



Kermit Wilson Ashford

June 3, 1928 - March 18, 2023

Kermit was born in Waldron, Arkansas June 3, 1928 to Wilson and Tosie Ashford. There were eight kids, Mavalene, Kelly, Kenneth and Kathryn(twins), Keith, Kermit, Kinslow and Kerwin. Wilson was a farmer and later a store owner and Tosie worked at the local school cafeteria.

Kermit came to California in 1947 with a couple of friends and his brother Kinslow. They arrived in the Fresno area and slept on the river at Reedley beach and occasionally visited Pierce's Place. Later they were hired by Chella Vineyards north of Reedley where they lived in the bunkhouse. It was around this time that he met Billie Jo Moody and realized he was ready to settle down. Her family was from the same part of Arkansas dad was from. Billie's parents were thrilled to have a son in law from Arkansas-even if he was one of those "wild Ashford boys". Mom and Dad eventually moved to the west side and started a family. Jim was born in 1951 and Kathy in 1961. Dad worked at the O'Neils, Deavenport and Harnish Ranches. He eventually formed J & K farms with Jim. Farming with his son was something he loved. He got to go to work every day with his best friend. He took pride in the cotton, grain and other crops they grew. He was also a member of the Five Points Lions Club and a regular at the Mid Valley Cafe. He farmed on the west side for over sixty years.

Dad enjoyed the last three and half years with his son Jim, daughter Kathy

and their families spending time at his house in Cayucos and Jim's place in Shaver Lake. Many happy memories were created during this time. Birthday parties, Fourth of July in Cayucos, hanging out in the backyard at Kathy's house and his favorite-the driveway at Rolinda where his cat Mr Obama was usually at his side. He is now with mom, his family and lifelong friends, Joe Benson, Biggin Duncan, Carl Nichols and Dick Robinson.

Dad is preceded in death by his wife Billie, his parents and five brothers, two sisters and an infant daughter and second wife Barbara Ashford. He is survived by his son Jim and wife Gloria of Lemoore, daughter Kathy and wife Margie of Visalia and brother Kinslow of Sanger, three granddaughters, five great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

The family would like to thank Charlene Barreto, Elena Bonilla and Liset Villa for the loving care they showed dad during the last three and a half years of his life.

Graveside services will be held 10:00 AM Friday, April 7th, 2023 at Fowler District Cemetery, 8523 S Fowler Ave, Fowler. Luncheon will follow at Legends (formally Pea Soup Andersen's in Selma).

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

Previous Events

Graveside

APR 7. 10:00 AM (PT)

Fowler District Cemetery
8523 S Fowler Ave
Fowler, CA 93625

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Kermit Wilson Ashford*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - March 31, 2023 at 01:11 PM

DO

“ *Jim, Gloria, Kathy*

Sending my condolences and remembering your Dad and wishing you comfort.

Donna Yraceburu

Donna - April 10, 2023 at 03:05 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Kermit Wilson Ashford.*



April 05, 2023 at 09:44 PM

LC

“ Jimmy, Gloria and Kathy.

I remember in my youth visiting at the Davenport Ranch, Ashford home and being treated very warmly. Thank you for the kindness always shared. Such a life well lived.

Sending condolences for your loss. May his soul rest in peace with the Lord, now that he is reunited with Family and Friends gone before.

I'm sorry I won't be able to attend the Service this Friday.

Lynn Rocha Hinson Covey

Lynn Marie Covey - April 05, 2023 at 05:32 PM

DB

“ Jim, Gloria, and Kathy

My deepest sympathy for your loss of your dad and mom. I remember Kermit and Billie fondly.

Diane Yraceburu Bain

Diane Bain - April 04, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ Ocean Breeze Spray was purchased for the family of Kermit Wilson Ashford.



April 02, 2023 at 03:40 AM