

OUR LIVES

BIRTHS

(Tulsans unless indicated)

Peggy V. Helmerich Women's Health Center
Amber Nasir and Lindsey Barnhart, boy.
Rheanna Chancey, Wag-
ner, girl.
Mandi and Ryan Eacret,
Keota, boy.
Alba Enriquez, boy.
Chelsea Schaapveld and
Keith Glover, boy.
Chelsea Harrison and Mar-
cus Peel Jr., boy.
Dawn Smith and Raymond
Stone, girl.
Chyla Gibbs and Benjamin
Tottress Sr., boy.
Brandy Williams, boy.

St. Francis Hospital
Christy and Michael Allen,
McAlister, girl.
Margaret and Chris Black,
Council Hill, girl.
Erin and Maston Brown,
girl.
Deann and Thomas Rog-
ers, boy.
Jillian and Brian Rumsey,
Pawhuska, girl.
Leslie and Shaun Wenzel,
Sand Springs, girl.

St. John Medical Center
Kendall Britt, Henryetta,
boy.
Alicia and Ben Compton,
Skiatook, boy.
Heather and Justin Hus-
key, Glenpool, girl.
Sharon Ingram, boy.
Danielle Teaff, girl.

MARRIAGES

(Tulsans unless indicated)

Brittany Calvert, 20; James
Kincaid, 22.
Amparo Rangel-Espinoza,
53; Gary Gann, 64.
Kari Ogden, 18; Jose
Duran, 29.
Tiffany Reeves, 29; Steve
Myers, 38.
Heidi Stevenson, 22; Wil-
liam Hughes, 32.
Melissa Taylor, 28, of
Sapulpa; Jeffrey Mag-
gard, 22.
Shelby Woolery, 22;
Gregory Logue, 28.

DIVORCES

ASKED
Devin, Jason v. Nikki.
Duff, Jeffrey v. Shea.
Dulaney, Randal v. Linda.
Farrar, Vanessa v. Tony.
Faurie, Adam v. Melanie.
Greco-Lucchina, Jaice v.
Michael.
Mack, Brenda v. Andrew.
Msetti, Baraka v. Valerie
Staats.

GRANTED
Clum, John from Natalie
Miller.
Delesdernier, Peter from
Melba.
Petree, V. from C. Son.
Rider, Karlyn from Albert.
Willis, Stacie from Kent.

Bob Tutty 1943-2009

Owner finds life's calling

▪ A lack of phone service and the threat of bombing landed Bob Tutty near Chouteau.

BY TIM STANLEY
World Staff Writer

Besides not making the Russians' radar, the countryside outside of Chouteau was pretty much ignored by the local phone companies as well.

But luckily for Bob Tutty, his mother wasn't one to be silenced. She made sure the calls got through and as a result, her son found his own life's calling.

Robert Joseph Tutty, an independent telephone company owner and industry advocate, died Tuesday at age 66.

Tutty was born in Tulsa and spent his childhood here, but in 1953 the family pulled up stakes. The Cold War had begun and Bob's mother, Mildred Tutty, feared that the city was too tempting a target for a Soviet nuclear bomb, so they relocated to a farm between Chouteau and Inola.

"But the phone company there would not lay the lines that far out," said Bob's wife, Phyllis Tutty. "But she wasn't



Bob Tutty, who died Tuesday, was an independent telephone company owner and advocate for the independent phone industry. Courtesy

going to do without a phone and she was a feisty lady. So she bought the company."

Mildred got her line — they attached it to fence posts to

reach the farm — and with it, a new full-time occupation: She and her husband, Murle, would run the Chouteau Telephone Co. until his death

a few years later.

After his father's death, Mildred called Bob, who was in college in Edmond.

"She told him to either come home and run the company or she was going to sell it," Phyllis said. "Well, he told her he would come back. But only if she let him run it the way he wanted to. He was very independent."

Bob got his wish and the company was his.

While that phone chat with his mother changed everything for him, another important exchange in Tutty's life would happen face-to-face.

Bob met his future wife, Phyllis, on a flight from Chicago to Tulsa and struck up a conversation.

"When he told me he owned a telephone company, I told him, 'Yeah, and my name is Ma Bell,'" Phyllis said. "I didn't think about AT&T."

Bob and Phyllis soon decided to give up some of their own independence, however. The smitten pair married just six months after meeting.

Phyllis, a New York native who worked for American Airlines in Tulsa, saw firsthand how serious Bob was about his work. An advocate

for the independent phone industry, Tutty was a pioneer in embracing new technologies.

