



## David Lee Bixler

August 11, 1969 - September 3, 2017

David Lee Bixler ("Flounder") of Sarasota, FL, age 48, passed away peacefully with his loving family at his side after a 6 month battle with Pancreatic Cancer.

David Lee was born in Sarasota and graduated from Sarasota High School in 1988 with honors. He then attended The University of Florida and graduated with honors in 1994 with a Bachelor's Degree in Recreation & Tourism. He also received an award from the Dean for Leadership. He was very proud to be part of the Gator Nation.

After college, David Lee worked in the hotel industry, and became a General Manager of a hotel at the young age of 29. After that, his love of motorcycles brought him back to his grandfather Hap's business, Hap's Cycle Sales. He first worked in the parts department, then motorcycle sales, and then became the General Manager. He loved riding and helping others with their dream of owning a motorcycle. He rode starting at the age of 4, and his most memorable enduro race was at age 12 with his Grandfather Hap by his side. At age 60, Hap didn't think he could finish the race, but David Lee encouraged him and he was able to finish.

David Lee is survived by his loving wife, Sara Watler Bixler; his son, Gavin Bixler; his parents, David Bixler and Alice Poneleit Bixler; his brother, Stephen Bixler (Wyanda); his nephews, Christopher, Jacob and Tyler Bixler; and

several loving Uncles, Aunts, Cousins, In-laws and Friends.

David Lee's Memorial Service will be Saturday, September 23rd at 3:00 p.m.  
At South Shore Community Church, 1899 S. Tuttle Ave, Sarasota, FL 34239.

In lieu of flowers, David Lee would like a donation made to Gavin Bixler's college fund. His dream was for Gavin to be a Florida Gator.

Toale Brothers Funeral Homes in charge of arrangements.

# Tribute Wall

KW

“ I bought my first motorcyle from you in Febuary. I had just met you for the first time. You went to highscool with my husband and you guys lived in the same neighborhood in colonial gables. I remember saying i did not want a scooter been there done that. So you took me over to the Honda CTX 700 I was kinda nervous to get on it. I did not want to tip over an expensive motorcyle. I said ok you have to stand in the front just incase. I was short so I did not know if I could. He laughed and said if I dump it not be worried. I have dumped many bikes. I will always have you in my heart. Cause you and my husband let me know I could do it. Wish I could have got to know you guys better. Ride on my friend in heaven. We will all see you again someday. Keep is all safe. Prayers for all of his family and friends. You have been on my mind and in my heart. Kathy and Roland Wolstenholme



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**Kathy Wolstenholme** - September 23, 2017 at 12:00 AM

RA

“ Please accept our deepest condolences. We are praying for strength and comfort for all of you at this time od sorrow. RIP David Lee Bixler



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**Raymond & Claire Alexander** - September 20, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ I met David years ago when we interned at the Orlando CVB. We lost touch for quite a few years after that, but reconnected on Facebook. A couple weeks ago his name popped into my head so I checked his Facebook page and was so saddened to learn that he had passed away just a few days before. David was a kind, funny, and smart. My heart goes out to his family.

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**Missy Crump** - September 19, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ Our deepest condolences go out to the Bixler family. David Lee was a fine man. He will be missed.

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**Tory Borgmann** - September 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ David Lee leaves in my memory his kind manner, positive attitude, and sense of humor. My family and I prayed for him daily all summer, and now we know he is resting in the peace that his faith in Christ gave him. We now pray for those who loved him to have the "peace which passes all understanding" as they go through the days ahead. David Lee was a wonderful cousin, and our prayers are with our Sarasota area family.

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**Cherie and Tony Stamile** - September 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

AB

“ When you were born on August 11, 1969 you were the most beautiful baby and I instantly love you. You were 9 pounds and 18 inches long. Your dad was in Vietnam and was not with us until you were 16 months old. You stayed with me and my brother Steve and my mom and dad until you dad came home. You were an awesome kid and loved by all of your family. Your Uncle Bob knocked your front tooth out when you were two on a four wheeler. You were riding a bicycle and motorcycle by the time you were 4 years old. You loved racing BMX and made it all the way to the Expert class until asthma took the fun out of it. You continued to ride your motorcycle and when you were 12 you rode your first enduro with your grandpa Hap. He loved you and was so proud that you both finished the race. You were such a smart child and when you told me you were going to go to the University of Florida I thought to myself keep dreaming son. But with your straight A's and a high SAT grade U of F accepted you. We were so proud. You also got a scholarship from 4 H every year you had either a pig or a steer to show and sell. You socked all that money away for college. You graduated High School with honors then College with honors. 10 leadership awards were given out to your graduating class of 2000 people and you earned one. You introduced us to Sara a beautiful young girl that you met at UF. We instantly loved her and knew she was your sole mate. I am so glad that the two of you got married then gave us a beautiful grandson Gavin. Your life was perfect. We were all so happy when you came back home and became the general manager at Hap's. Your grandpa would be so proud of you as well as us. You were the "best daddy ever" says Gavin. We are continuing with your idea with the changes you wanted at Hap's. I love you son with all my heart. I will miss you terrible. Pancreatic cancer took you way too soon.



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Alice Bixler - September 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

EY

“ *My thoughts and prayers go out to David's family. David was one of the good guys. I'll always remember the good times together at UF. You will never be forgotten. RIP my friend.*

Eric Yeager - September 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

PW

“ *My prayers and love go out to everyone touched by Davids love.*

Phillip Wood - September 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Bixler Family...I only met David Lee a few times...However, I know his parents well and I know how close this family is....My heart breaks for them....Rest Well David Lee your legacy lives on through your son Gavin... You will all be together again some day.....God Bless*



Sandra McGuire - September 13, 2017 at 12:00 AM

WS

“ *Saddened by this news, so glad I got to see him maybe 4 months ago at the shop. Still remembered my Dad having a BMW , really sharp, a wonderful Man and knowing him for 30 plus years was a great thing. RIP and my Families condolences to his entire Family*

Wayne Stephens - September 09, 2017 at 12:00 AM