



Richard Barta

August 21, 1946 - December 9, 2020

Richard Wayne Barta, 74, Topeka, Kansas, passed away at his home Wednesday, December 9, 2020.

Dick was born August 21, 1946, in Lucas, Kansas to Alvin and Loretta Novak Barta. He served our country as a radioman in the US Navy. On October 29, 1966, Dick and Marcia Cobb were united in marriage, enjoying 54 years together.

Dick was employed by the Kansas Highway Patrol for 29 years and served as Shawnee County Sheriff for 12 years. He was a member of Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church. Dick had a strong faith in God and was a devoted family man. He will be greatly missed.

Grateful to have shared Dick's life are his wife, Marcia Barta; children, Julie Dinges (Robbie), Tamie Barta, John Barta (Julie) and Tonya Stallbaumer (Todd); grandchildren, Sierra, Jordan, Tyler, Brody, Cooper, Avery; Dalton, Montana, Lakelyn; Shannon, Matthew, Kendall; Casen, Taylin, Jaida and Coren; and one unborn great-granddaughter, Blake; siblings, Susan Urich (Jim), Terry Barta (Mary Lynn), Tom Barta (Mary Beth), Dave Barta (Gayle) and Sondra O'Leary; and many nieces and nephews. Dick was preceded in death by his parents and nephew, Joel Barta.

The rosary will be prayed at 2 p.m. Sunday at Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church, 2014 NW 46th Street, Topeka KS 66618 followed by visitation until 4 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Monday at 10 a.m. at the Church and will be live streamed on Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home Facebook page. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery. Masks and social distancing are required at all services.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Mother Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church, sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614.

Cemetery Details

Mount Calvary Cemetery

801 SW Westchester Rd
Topeka, KS 66606

Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Barta*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Don and I grew to love the entire Barta family while we were neighbors in LaCrosse, KS. Dick was a Highway Patrol officer and the family was loved by everyone in the community. Many happy and fun memories.*

Don and Mary Catherine Brening

Catherine Brening - January 26, 2021 at 08:31 PM



“ *Dr. Barta was very thorough and kind. He checked out a dog we found on the side of the road, gave him a clean bill of health and had his staff try to track down his unregistered chip.*



Katherine Leyba - January 12, 2021 at 07:32 PM



I worked for Doc Barta years ago in the clinic and pet shop grooming animals. He was a wonderful man and awesome vet. Independence has lost a great man. Prayers up for the family 🙏🙏🙏🙏

Vickie Williams (Green) - January 12, 2021 at 10:26 PM

CS

“ Sending thoughts, prayers and hugs to Marcia and the kids. So sorry for your loss. And remembering you all as our neighbors growing up in La Crosse, fun times and great memories! Craig and Sherri Stevens

Craig Stevens - December 20, 2020 at 11:28 AM

JA

“ Always enjoyed talking to Dick. He will be missed. Prayers to all of you.

Josh and Sandee Alters - December 15, 2020 at 08:01 PM

YL

“ To the family of "Sheriff" Barta, I will always remember him by that title, one in which he wore so well. He was truly a "Godly" man with a heart of compassion, concern & true love for the people around him. I consider it an honor to have worked with and under such a good man. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him. May God bless you and keep you during your time of grief. I pray for understanding and a peace that only God can give you. God Bless you as you move forward with him held tightly in your memories and hearts.

Yolonda L

Yolonda Luarks - December 15, 2020 at 04:04 AM

DA

I had the honor of knowing Dick and Marcia, as a young wife, to a young state trooper, who had the privilege of working under Dick's command. Dick and Marcia were both such great mentors to us. Such a great family. Dick will be sorely missed by so many.

Deb Langdon Allen - December 15, 2020 at 10:08 PM

WM

“*Dick Barta was one of the most outstanding law enforcement leaders in the State of Kansas. In the Highway Patrol, he served with distinction and advanced through the ranks. I had the great pleasure to become acquainted with him during his KHP years through my position in Governor John Carlin's office. And then his service as Shawnee County Sheriff, where he earned the respect of deputies, commissioners and the public alike. His volunteer service to the community is legendary. He was admired and will be missed by all. May Almighty God welcome to his Heavenly Home and may his family have peace, love and contentment during this time of great sorrow. Bill Muir, Manhattan*

William L. (Bill) Muir - December 15, 2020 at 01:08 AM

SO

“*My heartfelt sympathies to the entire Barta family.*

Sarah (Wurtz) O'Loughlin - December 15, 2020 at 12:27 AM

JA

“ We had the pleasure of seeing Dick almost daily as he came in for his morning coffee, greeting us with a handshake & a smile. It wasn't uncommon for him to see someone he knew & always took time to say hello and catch up with them for a bit before going on his way.

