



## Donald G. Barnette

July 1, 1934 - September 4, 2020

### DONALD GENE BARNETTE

He was born in Middletown OH., on July 1, 1934, to John Hamilton Barnette & Smashie Lee Revish.

Don is a graduate of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio with a B.S. in Education. He is a former school teacher, business owner, author, professional athlete and was a supervisor in the office for Civil Rights, Department of Education with the U.S. Government for twenty years. He was a pioneer with the Learning Chanel. He grew up in Middleton, Ohio where he attended Middletown Senior High School. Don was an All State Basketball player who helped lead the Middletown Middies to the 1952 State Championship. During his college years at Miami University he earned All Mid- American honors, Honorable mention and All American. Continuing to make his mark by playing in the First Invitational Inter-service Basketball Bermuda Tournament (council international Sports Militaire CISM is in 145 countries) and joined the All Navy Basketball Team in 1956-58. He is a member of an Emmy-Award winning Cold War Ambassadors of Goodwill and received a Presidential Lenin Medal of Honor. In 1958-1962 played for the "Original Harlem Globetrotters" touring 80+ countries and was known by the Moniker, "The Dribbling Wizard." Don broke the following color barriers: A) he became the first African American to receive a basketball scholarship from Miami University of Ohio. B) 1st black male teacher in the Middletown, Ohio school system. C) 1st black to sell textbooks with two major book companies 1) Gregg Division of the McGraw- Hill book company 2) The American Book Company. Donald has been inducted into eight Halls of Fames including: Butler County Sports, Middletown High School, National Basketball Retired Players Association, and Black Legends of Professional Basketball Foundation.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Chapel of the Chimes Oakland, 4499 Piedmont Ave, Oakland, California 94611.

To ensure the health and safety of our community, we are following all guidelines set by local, state and CDC officials. If you are planning on attending a service, please contact the funeral home in advance, so that we can plan accordingly.

# Comments

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“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Donald G. Barnette.



September 27, 2020 at 11:13 PM

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“ We love the whole Barnette family, our dear neighbors and friends! Don's life was so very, very well lived, and he will be missed immeasurably. One particular memory we have of Don is his volunteering to take over the barbecuing for a large party we had planned when Pat was suddenly called to LA to be with a friend who was terminally ill. Don made the most wonderful barbecue, and he was so generous in sharing his gifts. We know that countless precious memories of him will bring comfort in the days ahead.

Love, The Neves

Victoria J Neve - September 06, 2020 at 10:20 PM