

## George Mayer

December 12, 2023



Our beloved father, brother and friend, George Mayer, passed away peacefully on November 17, 2023, surrounded by family and friends. He was 84. George was born in Commerce, Michigan to parents Reginald and Dorthea Mayer. He is survived by his daughter, Cindy, grandchildren Nicole and Kevin, and siblings Emily, Kathleen, Frank, Mike, Fred, Danny, Darryl and numerous nieces and nephews. He also leaves behind his special niece Naomi, as well as David, Jasmine and Josh who were like family to him. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 48 years, Cece, son Loren, his parents, and his sisters Patsy and Katherine.

George graduated from Del Norte High School in 1958. He was a proud member of the armed forces from 1959-1962, serving in the U.S Army in the far reaches of Alaska. After his service he attended Santa Rosa Junior College in pursuit of a degree in architecture. Sadly, his studies were curtailed by the untimely death of his mother, and he needed to return home to Crescent City to help his father care for his four siblings, all under the age of 7.

George resided in Crescent City for more than 60 years and was the owner of GR Construction. As a licensed building contractor since 1969, he took pride in building or remodeling many, many homes and businesses

throughout the city and county, including the original nunnery at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, the Smith River and Elk Valley Rancherias, and the Masonic Lodge. If you talk with builders and contractors in the area, most will tell you they were employed or mentored by George at some point in their careers.

George had a deep love and dedication to his country and his Crescent City community and gave a lifetime of service devoted to the safety and vitality of both. He was a member of the Crescent City Volunteer Fire Dept from 1970-1982 and being honored as Fireman of the Year in 1984 was one of his proudest moments. He was elected to and served on the City Council from 1979-1984 and again from 1991-2000, serving as Mayor in 1995 ("Mayor Mayer" was a running joke). George was a member of the Masonic Lodge, living their mission to make the world a better place. He was a presence and force within the local VFW, avidly supporting their mission and activities and proudly building their Point of Honor memorial.

He cherished his many years of breakfasts with close friends Don Marcum, Tom Cochran, David Short, Paul Sellers, Bob Douley, Lee Richardson, John Davis, and Dale Lesina. He and Cece enjoyed their many years with friends learning to square dance and attending the square-dancing socials around the area. George was also a very talented artist; he especially enjoyed charcoal drawing and wood carving in his spare time.

George had a big heart and there are many among his family and friends who can attest to his unselfish, loving, loyal and supportive ways. He was intelligent and had a delightful sense of humor and playfulness. He was quick to smile and laugh and always making a new friend, usually named Smoke, Little Smoke or Big Smoke. George had a dynamic and captivating personality; once you met George, you never forgot him.

The family extends its heartfelt gratitude to the entire community for the outpouring of love, compassion and memories shared by so many. While George requested no formal service, the family would like to invite community members to an informal remembrance of him on Sunday, December 17th, 2023, from 12-3 pm at Enoteca Restaurant, 960 Third St., Crescent City, CA. In lieu of flowers, we ask that you consider a donation to the Del Norte Scholarship Foundation to honor George and assist students pursuing architectural studies or the building trades. Contributions can be made in care of the Del Norte High School Counseling Office.

Remembrance on Sunday, December 17, from 12-3 pm at Enoteca Restaurant.