



Roger William Maraist

March 22, 1943 - May 21, 2025

Roger was born on March 22, 1943 in Whittier California to Roger and Lola Jamison. His father, Roger Williamon Jamison Sr. was killed in action shortly after his birth. His mother married James Maraist a few years later. He was adopted by his stepfather and his name was later legally changed to Roger Maraist. Roger and the entire Maraist family lived in numerous countries including Guam, Italy and Germany during WW II. He graduated High School from H. H. Arnold High School in Wiesbaden, Germany in 1961 and then returned to the United States.

Roger attended Whittier Junior College. Following college, he began working in various jobs including as a crane operator for Kaiser Steele. Roger was subsequently hired by Southern California Edison as a grounds man in 1966 and retired in 1998 as Regional Public Affairs Manager for the San Joaquin Valley. Following his retirement Roger worked as a consultant, a contract employee for SCE for five and a half years, and worked for Tidwell Excavating, Inc. for 5 years.

During his career with Edison, Roger continued his formal education through programs at the University of Idaho Public Utilities, Harvard School of Business Conflict Resolution Program, and USC Management Policy Institution. He received community recognition developing a "Freeze Relief" program that provided financial assistance to Eastside growers and financial

relief to farm laborers. He was also the recipient of the 1996 Distinguished Service Award for the Fresno State University Viticulture Research . Roger moved to Visalia in 1986 from Santa Barbara to start his job as Division Manager with SCE. He continued his community involvement and became Visalia's Planning Commissioner in 1998. He was an active member of Visalia County Club and community organizations including Ruiz for Kids United Way of Tulare County and Tulare Roma Lodge Sons of Italy.

In 1987 he met Barbara Ashworth on a blind date; they were married in 1988 blending their family of 6 children. Roger is survived by his wife of 37 years, Barbara; daughters Kimberly Lafond (David) of Buellton; Kelley Bowman (Ted) of Santa Ynez and stepchildren Mark (Kim) Ashworth of Fresno; Kevin (Gina) Ashworth of Long Beach; and Jennifer (Ty) Gray of Fresno. He is also survived by his grandchildren: Nicholas and Colin Bowman, Santa Ynez; Julien and Ben Mathieu Buellton; Masyn Ashworth, Fresno; Madeleine, Caroline, and Lilly Ashworth, Corona Del Mar; Samantha, Keira and Nathan Ashworth, Long Beach and Ashlee and Emily Gray of Fresno. He is survived by his brother James Maraist, Jr, Texas; sister, Christine Neuner, Florida; and sister Carrie Ingram, Colorado.

He is preceded in death by his former wife Eileen and stepson, Douglas Ashworth. The family wishes to thank Park Visalia for Roger's excellent care during the past six months. Donations in his memory can be made to the charity of your choice.

A celebration of his life will be held at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, June 4th.

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

Previous Events

Memorial

JUN 4. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PT)

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

Reception

JUN 4. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Life Event Center
135 E Caldwell Ave
Visalia, CA 93277

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Roger William Maraist*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - June 04, 2025 at 12:35 AM

AF

“ *Angie & Brenda and our Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Roger William Maraist.*

Angie & Brenda and our Families - June 02, 2025 at 11:10 PM

AF

“ *Angie & Brenda and our Families purchased the Divine Light for the family of Roger William Maraist.*



Angie & Brenda and our Families - June 02, 2025 at 11:10 PM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Roger William Maraist.*

June 02, 2025 at 02:31 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Roger William Maraist.



June 02, 2025 at 02:31 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Roger William Maraist.

June 02, 2025 at 02:26 PM



“ *Serenity Wreath* was purchased for the family of Roger William Maraist.



June 02, 2025 at 02:26 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Roger Maraist



Kelley Bowman - May 30, 2025 at 11:21 AM

RK

“ Roger and I go back to the early 60's when we worked for neighboring businesses in Berdoo, he at Winchell's Donuts and Andy's Auto Parts and I at the local 76 station across the street. We were surprised to meet in 1967 both working at Edison's West Riverside District. We called it "Ruby-Doo" (for Rubidoux....Some said Ruby Do, and some said Ruby Don't). We both ended up in San Bernardino District as Planner Trainees in 1969 and he took off like a rocket from there. Adios, mí compadre! - Roger Krenkler, Westlake Village

Roger Krenkler - May 29, 2025 at 03:30 PM

JG

“ Dear Barbara and Family, It is just a sad day when wonderful people are taken from our presence. It is such a blessing to know that they are now in their walk with God. I learned much more about Roger when he mentored the COS HR Department with their self evaluation. His contribution to what we were trying to achieve was greatly appreciated. He brought the insight of the private sector into the public sector. May he rest in peace. Jenny Glass

Jenny L Glass - May 28, 2025 at 10:34 PM

EB

“ A good man was Roger, I met him when he came to the SCE family in Tulare, always had a positive friendly attitude about him. Rest in peace Brother, Ernie!

Ernest Beltran - May 28, 2025 at 02:44 AM