Sunday mornings have always been a special treat with the Barta family as they bring life to a quiet Sunday morning with their kids & grandkids in tow. Their joy & laughter fill the store as they visit with each other before headed off to conquer the day. We're going to miss seeing Dick sitting with Marcia & his family in the booth drinking coffee together laughing & having a great time. Being able to witness their love for each other is such a blessing & proves the wonderful legacy Dick leaves behind. Dick was so proud of each of you and loved to share it with us.

Our thoughts continue to be with you and we pray that you will be flooded with many happy memories to carry you through your grief.

Rob & Jaime Jaccard
Petro Deli Family

Jaime - December 14, 2020 at 10:41 PM

GS

“ I met Dick when he was sheriff during coffee with a mutual friend. Moving here in 2009 from Overland Park, KS I was glad to find a Christian involved with law enforcement. During the coffee meeting I found Dick and I had the same type of cancer that was in remission. I joined a men's Friday morning coffee group that Dick attended and from time to time we shared doctors visits and health concerns. I talked with him 6 weeks ago about a study drug program he was starting at KU where my doctors were. I found Dick a very friendly and outgoing person who made friends quickly. I always looked forward to visit with him at coffee. It is hard for me to believe he is gone from this earth. Why God took him so young. My prayers are with the family that they will find support in memories and his many friends. I thank God for allowing me these years I knew him. I will keep the family in my prayers that they will find Devine guidance and support during the days and weeks to follow.

Gene Schoettlin

Gene Schoettlin - December 14, 2020 at 04:53 PM

JD

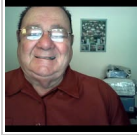
“ Sorry for your loss. Grew up near Lucas and competed against Dick many times. Our prayers go out to you and your family. Sincerely,
Jeff and Linda Dolezal

Jeff Dolezal - December 14, 2020 at 03:15 PM

BM

“ We are sorry for your loss. Dick was a great person and a friend. We will keep your family in our prayers.
Butch and Barbara Minear

Butch Minear - December 14, 2020 at 02:02 PM



“ *Marcia & Family, Hanni and I send our deepest sympathy and Prayers to you. Dick has been a great mentor to me in my prayer life. I will always remember him as a brother in my Spiritual Life. We shared many Monday mornings together in prayer, and we shared so much. He and you have been in our prayers and thoughts constantly these past few*

days. We pray that God's Gift of Grace and Strength will be with you during this sad time.

Vic & Hanni Milazzo

Vic Milazzo - December 14, 2020 at 12:17 PM

VH

“ *I am so sorry for your loss. May you find peace and comfort in the days ahead. God bless.*

Virginia Hale

Virginia Hale - December 14, 2020 at 12:11 PM

TW

“ *To the Barta family, I am sorry for you loss. I met Mr. Barta while I worked at the North YMCA he was always so pleasant and kind. My daughter thought highly of him and was excited that he knew her name and help with the DARE program through the schools. He will truly be missed, prayers to you and the family at this time.*

Teresa Whitesell(Lesser) - December 14, 2020 at 11:29 AM

JA

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



JANICE A ARMSTRONG - December 14, 2020 at 10:58 AM

JA

Practice night. L-to-R: Erwin Ulses, Dick Barta, George Sittenauer, Joe Enneking, Corky Armstrong, Lloyd Becker, Steve Schiffelbein

JANICE A ARMSTRONG - December 14, 2020 at 12:51 PM

FF

“ *Richard Barta Family,*

*Jeanette and I had the privilege to meet and become friend with Dick and Marsha in Lacrosse, Kansas when Dick was a Kansas State Trooper . What a wonderful family. Beautiful girls and a handsome boy. Our friendship continues. We will miss Dick always.
Fred and Jeanette Flax*

Fred P Flax - December 14, 2020 at 10:09 AM

LS

“ *Marcia and family,
Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Barta family at this very difficult time. Dick was a special friend and fellow trooper. We spent many years together during our careers with the Kansas Highway Patrol and remained the best of friends since those days. Always a gentleman, Dick will always be remembered as one of the best men I have ever known or had the pleasure of working with. His friendship and support will never be forgotten.
Laynard "Lanny" Shearer, Lt Colonel KHP Ret.*

Lanny Shearer - December 14, 2020 at 09:50 AM

DH

“ *Marcia and family,
We were so saddened to hear about your loss. May the love and mercy of our Lord be bestowed upon you at this most difficult and sad time. God bless. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Darla & Guy

Darla & Guy Hutchison - December 14, 2020 at 09:39 AM



MF

“ *Marcia and family, I'm sending my deepest sympathy and prayers.*

Marcia, I remember one of your birthdays, Dick let you drive his Mustang to work we got a laugh out of that! Live and smile in all your memories I know they are so special, you both are one of a kind. Miss you, Marcella.