He added cable TV to his company's services, one of the first in the state to do that, and later welcomed wireless, joining other companies to form the Independent Cellular Telephone Co. Tutty served as its president.

When not at work, Bob was a gourmet cook. He would prepare meals for his wife and on special occasions they would fly to other cities just to dine at well-known restaurants.

Tutty eventually sold the phone company and he and a partner got into restaurants, opening several Village Inn sites in northwest Arkansas.

Bob continued to enjoy his own kitchen until complications from cancer prevented it.

"But he would still come in the kitchen and direct us how to do it," Phyllis Tutty said.

Other survivors include a sister, Pat Lane of Pryor. A funeral service was held Thursday at St. James United Methodist Church under the direction of Fitzgerald's Southwood.

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Frank Gosnell 1951-2009

A father finds consistency in faith

BY JENNIE LLOYD
World Staff Writer

In religion as in life, his motto was "You can take it or leave it ... but if you leave it, you'll be in trouble."

For Frank Gosnell, many things in his life changed — wives, contract mechanic work, towns and even churches. Only two things stayed the same: his faith in God and his only son, Jason.

"We were more like best friends than father and son," said Jason Gosnell. "I not only lost a father but it's like I lost a brother, too."

Gosnell, a Vietnam veteran, single dad, Shaw Homes construction superintendent and ordained minister, died Tues-



CONVERT

Frank Gosnell: A drunken driving arrest helped him change his life.

day of a heart attack. He was 58.

He was born March 22, 1951, to Nola (Riggs) and Richard Gosnell.

Before Gosnell even graduated high school, he was chomping at the bit to join the Navy with one of his buddies. His mother said "if it killed them both, they were going to finish high school,"

laughed Jason.

He graduated from McLain High School in 1969, and soon was aboard the S.S. Kittyhawk as a flight mechanic.

He met Jason's mother after he returned home in the early 1970s, and Jason came along in 1980. By then, Gosnell lived in a three-bedroom mobile home on 15 acres near Keystone Lake.

For 18 years, Gosnell was a diesel mechanic for the oil industry, picking up contract work wherever he could find it. When the oil bust of the 1980s came around, money was tight.

They ate a lot of fresh fish from Keystone Lake and fresh vegetables from their garden.

After he divorced his second wife, Gosnell began drinking and smoking more. "And he didn't care about anybody," Jason said. One night, on his way home from his favorite little bar at the edge of town, he was stopped at a checkpoint. A deputy arrested him for drunken driving.

As he sat in a Pawnee County jail, he started thinking he needed to change his life. So he called his father, Richard Gosnell, a Southern Baptist, and on the wooden deck of his mobile home, Gosnell got saved, his son said.

From there, he and Jason bounced around to a few rural Baptist churches, then settled in at Victory Christian

Center in the early 1990s. By then, Gosnell had remarried again and moved to Broken Arrow.

Gosnell was ordained as an independent minister by Family Worship Center, a now-defunct Tulsa Church, and he also graduated from Victory Bible Institute.

In the mid-1990s, Gosnell started evangelizing. "He would find a parking lot in north Tulsa, rent a big tent and set up near low-income housing," said Jason.

He is survived by a brother, Stephen Gosnell; and two sisters, Leslie Gosnell and Jacque Gosnell, all of Tulsa.

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'Bat Masterson' actor Barry dead

BY BECKY KRISTAL
The Washington Post

Gene Barry, a debonair leading man who was best known as the sharply dressed lawman of the television series "Bat Masterson" and "Burke's Law," and then earned a Tony Award nomination as a gay nightclub owner raising a son in "La Cage aux Folles," died Dec. 9 at an assisted living home in Woodland Hills, Calif. He was 90.

His family said they did not yet know the cause of death.

After an early stage career that included acting opposite Mae West in a Broadway comedy, Barry went to Hollywood and starred in a series of films that included the 1953 alien-invasion movie "The War of the Worlds." But it was on television that he thrived over the next 20 years, usually specializing in affable and urbane characters.

He had a recurring role as a physical education teacher who romances Eve Arden on CBS's "Our Miss Brooks" before earning top billing on "Bat Masterson" for NBC in 1958.

At first weary of what he thought was the tiresome Western genre, Barry embraced the role of Masterson, based on a real-life figure from the Old West, because of its biggest twist: The character dressed as a dandy, sporting a brocade vest and carrying a gold-tipped cane. The show ran until 1961.

