



Edward Bates Watson, III

November 2, 1934 - August 19, 2024

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of our Father, Edward Bates Watson III. Dad died on August 19th at the age of 89. He was born in El Paso, Texas to Edward Bates Watson II and Ruth Mohr Watson on November 2nd, 1934. Dad was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years Corry Watson. Mom and Dad met at Whittier College after Mom immigrated to the United States from the Netherlands. They were married in Whittier, California on August 17th, 1959 and they had five children. He was also preceded in death by two older brothers James Watson and Thomas Watson. He came from a proud Military family with his father and two brothers making the military their career. He grew up on Army Air Bases around the country including Japan after the war. Dad joined the Air Force and served in the Korean War. He was in Vietnam for several years building air bases. Dad worked for the Whittier Police Department from 1959 to 1965 and was a member of their pistol team. After returning from Vietnam he joined the Tulare County Sheriff's Department where he worked for 27 years from October 1968 until retiring in December 1994.

His smile and positive outlook on life will be missed by all. Dad was a joy to be around for everyone that interacted with him. He liked to joke and tease people so everyone he came in contact with could not help but laugh and smile back. Dad was a devoted Catholic and his faith was a huge part of who he was. He enjoyed target shooting and volunteering at the Visalia range as a

range master.

Dad is survived by his two sisters, Sister Michael Thomas Watson O.P. of Adrian, Michigan and Carolyne Lee Brown of Lowell, Arkansas. He is survived by his son James (Melody) Watson of Columbia, Tennessee, his daughter Helen(Tom) Richardson of Tulare, Ca, daughter Jeanne(Bobby) Richardson of Tulare, Ca, his son Mike(Paula) Watson of Tulare, Ca, and his son Teddy(April) Watson of Dana Point, Ca. He is also survived by 18 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren.

Our family would like to invite anyone who has known Ed to attend a viewing and rosary on Friday August 30th at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel, 127 E. Caldwell Ave., Visalia. There will be a public viewing from 4-6pm followed by the rosary at 6-7pm. The Mass will be held on Saturday August 31st @ St. Aloysius, 125 E. Pleasant Avenue, Tulare at 9am followed by the burial at Tulare North Cemetery, 4572 North J. St., Tulare

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Viewing

AUG 30. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 E. Caldwell Ave.
Visalia, CA 93277

Rosary

AUG 30. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 E. Caldwell Ave.
Visalia, CA 93277

Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 31. 9:00 AM (PT)

St. Aloysius Catholic Church
125 E. Pleasant Avenue
Tulare, CA 93274

Graveside

AUG 31. 10:30 AM (PT)

North Tulare Public Cemetery
4572 J St
Tulare, CA 93274

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Edward Bates Watson, III*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - August 28, 2024 at 01:45 PM



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Edward Bates Watson, III*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - August 27, 2024 at 04:37 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Edward Bates Watson, III.*

August 16, 2025 at 12:13 PM

TW

“ *Wishing you all comfort and peace during this difficult time. Please accept our deepest condolences to all of you. May you find solace and strength in the memories you shared and the legacy of his love for his family. His love and guidance will forever be a part of you and his memory will live on in the lives of those who knew your dad.*

Todd and Tiffany Williams

Todd Williams - August 31, 2024 at 04:53 PM

CM

“ On behalf of our family in Tilburg the Netherlands we wish Jim, Helen, Jeanne Michael, Ted, their partners and children all the strength to deal with the loss of a father and grandfather.

Since we met Edward for the first time in The Netherlands in 1965 we had despite all culture differences and conflicting opinions a good and warm relationship.

We, Adje and Cees visited two times your family, and Pjotr many times in California and enjoyed the hospitality of Corry and Edward.

As a host Edward travelled around with us as a guide We asked him to visit places where he was never before. Museum of Modern Art in LA, some restaurants and wineries,

We had a lot of fun with each other. As wine lovers we learned Edward to appreciate the splendid Californian wine. He shared with us good movies and good thoughts. He always said that visiting Europe, Korea and Vietnam made him the person he was.

We never forget the last phone calls.

From Tilburg with love,

Adje Cees Pjotr Saskia Ian Finn Brent.

Cees van der Made - August 31, 2024 at 01:58 PM

F(

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Familie van der Made (Holland) - August 31, 2024 at 01:08 PM

TD

“ The DeBoers purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Edward Bates Watson, III.



The DeBoers - August 29, 2024 at 09:56 PM

JG

“ 🙏 *prayers and prayers condolences for the family of Ed Watson, he was a nice person to be around. God bless.*



John Garay - August 27, 2024 at 07:00 PM