Marcella K Frickey - December 14, 2020 at 06:48 AM

RL

“ My first duty assignment was Lyon county and Dick was my first sergeant. One night back in 1978 while I was out patrolling the county my wife had called the office trying to get ahold of me. Dick had answered the phone. My wife told Dick that she needed me to come home. So Dick called me on the radio and told me my wife had called and wanted me to come home, he said she sounded a little distressed. So I headed home. When I arrived I saw Dick's Patrol car in the driveway. When I went in the house there was Dick standing in the living room holding my youngest daughter Traci who was only a couple of months old crying her lungs out. It turns out the reason My wife needed me to come home was because when she walked into the living room she found a dead mouse laying in the middle of the room and she was scared to death of them. Dick had come from the office to check on my wife because she sounded distressed on the phone. He dispensed of the mouse and then proceeded to try and settle my infant daughter down and like most babies she thanked him by spitting up all over his uniform. Didn't phase Dick in the slightest. The guy was always a gentleman and always concerned about the people under his supervision. You will have to do a lot looking to find a kinder person, rest in peace my friend.

Rick Langdon - December 13, 2020 at 08:15 PM

TS

Rick what a great story! Thank you for sharing!!

Teri Seaton - December 13, 2020 at 11:55 PM

GS

“ Hi Marcia,
I am so sorry for your loss. I will keep you and your family in my thoughts and prayers.

Ginger Simon

Ginger Simon - December 13, 2020 at 05:59 PM

TS

“ We think of our best Sheriff, Dick Barta, and smile. The memory of his kindness, generosity, humility and community service will live on. Thank you, Marcia and family, for sharing. We offer our prayers and condolences.

Teresa & Steve Schiffelbein - December 13, 2020 at 05:31 PM

RD

“ Our condolences to the Barta family on their loss of a great guy. We had the pleasure of growing up together in Lucas and have many, many good memories of Dick. Rest In Peace old friend.

Dougherty boys and our families

Rick Dougherty - December 13, 2020 at 04:32 PM

BW

“ I met "Trooper Barta" in 1974 when I attend the American Legion Cadet Lawmen Academy with the Kansas Highway Patrol at Salina. I remember his arms were more muscular than my legs! He was always very kind during the academy. I joined law enforcement in 1975 and worked with Dick as we both progressed through the ranks. After 45 years, I am still in law enforcement and have served 25 years as an Undersheriff, Deputy Chief of Police, or Police Chief. I credit Dick Barta with helping to motivate a high school junior on to a long law enforcement career. Both of my sons moved on to law enforcement and the youngest also met Dick Barta at the Cadet Lawman Academy.

Burdel Welsh - December 13, 2020 at 03:54 PM

CO

“ The Topeka Community is certainly a better place because Dick Barta was a part of it. He was a wonderful man with an equally wonderful family.
Sending my heartfelt condolences,

Carolyn Orozco

Carolyn Orozco - December 13, 2020 at 03:07 PM

AD

“ Bless your heart Marcia, I wish I could give you a big hug! I have never had a boss in the last 20 years that even compares to having you as mine from 1999-2001! You are one special lady and I had the pleasure of meeting Dick and your family during that time. You guys just eluded happiness every time you spoke on the phone or in person teasing each other/giving each other a hard time, actually it might of been Dick always giving you a hard time if I remember right :) or even when Dick made his daily call to see what was for dinner that night, you guys were so cute, the way you spoke to each other and looked at each other there was no doubt the love you shared. I can say the same for how excited you were to share stories of your children and/or grandkids with me, you were so proud and i could tell how much love and joy they bring you. May all of this love, your precious memories and God’s grace fill your heart my friend.

Love,
Audra Durkes

Audra Durkes - December 13, 2020 at 01:11 PM

BE

“ My deepest sympathies to the whole Barta family. It was a blessing to get to know Dick from from sleepovers with Julie at the Barta house, cheering on us runners in Cross Country and Track, and taking us girls to K-State. He was an amazing man and blessed so many with his presence in their lives. Our family's prayers are with you all.

