



Walter Lunsford Jr

August 1, 1941 - June 24, 2014

Walter Lynn Lunsford Jr.

Walter Lunsford passed away Tuesday, June 24, 2014, at the age of 72. Walter was a long-time employee of Turning Point of Central California, where he spent many years as Chief Operating Officer. He played a crucial role in managing services in achieving their mission of helping young adults and at-risk youth throughout California. He retired from Turning Point in 2013 and recently worked as a consultant to a local mental health provider. He lived a life of service and generosity, and will be remembered for always putting others' needs before his own. Walt is someone who was frequently sought out by friends and family for advice and support, which he always provided with great love and wisdom.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Patsy Joyce Lunsford. Walt and Patsy met in 1958 during a church function in Little Rock, Arkansas. Walt and Patsy lived in several cities in California including their first home in Atascadero that was built by Walt and his father, Walter Sr. They moved to San Luis Obispo where Walt graduated from California Polytechnic State University and later moved to Fresno where he was certified as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker after achieving a Masters in Social Work at California State University Fresno. He pursued further education receiving a Masters in Public Administration from the University of San Francisco. Walt and his family eventually settled in Visalia, California where he worked at Turning Point of Central California.

Walt was preceded in death by his younger sister Barbara Nilsen. He is survived by his older sister, Norma Buck and her husband William Buck; his children, Walter Russ Lunsford and partner Shannon Leonard, Richard Lunsford and his spouse Karin Lunsford, and Pamela Jacoby and her spouse Steven Jacoby. He had nine grandchildren: Camille Lunsford, Brittany Enos and her spouse Corey Enos, Bradley Lunsford, Jillian Lunsford, Simon Lunsford, Matthew Jacoby, Ryan Jacoby, and Christopher Lunsford, and one great-grandchild Sonny Enos.

Cemetery Details

Visalia Public Cemetery

1300 W. Goshen Ave.
Visalia, CA 93291
visaliacemetery@aol.com
<http://www.visaliacem.org/>

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 29. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 E. Caldwell Ave
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 635-1144
info@salseranddillard.com
<https://www.salseranddillard.com>

Service

JUN 30. 9:00 AM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 E. Caldwell Ave
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 635-1144
info@salseranddillard.com
<https://www.salseranddillard.com>

Tribute Wall

RU

“ Had he followed what he had learned in college while he was obtaining his degree on his way to becoming the man he was, he probably would have given up on me long ago. Through my ups and down in life though, he was always there for me, regardless of the trouble or mess I might have gotten into. He was not a man who would judge you, if you needed help, be it a few carefully spoken words of advice or perhaps a meal or some financial assistance, he always found a way to make it happen. Sometimes even putting his own needs aside to make sure others had their needs met. He was both a counselor, a mentor and a father who will be deeply missed by all whose lives he touched in one way or another. He was often called "Dad" by those who didn't have a father in their lives.

I will struggle every day to hold back the tears, as I think of the good times we had together when I was a child and the good times we had as I became a man, I can only hope that perhaps in my life I become half the man my father was, as he was a great man.

I know he was welcomed into a better place as he passed from this life to another and service of the Lord.

Walter R. Lunsford

Fortunate son to the best father a son could ever have. Thanks dad you will live on in my heart forever.

russ - June 30, 2014 at 08:39 PM

RL

“ *Walter Lunsford Jr., My Dad,*

Had he followed what he had learned in college while he was obtaining his degree on his way to becoming the man he was, he probably would have given up on me long ago. Through my ups and down in life though, he was always there for me, regardless of the trouble or mess I might have gotten into. He was not a man who would judge you, if you needed help, be it a few carefully spoken words of advice or perhaps a meal or some financial assistance, he always found a way to make it happen. Sometimes even putting his own needs aside to make sure others had their needs met. He was both a counselor, a mentor and a father who will be deeply missed by all whose lives he touched in one way or another. He was often called "Dad" by those who didn't have a father in their lives.

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Walter R. Lunsford

Fortunate son to the best father a son could ever have. Thanks dad you will live on in my heart forever.

russ lunsford - June 30, 2014 at 08:30 PM

CG

“ *My love and sympathy goes out to Patsy and the kids and grandkids. Walt was a loving, caring, compassionate man. He was my boss, mentor, friend, and counselor at times. He was a big part of my life for 27 years and I will miss him but will always hold him dearly in my heart.*

Claudia Gonzales - June 27, 2014 at 10:53 AM

GG

"Walt loved his Lord and served him in a noble way. He lead a full life along the way, being a loving husband, father, grandfather, relative, citizen, neighbor, CEO, scholar, boss, intellectual, practical businessman, mentor, citizen, and counselor to all who reached out to him. Today the pain is gone in the flesh, and he is celebrating the glorious new life in paradise that his Lord has stipulated in his covenant. We will all remember how he touched lives - especially the hurting, as discrimination was not a part of his character. Good-by to the gentle soul, who forever is remembered by a neighbor he coached and those loud barking hounds he tolerated. You are forever etched in my memory, and I will smile each day because I was your friend."
Gloria Gail Green

Gloria Gail Green - June 28, 2014 at 03:17 PM

WL

Still missin you even after almost two years I know ur in a better place though, I'm doing what I can to see moms needs are met, Camille is doing great and Brittany is bout as good as could be expected. RIP knowing that you were the man that many looked up to

Walter R Lunsford - August 19, 2016 at 03:06 PM