



## Leon Barry

January 11, 1956 - May 8, 2023

Leon Kenneth Barry was born on January 11th, 1956, and died on May 8th, 2023, at the age of 67. As a husband, father, brother, and church volunteer, Leon invested in the lives of many people with wisdom as sturdy as an Oak Tree. This Mechanical Engineer provided energy for America for over 40 years.

Leon was a husband to Vickie, father to Barbie and John, and adopted dad to his son-in-law Phil and daughter-in-law Kalene. Vickie and Leon journeyed together for over 50 years.

Born into the projects of Oakland to a World War II veteran and daughter of Oklahoma homesteaders, Leon pursued the American Dream with the passion of a "lion." Leon believed that "passion and practice" combined with "faith and family" is all one needs. While Leon had four siblings, he was particularly close with his older sister, Shirley (deceased), and youngest sister, Lisa.

Leon met his wife Vickie as a teenager in California and the two fell passionately in love. As a child, Leon dreamed of overcoming poverty by moving to the Last Great Frontier, Alaska. To accomplish this dream, Leon worked oilrigs in the desert and Vickie worked as a housekeeper and hotel manager to put Leon through his Mechanical Engineering degree at Cal Poly

San Luis Obispo.

Within two years of graduation, the newlyweds and their newborn daughter, Barbie, were in Alaska. The California kids had to adjust quickly to the frigid cold. For the next 18 years, Leon literally engineered pipelines, peninsulas, and even an island for oil drilling. Their son John was born in Alaska and lived there until age eight when the family moved to Washington state.

In Washington, Leon and Vickie spent years in ministry, watched both their children get married, and celebrated Leon's patents and widespread usage of safe practices for refining. In 2013, Leon and Vickie moved to Texas, where Leon spent his final years. Leon worked as a Director for Acquisitions in the energy sector, consulting across the United States and Mexico. Leon selflessly cared for his teammates, their families, and even their souls. He did this by believing in the power of "integrity" and "reliability," two words used in his last job title.

Leon is deeply loved and survived by his wife Vickie, sister Lisa, daughter Barbie and her husband Phil, and son John and his wife Kalene.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to DiveHeart online here: [https://m.facebook.com/nt/screen/?params=%7B%22fundraiser\\_campaign\\_id%22%3A792936588695668%2C%22source%22%3A%22external\\_url%22%7D&path=%2Ffundraiser%2F&wtsid=rdr\\_0UQCHuq9YaSsh8fjU&refsrc=deprecated&\\_rdr](https://m.facebook.com/nt/screen/?params=%7B%22fundraiser_campaign_id%22%3A792936588695668%2C%22source%22%3A%22external_url%22%7D&path=%2Ffundraiser%2F&wtsid=rdr_0UQCHuq9YaSsh8fjU&refsrc=deprecated&_rdr)

# Cemetery Details

## Mission Burial Park North

20900 IH 10 West  
San Antonio, TX 78257

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

MAY 15. 10:00 AM (CT)

Mission Burial Park North  
20900 IH 10 West  
San Antonio, TX 78257

# Tribute Wall

BL

“ I never met Leon but I have had the pleasure of working with Barie for the last year. She is a strong fierce woman with tremendous passion and a heart of gold. I know this is a reflection of both her mother and father. Sending hugs and blessings as you celebrate his life and find peace.

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**Becky Lemens** - May 23, 2023 at 01:30 PM

PA

“ I met Leon in 1975 when we were both students at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo studying to become Mechanical Engineers. We shared a lot of the same classes and spent endless hours together cramming for exams and doing our assignments. What struck me most about Leon was how disciplined and committed he was in whatever he decided to do. Even at that young age, he had chosen Vickie to be his partner in life and pretty much knew the path he wanted to follow when most of us were still scratching our heads trying to figure what to do next. When it was break time from studies, we would open up a couple of Coors Light beers and a bag of Doritos, good old times!  
RIP dear Leon

Paul

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**Paul Ashqar** - May 12, 2023 at 05:23 AM

MQ

“ Leon and Vickie were friends of ours when they lived in Alaska. We remember Leon as an honorable man, with a huge heart and a big smile. Lots of memories hanging out with them. We looking forward to seeing you again. Love Mary Ann & Mike Quirk

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**Mary Ann Quirk** - May 11, 2023 at 07:10 PM

KA

“ I has the pleasure of working with Leon on Alaska well pad development and at the Ferndale Refinery. Leon's ability to balance work and family demand is unparalleled and unique indeed, while work was important, it was always secondary to family needs. I truly admire Leon's vision / leadership and willingness to accommodate personal needs.

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**Kam Atwal** - May 11, 2023 at 03:30 PM

SB

*I was blessed beyond to meet Leon this past April with Vickie at dinner. Leon shared His testimony on giving his life to Jesus. It was an amazing story how the Lord directed his paths. I felt honored and privileged on his sharing his beautiful God story.*

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**Sandy Billingham** - May 15, 2023 at 01:20 PM

DQ

“ We had the pleasure of knowing Leon and Vickie when they lived in Alaska. Many happy weekends spent together. Leon was a man of integrity and high standards but also had a fabulous sense of humor. Always willing to lend a helping hand. We missed them so much when they left Alaska. He is with our precious Savior now experiencing all the glory of God. We will see you again one day.

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**Donna Quirk** - May 11, 2023 at 03:26 PM

GK

“ Leon always greeted me with that quiet smile whenever I visited the San Antonio office. He invited me into his office, many times with Wille N., and we would talk about projects and programs, but most of all about life.

As many have said, he was one one of the good ones. May your life be remembered by all you knew with that simple thought as we all pass along stories about great people. Athat your family knows how well respected you were outside the family. RIP LEON!

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**Garry H. Kepes** - May 11, 2023 at 03:18 PM

MK

“ I worked with Leon for many years at the Ferndale Refinery and look back fondly on the many conversations we had about our relationship with the Lord and our families. As a Christian I know this is not good-bye but "see you later" in heaven my friend.

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**Mark Kitzan** - May 11, 2023 at 11:07 AM

SS

“ In our lifetime, few of us may be lucky enough to meet someone that possitively changes the courses our life. I first met Leon at "the dinner" that's the name we gave my first meetings/dinner/job audition with Leon. We talked for almost 4 hours and we didn't even finish our meal. We talked about a lot of things but Leon told me the one most important word that got me a job in his team was "family" when he asked me what was the most important thing in life, because it's aligned with what he value the most. Thank you Leon, I will be forever grateful for the opportunity, mentorship and friendship that you gave me. You will be missed, my boss and my dear friend.

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**Sam Sirichet** - May 10, 2023 at 09:57 PM