Barry was much more than fun and hugs. He was passionate about many things -- from family loyalty, social justice, and higher education for all -- to music, food and wine! Barry's love for all kinds of music was palpable, and he introduced my husband and me to an eclectic array of musicians and sounds. He was an amateur sommelier and a wonderfully inventive cook, whether creating mouth-watering full-course feasts, or last-minute meals with barely more than the cupboard contents. (Potato chip-crusted flounder in Carolina Beach!) Yet as much as he enjoyed cooking, it was mostly a means to an end: nurturing those he loved-- especially Patti and Hilary--and taking such pleasure in their enjoyment.

Barry was truly a "people person" and took great delight in interacting with others, whether engaging in serious conversation or just "shooting the breeze" with wait staff/ ticket takers/receptionists. I loved to watch his friendly banter break even the surliest, most taciturn individuals and see how they'd soon be on a first-name basis with him. And Barry loved laughing -- and making others laugh. His puns and silly jokes are legendary, though our laughter was more often in response to his own, rather than to any punch line.

I loved my kind, funny, big-hearted, generous brother-in-law and will always treasure the many happy and loving memories of times spent together. May your spirit soar to never-ending music, dear Barry, and may you rest in perfect peace.

With loving hugs to Patti & Hilary,  
Kathy Quinn

Kathleen Quinn - October 03, 2018 at 07:22 PM

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“ I worked with Barry at CPCC for 13 years. Barry was such a blessing to our staff, students and anyone he met. He was so full of fun, excitement and love for all. We worked closely together on many projects and he was always so cooperative and willing to compromise when needed. I feel very blessed to have known him and know that he will be missed by so many that loved him. My prayers are with his family during this time of grief and sorrow.

Betty Baker

**Betty Baker** - October 03, 2018 at 02:16 PM

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“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Barry Alan Gilmore.



October 01, 2018 at 02:10 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



**Lowe-Neddo Funeral Home** - October 01, 2018 at 02:00 PM

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“ I remember the first time I met Barry like it was yesterday. January 2002, first day of class. I was struggling to find my class and Barry was there, with the megaphone, handing out coffee and doughnuts to everyone. He just approached me and started talking!! I've been in the US for about 2 weeks at that point so I explained to him that my English is not so good so he needs to slow down!! He was so kind and patient. By the end of that day, He gave me a job working for him and we worked together for 3 years. I had the best time of my life and learned everything I could from Barry. He shaped the man I am today and I truly miss him. He used to always say: "Let's leave this place better than we found it". I know that he left this world better than he found it.....

Thank you Barry...



**Mani Memari** - September 27, 2018 at 10:56 PM

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“ Barry, I certainly hope you are privy to the offerings (photos and writings) from your family and friends. I'm sure you'd grin from ear to ear while commenting, "Whateva!" I'm posting what is perhaps our first photo together with you, about two, and me, about four years old: a crazy, fun loving duo ready to take on the world!

A punster with such a quick wit, you and Dad fed off each other... interminably. I only wish I had your gift to come up with a clever response to lighten difficult situations. You knew how to kindle a light where there was darkness. Our world so desperately needs that light!

I miss your calls to check in with me and share your love, Barry. Your sensitivity and generosity towards others were truly Jewel-like. You were always willing, even eager to care for and feed others. Yes! Feed others, you did... yummy foods and inventive ideas. You could spin ideas in your head and concoct wonderful programs and activities. The entire Gilmore family has always thrived on intellect and creativity. As (F)riends (Quakers), we sought the fellowship of others and rejoiced in simple gifts. You were the ultimate host, creating fellowship with your jovial outreach and showing appreciation for others by recognizing and celebrating their talents.

Barry, you lived a short, but full life and cared deeply about others. We love you and miss you! Peace be with you, but may your spirit be free to continue to grace the lives of those you've left behind.

**Harmony Miller** - September 26, 2018 at 11:24 PM

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“ Dear Patti and Hilary,  
I knew Barry when we were all children in Madison, Wisconsin. I had the good fortune to see him several times when he was an adult, the last time was at Stuart's 80th birthday. In many ways we change little from our childhood core. Barry retained his goofy sense of humor. He had a wide infectious grin. So much so, that he would make the Grinch smile. I remember there was a family at the party who spoke no English. Barry immediately included them in the conversation through laughter, pantomime and his pure good nature. They felt welcomed and included. Thanks, Barry for all you have done for others. You will be sorely missed.  
With sympathy for you all,  
Martha (Tita Haygood) Woodard

**Martha Woodard** - September 26, 2018 at 05:11 PM

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“ Barry Gilmore was my friend & I was honoured to be included in his life.

In 2006, he became my first friend in the USA in what I now realize are typically Barry circumstances.

I stumbled into the Levine Campus on my very first day to find that my first ever class had been relocated to parts unknown due to some double booking glitch. No one seemed able to help me, and I was frustrated until Barry turned up. He took charge, escorted me round the campus telling me he'd stay with me until we found the elusive Mathematics class. Together, we found the class and I found a true & real friend for life. I just didn't know that our lifetime of friendship would be so short.

Barry's unrelenting optimism, his love for life, laughter, music, anecdotes, puns, food & friends & family (especially) meant that he always looked for the best in all of us. If he struggled to see the good in us at any time, he would assume our positive intent & defer judgement of us, figuring that we were just having an off day.

Barry spent every day of his life trying to be the best he could be, to laugh & to do good.

Mission accomplished Barry.

I love him & miss him.

Safe Journey my friend.

