



Tom Guinn

September 4, 1953 - February 4, 2024

Tom Guinn passed away peacefully at his home in Visalia, CA surrounded by family on Sunday morning, February 4, 2024, at the age of 70. Tom left us after a 15-month period of illness from pancreatic cancer.

Tom is survived by his wife, Kathy Guinn; his children Lauren Stuart (Tim), Travis Guinn (Davina), and Samantha Mason (Morgan); his stepchildren Derek Parkey (Jodi), Lisa Niehaus (Karl), and Brandon Parkey (Bryanna); and 10 grandchildren.

Tom was born on September 4, 1953 in Tulare, CA to Edith Marie Phillips. He was raised by his uncle, Louis Guinn and his grandmother, Alta Mae Guinn on a hobby farm in Visalia, CA. From a young age, he learned to raise livestock and was taught a strong work ethic. He graduated from McLane High School in Fresno in 1971. In 1981, he married Laurie Knight of Clovis, CA. The couple welcomed and raised three children: Lauren, Travis, and Samantha. They were married for 21 years before Laurie's passing in 2002, due to a long period of illness from breast cancer. Tom later remarried to Kathy Parkey of Visalia, CA in 2009. Their blended family became known as the "Brady Bunch" and enjoyed many years of family gatherings. They were married for 14 years until his passing.

Tom was known for his many talents in agriculture and farming which he

learned by spending his summers working with his uncles. This eventually led to his first career in Beekeeping. After a major drought in 1987 that brought about the closure of his bee business, Tom started a new career with the Tulare County Sheriff's Office in 1988 as a correctional officer. Because of his talents in farming he was asked to establish and manage their inmate farm program in 1992. The 1,100-acre farm raised beef cattle, pigs, laying hens for eggs, grew alfalfa for feed and produced many vegetables. He also managed the gleaning and waste tire abatement programs throughout Tulare County. The farm program is one of a few still in existence thanks in large measure to his efforts. He ran the Sheriff's farm for 27 years before retiring in 2019 with 32 years of service. Tom also served as a board member for the Tulare County Farm Bureau for 8 years. He was awarded the Service to Farm Bureau Award in 2023 for his 20+ years of support to the organization by way of volunteering for their Land Use Committee, Fundraising Committee, and Bounty of the County event.

In Tom's younger years, he enjoyed many outdoor activities including water skiing and boating in the central valley, hiking in the Sierra Nevada mountain range, sailing in the San Francisco Bay Area, and snow skiing in Lake Tahoe. In his later years, he loved spending time with his family and friends, traveling in his RV, and raising cattle on his farm in Visalia. He was a dedicated member of the Farm Bureau, Sheriff's Posse, Golden West Boosters, and the Elk's Lodge. Many will remember him by the grill, BBQing for countless fundraisers county-wide.

In addition to Tom's many achievements and contributions he will be best remembered as a loving husband, supportive father, caring Papa, friend to all, and for his quick witted sense of humor.

The funeral service will be Friday, February 23, 2024 at 9:30 am at Salser and Dillard Funeral Chapel, 127 E. Caldwell Avenue in Visalia. There will be a

burial following the service at the Visalia Cemetery, 1300 W. Goshen Ave at 11 am, followed by a celebration of life at the Ritchie Barn, 16338 Avenue 308 in Visalia at 12 pm. There will be a visitation on Thursday, February 22, 2024 from 4 to 7 pm at Salser and Dillard Funeral Chapel in Visalia.

Condolences can be sent to TomGuinnMemorial@gmail.com. The family would like to thank Tom's cancer care team at City of Hope in Duarte, CA; Dr. Robert Havard with Sequoia Oncology Medical Association; Bristol Hospice for their dedication to his comfort care, and all the love and support of his family and friends throughout his life. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Tom's honor to your favorite charity.

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

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **22**. 4:00 PM (PT)

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

Funeral

FEB **23**. 9:30 AM (PT)

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

Graveside

FEB **23**. 11:00 AM (PT)

Visalia District Cemetery
1300 W Goshen Ave
Visalia, CA 93291

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Tom Guinn*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - February 22, 2024 at 02:06 PM



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Tom Guinn*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - February 22, 2024 at 01:35 PM



“ *Fred Whittington lit a candle in memory of Tom Guinn*



Fred Whittington Jr. - February 23, 2024 at 08:46 AM

FJ

“ Condolences to the family. Rest easy cousin.

Fred Whittington Jr. - February 23, 2024 at 08:45 AM

MB

“ You were a true friend. I will always remember everything you helped me with. You had a very big heart and touched many lives. I will always remember the good times we had working together at the old Robert K Myers Youth Center from 1982 until it's closure. You called me brother Mel and you were brother Tom. Goodbye brother Tom, go rest with the angels.

Mel Borbolla - February 22, 2024 at 08:59 PM

LF

“ Levandusky Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Tom Guinn.



Levandusky Family - February 22, 2024 at 04:23 PM

JT

“ Julie T. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tom Guinn.

Julie T. - February 22, 2024 at 11:34 AM

MG

“ Matt & Suzie Keller , Nick & Amy Gordon planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tom Guinn.

Matt & Suzie Keller , Nick & Amy Gordon - February 21, 2024 at 10:18 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Tom Guinn.*



February 21, 2024 at 10:18 PM



“ *Tom was a man with integrity and honesty. A man of his word. A man that was respected greatly by so many. He will be missed . I know he is at home with Jesus and one day we will see face to face again. That is the hope we have.*

Suzie Keller - February 21, 2024 at 10:05 PM



“ *GeoSouthern Energy Corporation purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Tom Guinn.*



GeoSouthern Energy Corporation - February 21, 2024 at 12:17 PM



“ *Good bye good friend. We will miss you everyday. We will cherish the time we had with you, and know that you are resting peacefully now. Thank you for all of the wonderful things you have done for others, and for sharing your time with us. We love you. Art & Susan*

Art & Susan Graf - February 21, 2024 at 08:00 AM

KS

“ Katherine S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Tom Guinn.

Katherine S. - February 21, 2024 at 07:50 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Tom Guinn.



February 19, 2024 at 02:22 PM

DV

“ Our Condolences sending prayers for you and the family



daniel and marti vargas - February 13, 2024 at 11:49 AM