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Trinity Standard 7/10/1997

Dr. Samuel Rankin Barnes, M.D.

TRINITY--Dr. Samuel Rankin Barnes, M.D. died July 8 at Park Plaza Hospital in Houston.

Son of Dr. George Rankin and Josephine Bayne Barnes, he was born March 3, 1913 at home in Trinity. A 1930 graduate of Trinity High School, Dr. Barnes studied pre-med for two years at the University of Texas at Austin before graduating from the University of Texas Medical School at Galveston in 1936.

He interned at Roper Hospital in Charleston, SC and was a resident at St. Joseph's Infirmary in Houston.

Dr. Barnes began his general practice in Trinity in 1938 where he remained for the next 43 years except for his time in military service.

He joined the Naval Reserve in February 1942 and served with the U.S.M.C. for the next three years, first with the 1st Marine Air Wing on Okinawa where he received the bronze star for valor.

After a post-war surgical residency at John Sealy Hospital in Galveston, he returned to private practice in Trinity where he remained until his retirement in 1982.

Dr. Barnes served as Chief of Staff of Trinity Memorial Hospital from 1949 to 1982. He was a Charter member of the Texas and American Academy of Family Practice (1972) and a Diplomat of the American Academy of Family Physicians.

He was a career-long member of the AMA and served on numerous area and state medical boards and committees. From 1982 to 1992, he served as Mayor of Trinity. He was selected East Texan of the Year in 1992 by the Deep East Texas Council of Governments.

Dr. Barnes was a life-long member of the First United Methodist Church of Trinity, a member of the Trinity Lions Club since 1938, former member of the Trinity School Board, and Chairman of the Board of First National Bank of Trinity.

In the last half of his life, Dr. Barnes grew increasingly involved in forest management. He was a life member of the Texas Forest Association and was selected Texas Tree Farmer of the year in 1968.

He is survived by his wife of over 56 years, the former Malcolm Elizabeth Monroe of Houston.

He is preceded in death by his sons, Malcolm Monroe Barnes and George Monroe Barnes.

He is survived by a son, Daniel Thomas Monroe Barnes of Trinity; daughter Elizabeth Ann Barnes of Colorado Springs, CO; daughter Sarah Jane Barnes-Edmonds and

husband, Leo of Spotsylvania, VA; two grandchildren, Emily Chase Edmonds and Jacob Monroe Edmonds, both of Spotsylvania.

Dr. Barnes was also preceded in death by his sisters, Betty Joe Knox of Tyler, and Gloria Ann O'Dell of Houston; and his brother, Dr. George Bayne Barnes of Corpus Christi.

The funeral was held July 11 at the First United Methodist Church in Trinity with the Rev. Joe Ed Lamb presiding and Rev. Jim Woods delivering the eulogy.

Interment followed at Cedar Grove Cemetery with Dr. Barnes' nephew, the Rev. R. E. Knox III of Richmond, Virginia, presiding.

Pallbearers were: Dr. Tom Cole, Bill Connell, C. H. Elliott, Bill Epperson, Dr. Gerry Etheridge, Cecil Heisch, Dr. Charles Monday and Robert Woods.

Honorary pallbearers were: Dr. J. Peyton Barnes, Jr., Dr. Winston Cochran, Col. George Cole (U.S.M.C., Ret.) G. G. Gibson, Mavis Kelsey, Dr. W. W. McKinney and G. W. Valentine.

The family requests that memorials be directed to Cedar Grove Cemetery, Blanche K. Werner Library, Martin Senior Center, the Abel Ford project, or P.R.I.

Arrangements were handled by Waller-Thomton Funeral Home.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Barnes family released Dr. Barnes obituary last week after the obituary/church page was made up. Although, we realize it is late, his contribution to this community was so great and he had so many friends, we are glad to run it.