Brenda Edmonds and whole Edmonds family

Brenda Edmonds - December 13, 2020 at 12:50 PM

JF

“ My deepest sympathy to Marsha & the entire Barta family. Dick was an extraordinary man who touched many lives. He will be greatly missed. May God Comfort you!

Jim File family - December 13, 2020 at 12:16 PM



“ Rose Remembrance was purchased for the family of Richard Barta.



December 13, 2020 at 11:41 AM

TM

“ Julie, I send you and your wonderful family my sympathy at this very sad time for you. I know what a wonderful husband, dad and grandpa he was to each of you. I'm thinking of you. Sincerely,
TondraAnn Miller

Tondra Miller - December 12, 2020 at 10:15 PM

BH

“ We are poorer and Heaven is richer with the passing of Dick Barta. His memory will be a blessing to all who knew him. He was a KHP cohort of my father, and a family friend. He was gentle, genuine, gracious... I would run out of adjectives attempting to describe him. I will just say he was one of the best men I've ever known.

Brenda Hall - December 12, 2020 at 09:02 PM

BT

“ John, Julie, and the rest of the family, we are truly sorry to hear about your loss. Sincerely, Bud & Angela Tyroler

Bud Tyroler - December 12, 2020 at 06:39 PM

BT

“ Bud Tyroler lit a candle in memory of Richard Barta



Bud Tyroler - December 12, 2020 at 06:36 PM

RD

“ In loving memory and honor of Richard Barta, Dick lived a rich life - rich in family, faith, patriotism, and law enforcement. He served our Nation as a South Vietnam Brown-Water-Navy veteran in the hotly-contested I Corps, He gave exemplary law enforcement service to our great state of Kansas, Shawnee County, and City of Topeka. We are all richer for knowing him. We VN veterans salute Dick Barta and wish him Godspeed. To his family, we offer our sincere condolences. There was no better man than Sheriff Barta.”

COL (Ret) Bob Dalton
US Army and KSARNG

Robert Dalton - December 12, 2020 at 02:59 PM

TS

Very well said.

Teri Seaton - December 14, 2020 at 12:01 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Richard Barta.*



December 12, 2020 at 02:25 PM



“ *Dick and I became friends during the Carlin Administration when Dick represented the Kansas Highway Patrol before the Kansas Legislature and I served as the Kansas Commissioner of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services. Over the years our paths would cross, and I was always impressed by the dignity and integrity he brought to his public service assignments.*

In more recent years, Dick and I would encounter each other at the Great Life facility in North Topeka. We shared a life-long commitment to personal fitness. He would always inquire about the status of the competitive swimming and coaching that my wife and I still pursue.

I send my condolences to Dick's family. Please know that your sorrow is shared by his many friends across the community.

James (Jim) McHenry

James McHenry - December 12, 2020 at 02:09 PM

DS

“ *Marcia,
I am so thankful for having had the opportunity to work with Dick for so many years at the KHP, and getting to know you and your children. Lots of good memories. I was just thinking of the time I drove my new 1988 Grand Am to your house and Dick got behind the wheel, you on the passenger side, and me in the back. He took us on quite a ride! Over the years, he was always so good to me, and will always hold a very special place in my heart. I'm thinking of you all so much right now.*



Debbie Schumaker

Debbie Schumaker - December 12, 2020 at 02:03 PM

CM

“ *I will miss you my friend but have fond memories to remind me of our friendship: quarterly luncheons with you and Midge, jogging on the hottest days from the Downtown YMCA and interesting conversations. Rest In Peace, Dick*

Chuck Mason

Chuck Mason - December 12, 2020 at 01:56 PM

BD

“ *Bob and Karla Dinges purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Richard Barta.*



Bob and Karla Dinges - December 12, 2020 at 01:25 PM

BD

“ I will always remember Dick Barta for his kindness and smile. Our family knew of him during his law enforcement days. Recently, my son and his family moved into a house across the street from the Bartas. Dick showed his kindness by handmaking a wooden sign welcoming them to the neighborhood. Whenever he saw us, he would wave and smile. He will be truly missed. Thoughts and prayers to his family. Brenda Dobler

Brenda Dobler - December 12, 2020 at 01:15 PM

CK

“ Marcia and the entire Barta Family, I was so saddened to hear of Dick's passing. Spending time with Dave & Gayle at Dick & Marcia's house after the Joel Barta Memorial Golf Tournament was always one of the highlights that I looked forward to each and every year. Dick had the best soft spoken and earnest voice I have ever heard. He was such a joy to be around. I will miss him dearly. Please accept my deepest sympathy.

