

## “One of the Good Guys” – Garry James Barker, 1952-2010

Kevin Thompson

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Many people were shocked when our dear brother Garry Barker passed on to the spiritual world so suddenly on November 9th, 2010. His life was cut short by a devastating heart attack, but his legacy lives on through memories, through his beautiful family, and through the love he invested in so many people. The eulogy delivered by Dr. Mose Durst, and the testimonies of so many people from around the nation, testified to a brother who, as one friend said, was “one of the good guys”. Born in Los Angeles, joining the church in Oakland in 1974, and dedicating himself to missions from running a coffee shop to becoming branch manager of a global economic institute, whatever Garry did he did with total investment. He never let life get him down and he was dedicated to his wife Renate, and three children: Christopher, Amalia and John. A packed church came together on November 17, 2010, to celebrate his ascension to the next world and to remember a wonderful man who truly was one of the good guys.

- Rev. Kevin Thompson, San Francisco, CA

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### Garry James Barker

Born on April 18, 1952 in Los Angeles, California, his parents are DeWayne and Rosemarie Barker. Garry has an older brother, Vince, married to Kathleen Barker and their children Olivia and Michelle, and their families.

Garry attended school in Los Alamitos, CA and graduated from Los Alamitos High School in 1970. Since his major was German, he travelled to Germany twice (mostly hitchhiking) and even had gone into East Berlin which was under Communist Rule at that time. He was in College for two years.

In October 1974, Garry had driven to San Francisco and Berkeley. He met members of the Unification Church and joined in Berkeley, CA. After some missionary training, he worked at Alladin's Deli and Catering, located on College Boulevard, from 1975 to 1981. It was a very busy time with a much loved coffee shop and catering to many companies all over San Francisco and the Bay Area.



During that time, in May 1979, Garry participated in an international matching by Reverend Sun Myung Moon which took place in the New Yorker Hotel, in New York City. He was matched to Renate Barker (from Germany). There was a three year engagement time for all participants. On July 1st, 1982 Garry and Renate were married in an international marriage blessing event at Madison Square Gardens with 2075 couples.

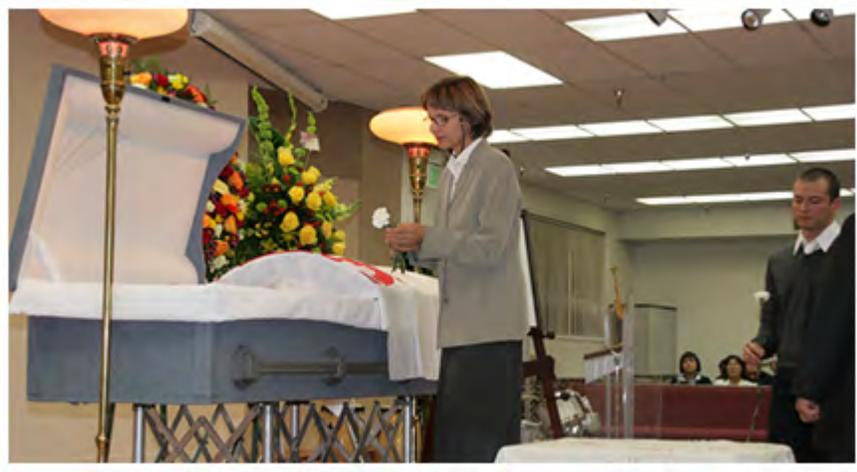
Just before this event, Garry had been called to a new mission in New York to work with a new international outreach program that helped developing countries: The Global Economic Action Institute, headed by Dr. and Mrs. Mose Durst. The Institute started in New York and then expanded to Washington, D.C. where Garry started a branch office. He commuted back and forth between New York and Washington, DC. Soon he was helping to set up meetings and conferences in the United States and in Central and South America, Africa, Europe, Russia, Asia. During that time he met various political, spiritual and financial leaders, who had interest in or participated in the conferences.

At the same time, his family was growing: his oldest son, Christopher, was born in 1983, his daughter, Amalia, was born in 1985 – both in New York. The whole family moved to Washington, D.C. in 1986 and his youngest son, John, was born there in 1989.

By 1992 the Institute closed, and Garry and his family drove across the United States to return to California. They settled in the Bay Area. Garry helped the local church community with some accounting and other tasks. He also acquired a truck and worked for a truck company.

In 1994 he joined the Morgan Stanley – Dean Witter Company in Hayward, CA. He worked as a financial advisor. During this time, he developed a great passion for golf. He was very inspired by his work and decided in 1998 to branch out on his own in an office in

Castro Valley, CA. Since this was not as successful as he had hoped, he closed the office and tried several other jobs in finance and service companies



Garry had always dreamed of one day owning his own coffee shop. In spring of 2004, he joined forces with another family and opened a coffee kiosk in the Southland Mall in Hayward, CA. His wife, Renate, and children Christopher, Amalia and John helped out with manning the kiosk as well as some other employees. He greatly enjoyed this venture, however, the income was not enough to cover all the expenses – sadly, it had to be closed after 1 year.

Garry quickly continued working as a limousine driver, as he was hoping to get back into working in the financial sector. During all those years he always helped out with work for the church community.

In summer of 2006 Garry was overjoyed to be hired again by Morgan Stanley – Dean Witter, this time in their Reno, NV offices. He received training as a compliance manager. His family moved to Reno, NV where they stayed until spring of 2008. When the company needed him in Stockton, CA, he and his family moved there. When his company merged with the Smith Barney company, Garry and his family moved one more time to their present location in the Sacramento, CA area.

Garry was very dedicated in his work and loved the joys and challenges that he encountered. He also cared deeply for his family and his colleagues. We shall remember him as a very loving husband and father. He was dedicated to serve His Heavenly Father and all people.

Thank you Garry! Showers of blessings for you in your new eternal life!

*Contributed by Garry's Family:*

*Renate Barker*

*Christopher and wife Rebecca Barker*

*Amalia and husband Sung Hyun Kim*

*John Barker*