



Robert H. Farmer

July 29, 1935 - January 22, 2025

Robert Hollingsworth Farmer, known affectionately as “Bob” by the many who loved him passed away peacefully while in care at Clovis Community Hospital on January 22, 2025, at the age of 89 after a hard fought battle with Alzheimer’s Disease. At Bob's request, no funeral services will be held and a celebration of life will occur this Spring.

Bob Farmer, beloved father, grandfather, great grandfather, brother and friend to many was born on July 29, 1935, to E.H. and Rabina Farmer who preceded him in death. Bob was raised in the Los Angeles area by his parents alongside his younger sister Patricia Farmer who he loved with all his heart. Growing up Bob developed a passion for surfing and skiing spending many family holiday trips in Sun Valley Idaho. As avid skiers, Bob and his family would also travel from Los Angeles to Yosemite, which is where Bob met the love of his life Kay Gillis in 1955 while skiing at Badger Pass. After 61 years of wedded bliss, Bob lost the love of his life on November 3, 2022.

Family was the cornerstone of Bob’s life. He is survived by his; sister Patricia Farmer, his two sons Robert (wife Elizabeth and their children Kaylin, Robbie and Grace) and Michael (wife Rachel and their daughter Finley) and daughter Holly and her children Jordan and Lauren. He was a source of endless love, guidance and laughter for all who knew him.

Bob graduated high school from the New Mexico Military Institute before attending and graduating from California Polytechnic State University. Bob also served our country as a lieutenant in the United States army where he was a tank commander.

Bob was a man of unwavering dedication, warmth, and an enduring commitment to family and friends. He was also a hard worker who pursued business and several hobbies with a passion, all while making time to serve his community. After college Bob worked his way up in the insurance industry to become the owner and President of Sheppard Knapp Appleton "SKA" in Fresno. He was an active Rotarian who at one time became District Governor, a Commodore of the Fresno Yacht Club, served on the Grand Jury more than once, and volunteered his time to many local community organizations. Among Bob's many hobbies, were skiing, duck hunting, motorcross/motorcycles, golf, dominos, sailing at Millerton and Huntington lakes, tractoring on his gentleman's almond farm, and building lifelong friendships with many who more times than not became to be known more like extended family members than friends. Bob's impact on the lives of those who knew him is immeasurable, and his memory will forever be cherished.

Below is an Irish blessing that Bob was well known to share before meals at his home with family, which at times would bring tears not only to Bob, but also to those present who were so moved by Bob's emotion and meaning of the words he spoke so sincerely. If by chance you were among the fortunate to have met Bob or one of his many friends, you are invited to share this blessing at your next gathering in honor of and in enduring memory of Bob. May he forever rest in peace along side the love of his life and best friend, Kay. May the road rise to meet you. May the wind always be at your back. May the sun shine warm upon your face, and rains fall soft upon your fields. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

A private entombment took place at the Chapel of the Light Mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers please donate to www.alzfdn.org Alzheimer's Foundation of America or <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate> The Rotary Foundation - Annual Fund SHARE.

Cemetery Details

Chapel of the Light Cemetery

1620 W. Belmont Avenue
Fresno, CA 93728

Tribute Wall

KM

“ Kelly M. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Robert H. Farmer.

Kelly M. - February 24, 2025 at 11:46 AM

DA

“ So many great memories of Bob and Kay! They were two of the best things about Huntington Lake. The impromptu meals and cocktail hours with them are some of my most cherished memories at 7,000 feet....

Dan - February 09, 2025 at 11:30 AM

JS

“ Years pass us by and a picture of a special person earthly life is gone. Bob, Shepherd Knapp our Insured lives in my memory. Bob took care of Lopopolo farms, as did the Knapp families. A cherished person, my prayers to his loved ones. Josephine (Jo) Lopopolo Soligian

Jo Soligian - February 08, 2025 at 04:11 PM



“ 17 files added to the album BOB



Robert Farmer - January 31, 2025 at 11:18 AM



“ 17 files added to the album BOB



Robert Farmer - January 31, 2025 at 11:15 AM