



David M. Bixler "Bix"

May 31, 1948 - October 4, 2020

David M. Bixler "Bix", 72, of Sarasota, FL passed away on October 4, 2020 after a valiant battle with Cancer.

David was born May 31, 1948 at Sarasota Memorial Hospital and raised in the Belspur area of Sarasota. He graduated Riverview High School in 1966 and was accepted to the University of Florida after attending Manatee Community College. His plans changed when he met the love of his life, Alice Poneleit. They married in June of 1968, but before he could go to UF, his draft number was pulled.

David served in the US Army and was deployed to Vietnam from September 1969 to November 1970. When he returned home, he went to work for his family at Hap's Cycle Sales, Inc. He was a very successful salesman and his passion for Honda powersports earned him many awards, including a trip to Japan and another trip to Hawaii where he had the honor of dining with Mr. Honda himself. He later became part owner of Hap's Cycle Sales, Inc. He was a pillar of the motorcycle community and had several accomplishments including being a founding member and early president of FTR (Florida Trail Riders) and SADRA (Sarasota Area Dirt Riders Association). He raced Enduros and was the Hi Point Winner in the 1975 Bushwacker Enduro.

Besides motorcycles, David's other passion was softball. He played a pivotal

role in starting a men's softball league in Sarasota and served on the board of the Sarasota Area Softball Association for many years. He was known for having the fastest short legs in Sarasota.

David also enjoyed helping his wife by volunteering with Sarasota BMX. With Alice by his side, you could always find him at every NBL Grands and then weekends around Florida at the BMX state races. He was well known as a great motorcycle salesman and softball player, but an even greater family man and friend.

David was preceded in death by his parents Carl and Elizabeth (Albritton) Bixler, his brother Morgan Bixler, and his son David Lee Bixler.

Left to cherish his memory are his wife Alice (Poneleit) Bixler, son Stephen (Wyanda) Bixler, daughter in law Sara Bixler, grandchildren Christopher, Jacob, Tyler and Gavin Bixler, brother Richard Bixler, sister Joann (Peter) Waller, honorary daughter Kellie Dietz, and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be Sunday, October 11, 2020 at Toale Brothers on Orange Ave from 2:00 – 6:00 pm.

Memorial service will be held on Monday, October 12, 2020 at 1:00 pm at South Shore Community Church at 1899 S Tuttle Ave, Sarasota, FL 34239.

Interment to follow at Friendship Baptist cemetery at 5700 Palmer Blvd, Sarasota, FL 34232.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the SADRA scholarship fund in honor of Bix. Send any donations c/o Hap's Cycle Sales, Inc at 2530 17th St, Sarasota, FL 34234. Checks should be made out to SADRA (Sarasota Area

Dirt Riders Association).

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **11**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Colonial Chapel

40 N. Orange Avenue

Sarasota, FL 34236

(941) 955-4171

info@toalebrothers.com

<https://www.toalebrothers.com/>

Memorial Service

OCT **12**. 1:00 PM (ET)

South Shore Community Church

1899 S. Tuttle Avenue

Sarasota, FL 34239

Tribute Wall

PN

“ I played softball on Haps team. David was the leader and he really did have the fastest short legs in the history of sports. Condolences to Alice and family. RIP David.

Perry Neuroth - November 05, 2020 at 04:01 PM



“ I first met David at Riverview High school, where we shared an English class after he returned from on the job vocational training for FFA at an actual farm. Little did I know that four years later "Bix" would marry Alice, the daughter of the owner of Haps Cycle Sales, a woman who as a teenager did the paperwork for my purchase of a Harley M50, Hartleys answer to the Honda lightweight street bikes. We saw each other frequently decades later , whether I needed a cycle part of just passing at Winn Dixie and the last time at a display of those iconic 1960s Hondas at the shop. He was the classic all around "good guy" in every way. Rest in peace, Dave.

Gordon Galbraith - October 27, 2020 at 03:46 PM

ML

“ We are so very sorry for the loss of Bix. We will miss speaking with him at Haps and will probably expect to see him when we drop by. He definitely left his mark in the community. I wish peace for the family. Gone far too soon.

Marie and Greg

Marie Lough - October 19, 2020 at 01:01 PM

KF

“ Please know that the Finnerty family is praying for the extended Bixler family. We were proud to have met David.

Keith Finnerty - October 14, 2020 at 01:01 PM

TL

“ I would like to send my sincere condolences to the Bixler family in their loss. David sold me my motorcycle and over the years I would stop by and talk with him about a multitude of topics, including our service in Vietnam.

I, along with everyone who have ever met David will miss his humor and knowledge. May God bless his family and friends.

Terry Longpre

Terry Longpre - October 13, 2020 at 07:44 AM

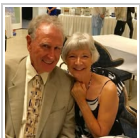
LD

“ My sincere condolences to the Bixler family and Haps Cycle community.

Praying for you.

Lou DeSio

Lou DeSio - October 12, 2020 at 12:55 PM



“ To David's loving family: Although we didn't really know Bix, we always heard wonderful things about him and we knew of his work and support of the Sarasota BMX track where our Grandson loves to spend every Saturday! We know he will be missed so much by all of his family. We know Alice and send our love to you and your family. You have had a beautiful life story together!

Donna and Jim Bath

Donna Bath - October 09, 2020 at 05:40 PM

RB

“ Miss Alice , My prayers are with you and your whole family I cannot express how sorry I am for your loss ."BIX " was a friend to so many and it goes with out saying he will be missed by all who knew him .Respectively , Robert "Bob" Blakely

Robert h Blakely - October 09, 2020 at 12:09 PM

SF

“ My heartfelt sympathy to the whole family. Bix and I rode many FTR events in the state and always had a great camaraderie with each other. Our enduro teams were some of the most competitive in the state always a challenge to each. I also purchased several motorcycles from him at the dealership. He will be missed by all, a gentleman and a great guy.

Sonnt Fussell - October 09, 2020 at 09:42 AM

SZ

“ We are so sorry to hear of David's passing. My brother Phil and I have known David since high school days along with Morgan and Richard. Phil worked with all the brothers at Winn-Dixie in the 60's. David was a wonderful person. I feel we are honored to have known him and Alice. He will be surely missed by all who knew him. My deepest sympathy to Alice and the family
Phil Phillips and Susan Phillips Zeugin.

Susan Zeugin - October 08, 2020 at 10:09 PM

WW

“ I may not know MR Bixler but my cousin wyanda is married to his son i would like to say iam sorry for your lose from the way it sounds he was a good man with a good heart he will be missed by family and friends.my prayers are with you all.. RIP .Mr.Bixler they will see you again memory's for ever again my prayers are with you all



wynette R wilson - October 08, 2020 at 02:47 AM