Barry's affinity for playing the dapper hero extended to

U.S.-WORLD DEATHS

two other TV shows — "Burke's Law," in which he played a millionaire police official in Los Angeles who would be chauffeured to homicide scenes in a Rolls Royce, and "The Name of the Game," in which he portrayed a millionaire magazine publisher.

"Burke's Law" was producer Aaron Spelling's first hit, with the title character's opulent lifestyle a hint at what would come in Spelling's later series. "Burke's Law," later renamed "Amos Burke, Secret Agent," aired on ABC from 1963 to 1966 and resurfaced as a short-lived revival on CBS in 1994 with Barry.

A longtime cabaret and touring stage performer, Barry played President Richard M. Nixon in a 1982 Atlanta production of "Watergate: A Musical."

The next year he originated the Broadway role of Georges in "La Cage aux Folles," a Jerry Herman musical based on a French stage play. The show won the Tony Award for best musical.

Born Eugene Klass on June 14, 1919, in New York, Barry changed his surname as a nod to eminent stage actor John Barrymore. He made his Broadway debut in 1942 and appeared in musicals and operettas before being cast as a leading man opposite West in "Catherine Was Great" (1944).

During this period Barry met his wife of 58 years, Betty Kalb, with whom he had three



In this 1968 photo, actor Gene Barry is seen with English actress Joan Collins during a scene from the film "Subterfuge" in Surrey, England. Barry, who played the well-dressed man of action in the television series "Bat Masterson," "Burke's Law" and "The Name of the Game," has died at 90. Associated Press file

children: Michael, Frederick James and Elizabeth. She died in 2003.

Thomas Hoving, a former director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art has died at his home in New York City.

Nancy Hoving says her husband died Thursday of cancer. He was 78.

Hoving was director of the museum from 1967 to 1977 and was known for championing blockbuster exhibits, including the Tutankhamen exhibit. Artifacts from King Tut's tomb were the most popular exhibit in the museum's history, drawing 8 mil-

lion visitors.

He left the Met in 1977 to start an independent consulting firm for museums, Hoving Associates. From 1978 to 1984 he was an arts correspondent for the ABC newsmagazine 20/20.

From 1981 to 1991 Hoving edited Connoisseur Magazine; along with his memoirs of his time at the Met, he is also the author of books on a number of art-related subjects, including art forgeries, Grant Wood, Andrew Wyeth, Tutankhamen, and the 12th-century walrus ivory crucifix known as the Bury St. Edmunds Cross.

Four die on state roads in 2 days

▪ One crash occurred north of McAlester.

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Four people died in three separate crashes on state highways on Wednesday night and Thursday, the Oklahoma Highway Patrol said.

Killed were Roland Brandon, 72, and Alline Brandon, 69, both of Cameron, Gilberto Soto, 24, of Tucker, and Gary Delaine Arrington, 40, Indianola.

Arrington died after the 2001 Ford pickup he was driving south on Oklahoma 113 left the road and struck a tree. The crash occurred about 1:15 p.m. Thursday, about 2½ miles north of McAlester, the OHP said.

Arrington, who troopers said was not wearing a seat belt, was pronounced dead at the scene.

Soto died after he, his son and his son's mother were ejected from a 2003 Ford in a crash on Interstate 40 in Okfuskee County about 4:15 a.m. Thursday, troopers said.

The Ford, driven by Alex Vazquez, 18, was eastbound on I-40 when it left the roadway to the right, overcorrected, went into a slide, striking a sign and then

rolling about two times, troopers said.

Soto was taken to St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, where he was pronounced dead.

Vazquez and two other passengers, Crystal Yanes, 25, and her son, Louis Yanes, 8, all of Tucker, Ga., also were taken to St. Francis Hospital, where Crystal Yanes was listed in critical condition; and Vazquez and Louis Yanes were listed in good condition.

No one in the vehicle was wearing a seat belt, troopers said.

The Brandons died when a driver veered into oncoming traffic and struck their vehicle head-on Wednesday evening on a LeFlore County highway, troopers said.

They were headed north on Oklahoma 112 near Poteau when their Mercury was hit by a 2007 Nissan driven by Roger Hammons, 44, of Wilburton, troopers said.

The Nissan drifted into oncoming traffic about 8:25 p.m., hitting the other vehicle. Medics took him to an Arkansas hospital, where he was admitted with leg injuries.

Troopers said the Brandons died at the scene from massive injuries.

Poteau is about 130 miles southeast of Tulsa.