



Kermit Lee Norton

May 19, 1935 - March 28, 2021

Kermit L. Norton died March 28, 2021 at his home after a brief illness. Kermit was born in Fort Scott, Kansas on May 19, 1935. He was preceded by his parents, Ira and Lucille Norton, a brother Philip Norton, and daughter Cindy Norton. He is survived by his wife Betty (Lockamy) of 58 years, sons Kevin of Visalia, David (Jill) of Alta, sister-in-law Joy Norton and nephew Eric Norton of Honduras, his cousin Elizabeth Sodersten (Gene), and niece Jill Wheaton of Visalia. Dr. Scott Murray and Dr. Chris Audino both of Visalia and Dr. Bob Parker of Merced, his college roommate from dental school, were among his very special friends.

After graduating from high school in Iola, Kansas, Kermit attended the College of the Sequoias and California State University, Fresno, earning a bachelor's degree in Zoology. He pursued graduate studies at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry in Baltimore, Maryland. Following graduation, Kermit was commissioned First Lieutenant with the United States Army at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

Kermit and Betty were married on December 1, 1962, at Betty's childhood church in

Jacksonville, North Carolina. Upon discharge from the Army, Kermit and Betty settled in Visalia, CA, where he established his dental practice that spanned over 51 years.

Kermit was a hard-working, dedicated professional whose chief concern was providing quality care and education to his patients. He was an avid UNC

Tarheel fan. He watched all of their games on TV, and was a huge fan of coach, Dean Smith. One highlight of many visits to North Carolina was visiting the Dean Dome at UNC in Chapel Hill! He enjoyed being the perfect tour guide to Betty's 'North Carolina siblings' when they visited Visalia, and was eager to point out growth and changes that had occurred over the years. Kermit's abundance of dry wit and humor was a part of his personality enjoyed by others. He will be greatly missed.

Burial will be held at Visalia District Cemetery on Friday, April 2, 2021 at 9:00 AM followed by a celebration of life service at 2:00 PM at Salser & Dillard Funeral Home, 127 East Caldwell Avenue, Visalia. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Kaweah Delta Hospice of Visalia.

Previous Events

Graveside

APR 2. 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM (PT)

Visalia District Cemetery
1300 W Goshen Ave
Visalia, CA 93291

Celebration of Life

APR 2. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

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

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Kermit Lee Norton*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - April 02, 2021 at 05:06 PM



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Kermit Lee Norton*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - April 02, 2021 at 05:06 PM



“ *The Audino's purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Kermit Lee Norton.*



The Audino's - April 01, 2021 at 01:39 PM



“ *He was our dentist for years and a very nice man. He will be greatly missed,*

Tim and June Glick - March 30, 2021 at 08:50 PM