Curt Kitson

Curt Kitson - December 12, 2020 at 01:07 PM

CN

“ We had the pleasure of living in the same neighborhood as Dave and Marcia for many years and always welcomed his friendliness and upbeat personality. We always felt safer knowing Dick lived down the street. We grew to know him and Marcia on daily walks with my dog Tucker and visiting in the neighborhood. He was one of the kindest and happiest men (couple) I have known! The entire Barta family and extended family are the very best of people and we send you our deepest sympathy and love.

Cathy Novak-Wood

Cathy Novak-Wood - December 12, 2020 at 12:34 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Richard Barta.*



December 12, 2020 at 12:24 PM



“ *Jim & Connie Nordstrom lit a candle in memory of Richard Barta*



Jim & Connie Nordstrom - December 12, 2020 at 12:11 PM



“ *I got to meet and know Dick while he and I worked together as volunteers at Stormont -vail hospital .After retiring from the sheriffs department he taught a class for seniors to refresh their driving skills . He was so respected and appreciated for taking his time to connect with these seniors .I learned from my time helping him that he was truly a gentleman and a great leader. Marcia thank you for sharing this man with all of us. He will be missed.He is another example of the many people who I have known that work to help others.Many have been former members of Law enforcement that continue to be of service.Gary Koeppen Berryton*

Gary Koeppen - December 12, 2020 at 11:42 AM

DP

“ Our thoughts and prayers go out to the family. I know my dad (Bob Inman) thought a lot of Dick. He was thoughtful and kind to him in his retirement years.

Debbie (Inman) Parks - December 12, 2020 at 11:41 AM

RS

“ A former Navy Radioman myself, we shared many like experiences. I will miss you greatly, especially after Sunday Masses, your friendly smile and gracious hand shake. I will also miss seeing your grandson run to grandpa after mass ...that is a memory I will never forget. My sorrow and prayers goes out to the Barta Family, Dick will be greatly missed.

Richard Wayne Scherer, former RM3, USN

Richard Scherer - December 12, 2020 at 11:33 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Barta.



December 12, 2020 at 11:03 AM

RU

“ Rhonda Underwood lit a candle in memory of Richard Barta



Rhonda Underwood - December 12, 2020 at 10:14 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Barta.*



December 12, 2020 at 10:06 AM



“ *Therese Lundgren lit a candle in memory of Richard Barta*



Therese Lundgren - December 12, 2020 at 09:53 AM



“ *To Marcia and family, my condolences to you all.*

Marilyn Murphy, Director, Sunshine Conne - December 12, 2020 at 08:24 AM



“ *Marcia and the entire Barta family, this news makes me so sad. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.*

Marty Fletcher

Marty Fletcher - December 12, 2020 at 08:15 AM

SB

“ *Barta family, I am so sorry for your loss. Heaven has gained a light that the world will now know only because Dick left a small part of himself with everyone he touched. I knew Dick when he was Sheriff and I was a department head for the county. I simply remember Dick as the kindest most soft spoken man I have ever known. He had a firm handshake that was never a contest and a smile that could change your day. Unfortunately we lost touch after our work took us in different directions.*

*Dick will be greatly missed,
Steve Bolton*

Steve Bolton - December 12, 2020 at 06:41 AM

AA

“ *Dick and Marcia have been so gracious to my family! They showed so much love and support! The Barta's have been apart of special events for my children including their baptism! I will miss Dick so deeply and I am so grateful to have known him!*

Ashly Appelhanz - December 11, 2020 at 11:28 PM

JS

“ *Dick will be greatly missed by our family. He showed us such kindness when my brother Steve came to live us. Steven has downs syndrome and Dick some how found out his favorite candy was snickers. there were very few Sundays missed after that, that he did not give him a snickers bar after mass. To see that kindness towards a person he did not know was huge and made Steven feel right at home with a friend like that. Steven is 57 now and when we were kids people were not always so kind. i feel blessed to say he was a good friend,
we loved him. Steven Heinen and Joyce Schober*

joyce schober - December 11, 2020 at 10:43 PM



“ *Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Richard Barta.*



December 11, 2020 at 10:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Barta.*



December 11, 2020 at 09:53 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Richard Barta.*



December 11, 2020 at 09:37 PM



“ *Marsha,
We love you and we love Dick.
Our week together for our Stephen Ministry training in St. Louis
will never be forgotton. You and Dick will always be in our thoughts
and prayers. God bless.. Jim and Meg Zeller*

Jim Zeller - December 11, 2020 at 06:44 PM

DS

“ *Dick's siblings and their respective spouses purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Richard Barta.*



Dick's siblings and their respective spouses. - December 11, 2020 at 06:33 PM