John Conway

John Conway - September 26, 2018 at 11:31 AM

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“ Barry was a great friend and colleague, and we will truly miss him. He had a true passion for his work with students and was an inspiration to us all. His wit, laughter, and contagious positive outlook was something to cherish, and that we did! We value the friendship that we had with him, and the support that he gave to us and to ANTSHE. We toast you, Nikolai, Barry, YOU, our good friend, colleague and all around class act! Friends at ANTSHE



Lori Viar - September 25, 2018 at 09:10 PM

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“ Barry came to me as a gift when he married Patti, my wife's sister. Brothers-in-law can be problematic. (Believe me, I know from experience.) Barry was an absolute joy. He radiated goodness, kindness and joy. He elevated my appreciation of jazz and Cajun cuisine, and even introduced me to North Carolina wine (sic). Just being in his presence made you feel better about yourself. (Okay, there were the terrible puns, but Barry took such pleasure in them, it was impossible not to join in the laughter.) I'll treasure my memories of Barry, especially the times we spent together with our families in the Blue Ridge mountains and on the Carolina coast. (If I had more space, I'd recount our hilarious excursion to the Tweetsie Railroad Amusement [?] Park.) Barry was a special man and s special friend. My recollections of him are a legacy I'll treasure for the rest of my days. Thanks for the memories, Barry. Requiscat in pace, dear friend.

**Peter Quinn** - September 25, 2018 at 10:57 AM

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“ Barry will be missed. "No, you, you're good!"

**T. Summerour** - September 25, 2018 at 10:53 AM

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“ Barry always made me laugh when I was around him at CPCC. He was truly interested in students and was a real professional. I am saddened to learn of his untimely death. I will make a contribution to CPCC in his memory. Mitchell Hagler

**mittchell hagler** - September 24, 2018 at 05:08 PM

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“ Barry Gilmore was one of a kind, an original, and his presence is sorely missed at Levine. Barry made our campus what it is today -- friendly, loving, accepting, and fun. Those four words describe Barry to a T. He spread his joy up and down our halls every day. He cared, truly cared about our students, collectively and individually. And Barry cared for all his co-workers was just as passionately. He made sure all of our staff and faculty felt welcomed and included in every student activity he organized. Barry brought our students and Levine employees together as a family.

Barry, you left a huge hole in our hearts and on our campus. I have no doubt that heaven is a more joyous place since you and your megaphone burst through its gates. We miss you, Barry, and will never forget you. May God comfort the hearts of your family, and may you rest in sweet peace.

**Jeannette Coggins** - September 24, 2018 at 10:14 AM



“ 1 file added to the album The Levine Campus Team



**Reginald Pincham** - September 24, 2018 at 09:17 AM

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“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



**Reginald Pincham** - September 24, 2018 at 09:14 AM

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“ Barry would stop by the Levine Testing Center to swap stories about life, family, and friends. I know that we will all miss him.

**Harriet Johnson** - September 24, 2018 at 09:02 AM

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“ Barry gave me my first real job when I was straight out of cooking school, as catering manager for Zeppo's in Anchorage, AK. He was such fun to work for and with! I have fond memories of the weddings, BBQs, bar mitzvahs and many other parties we catered together - he was always certain we hadn't brought enough food! Warm thoughts to Patti and his family,  
Melissa Abbott

**Melissa Abbott** - September 23, 2018 at 05:21 PM

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“ Cheeseboard Complete was purchased for the family of Barry Alan Gilmore.



September 23, 2018 at 05:17 PM

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“ Starbucks Coffee Condolences was purchased for the family of Barry Alan Gilmore.



September 23, 2018 at 05:12 PM

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“ Barry taught me so much about life, thoughtfully sharing music appreciation and exposing me to artists and ideas that I may not have encountered or experienced without his guidance. I wanted to say I shared so many of the best times of my life with Barry, but really I believe Barry orchestrated so many of the best times of my life for me. From hitchhiking to New Orleans with John White and me to see Eric Clapton and Muddy Waters, to three-day shows like Crossroads Guitar Festival 2004, to cooking fantastic foods and introducing me to his friends and sharing his love. His willingness to go out of his way to promote others, even ahead of himself, his thoughtful sharing and his ability to be the life of any gathering as he brought smiles, made people laugh, and genuinely cared. I will always love Barry deeply and we will all miss him. Barry was more than just my older brother, kindly teaching me. He showed me. believed in peace and supported peace and I am certain he has found it now.

**Eric Gilmore** - September 23, 2018 at 04:40 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



**Vivienne Collins** - September 23, 2018 at 03:13 PM

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“ I met Barry 34 years ago in Anchorage when I went to work for him at True Concessions. His exuberance about his work was contagious and you never really felt like you were working when Barry was around - it was impossible not to laugh at his goofy jokes. Barry and Patti were good friends to me, and I cherish the memories we made together.  
Patti and Hilary, please know I am sending much love to you. Take good care of each other.  
Mary Ehret

**Mary C Ehret** - September 23, 2018 at 03:07 PM

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“ Barry had an incredible way of uplifting people. Between his smile, his warm greeting, his lousy jokes and funny anecdotes, he brought joy to the Levine campus family. One of my earliest memories of Barry is of him walking the halls on campus with a megaphone saying anything he could think of to capture the students' attention and get them involved in whatever activity Student Life had going on that day. Such passion! Perhaps we should rename our annual fruitcake award (which I suspect he was either the founder of or the first recipient of) the Gilmore Fruitcake award.

**Laura Tucker** - September 22, 2018 at 08:54 AM