

John Edwin Fraser

August 6, 2020



John Edwin Fraser, beloved husband, father, brother, grandfather, great-grand father, uncle, and friend passed away peacefully at home with his wife present on July 25, 2020, at the age of 88.

John was born to Edwin and Elizabeth Fraser on July 12, 1932, in Crescent City, California. He spent his early years attending local schools, and graduated Del Norte High School in 1951. John attended San Jose State College from 1951 thru 1954 where upon he left school to serve in the U.S. Army until 1956. He returned to San Francisco and worked for the Fireman's Fund insurance Company until joining his father Edwin in the Fraser-Yamor Insurance Company becoming a partner and working until his retirement in 1990.

John was always active in community affairs from helping organize the CC Jaycees and serving as their first president, to serving on the boards of the Del Norte Chamber of Commerce, Del Norte Chapter of the Red Cross, American Lung Association, March of Dimes, and others. In 1960, John was chosen Young Man of the year. In 1962, John served as a chairman of the Republican Central Committee.

John was very involved with the Smith River Kiwanis club in obtaining state permits and laying groundwork for the construction of the Rowdy Creek Fish Hatchery in Smith River. He also enjoyed being part of the search for the Brother Jonathan, a side wheeler that sunk off the coast of Crescent City in 1865.

John ran for the position of Supervisor of District 3 in 1970 and won. The then incumbent decided to retire early and John was appointed by Governor Ronald Reagan to begin serving immediately in June 1970. John served as a Del Norte County Supervisor for two and a half terms and served two times as president.

In 1987, John was appointed by the Del Norte County Board of Supervisors to the Golden Gate Bridge Board of Directors and served for 16 years. Edwin Fraser, John's father, served on the GGB Board for 22 years. This was the first time in the history of the bridge that both father and son served.

John loved gardening and especially loved roses. Wherever he called home, he would create a beautiful garden of roses. Growing up in Del Norte County, John developed a love and respect for nature and the creatures living in the wild. His love of the pristine Smith River, tall trees, wildlife, and flowers all added joy to his life.

John Leaves his wife of 52 years, Edith, Children: Stacey and Julie Fraser, Renna Nelson (David), Rick Baxter (Alison), Norman Baxter (Cheryl). Grandsons: Norman Wakefield (Jessica), Dylan Nelson, Josh and Timothy Clewell. Great-Grandchildren: Fraser, Cecilia, Ben, and Finegan. Foster Daughter: Ethel Wickizer (Chris) and their family, Sister: Mary Weis (Fredrick), Niece: Anne Weis, Nephew: Matt Weis (Darcy), Great-Niece: Kendell, and Great-Nephew: Mercer.

John lived a full and eventful life. His sense of humor, ready smile, encouraging words, and generosity will be sorely missed.

At John's request, a service will not be held.