



Rolland Van Blaricom

October 19, 1939 - May 8, 2021

Rolland Van Blaricom, 81, passed away peacefully while at home in the early hours of May 8, 2021 after living with Alzheimer's for 12 years. He was surrounded by his wife, children, and grandchildren.

Rolland was born October 19, 1939 in Bartlesville, Oklahoma to Clifford and Marie Van Blaricom. He was always proud to be an "Okie." He and his family moved to Benicia in 1948. He was a graduate of Benicia High School class of 1957 where he excelled in baseball and football. On his 17th birthday, October 19, 1956, Rolland scored six touchdowns, a Benicia High School record that still stands today.

Rolland married Sharon Harty on September 25, 1960. The couple recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. They have 4 children, 11 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren.

Rolland retired in 1994 after 35 years as a sheet metal worker. He was a member of the Union Local 104, Native Sons of the Golden West, and St Dominic's Church.

Rolland loved the game of baseball. He played semipro in Benicia and Vallejo well into his 30s. His involvement in coaching Benicia youth baseball leagues was one of his greatest joys in life. His coaching career, which stretched nearly 40 years, impacted countless young men in Benicia including his sons and grandsons.

Retirement for Rolland was spent seeing the country in their RV, taking the occasional cruise, and creating lasting memories with those he loved. He also enjoyed playing golf and rooting for his favorite baseball team, the Oakland A's.

Rolland leaves behind his wife Sharon, his two sons Mike and Mark (Julie), two daughters Laurie Ferraiolo and Kerri Maher (Matt), sister Sharon Kay Fischer, sister-in-law Cathy Harty, 11 grandchildren, 5 great grandchildren, 5 nieces and nephews, and his beloved dog Scooter.

He was preceded in death by both his parents and two brother-in-law's Robert Fischer and Gary Harty.

Rolland was a loving husband, a caring father and a loyal friend. He will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Visitation will be from 2 to 5PM Tuesday, May 11th at Passalacqua Funeral Chapel, 901 West 2nd St., Benicia.

Due to Solano County COVID restriction's, funeral services will be private. Please join the following live stream: Vigil Service: Tuesday, 5-11-2021, 7:00 p.m. at St. Dominic's Church. Link: <https://youtu.be/Jm3U4W0SGGA>

Funeral Mass: Wednesday, 5-12-2021, 11:00 a.m. at St. Dominic's Church with Fr. Carl celebrating and Annabelle Marie providing music. Link: <https://youtu.be/GQHTVy5Hxhc>

Burial: Immediately to follow at St. Dominic's Cemetery.

Events

MAY **Visitation** 02:00PM - 05:00PM

11

Passalacqua Funeral Chapel
901 W Second Street, Benicia, CA, US, 94510

MAY **Vigil services** 07:00PM

11

St Dominic's Catholic Church
475 E I St, Benicia, CA, US, 94510

MAY **Church Service -St. Dominic's Church** 11:00AM

12

St Dominic's Catholic Church
475 E I St, Benicia, CA, US, 94510

Comments



“ Dear Sharon. We are sorry to hear of Roland's death. We always remember him running around looking for a new furnace filter. You were the first people we met when we moved to Benicia 30 years ago. Cherish all your good memories over 60 years.
Pat & Paul Brighton

Patricia Brighton - May 14, 2021 at 11:20 PM



“ Sharon and family, I know Greg has delivered my messages to you, but I still wanted to send my condolences to you personally. Through God, you all will be given the strength you need to go on.
Loosing Steve and Andy I found strength that I didn't expect. Rolland was sick for so long and you and the kids did an exceptional job in doing everything possible to make life as normal as you could.
I loved listening to Rolland and Andy talk about the boys playing football and baseball and anything else sports related.
You will miss him terribly and think you'll never get through the pain, but you learn to live with it. Rest In Peace dear Rolland.

Bobbie Nickolatos

Bobbie Nickolatos - May 12, 2021 at 10:54 PM



“ Sharon & Family My deepest sympathy to all of you in your loss of Rolland, may God give you all the added strength needed to get you thru this difficult time, the days ahead as you grieve your loss and adjust to life with out his physical presence.
Thoughts & Prayers for you & your family. Rest In Peace Rolland God Bless



Carol A King - May 12, 2021 at 12:29 AM



“ Time has a way of healing all things - and it will help as we recall Rolland and his family and their love for Benicia. His illness was so difficult to endure, but it also brought out the best in all who loved him. I send my love and prayers to all his family and his dear friends who will miss his very presence.
Sincerely,
Marie Earp

MARIE EARP - May 11, 2021 at 09:15 PM



“ Our heartfelt condolences to the entire Van Blaricom family. Roland was a true legend & one hell of a man! We have nothing but fond memories of him over the years playing ball & later on with the Native Sons. May he Rest In Peace.
John & Corrie Core

Corrie Core - May 11, 2021 at 05:37 PM



“ Rolland was my dad's best friend I remember going to their house many times back in the day great family and friends he will be missed thank god for memories

john sickler - May 11, 2021 at 04:22 PM



“ Hi John, I'm sure we have comparable memories brother!

Jerry Glassmaker - May 12, 2021 at 05:30 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Rolland Van Blaricom.



May 11, 2021 at 01:02 PM



“ May my deepest condolences and admiration be sent to the Van Blaricoms. Sharon, you are the best! I need no platitudes to express my love for a man who I've admired since boyhood. I recall with unparalleled fondness the countless memories: family parties, outings, camping trips and most of all, the priceless, profound memories on the baseball field. For anybody who played for Roland, coached with or coached against him, these experiences with Roland impacted lives. Some didn't like Roland only because they couldn't beat him. But the many who knew him found real loyalty, brotherhood and friendship that will never be forgotten. With love and deep sincerity,
Jerry Glassmaker

Jerry Glassmaker - May 10, 2021 at 09:43 PM



“ You are so correct jerry

john sickler - May 11, 2021 at 04:11 PM



“ When I was very young my grandparents Blanche and Bob Potter were great friends with Marie and Cliff Rowland's mom and dad I used to go over to Rowland's parents house and swim in their pool I remember the family they were so kind and so nice he will be missed God bless your family rest in peace

Dianna Byars - May 10, 2021 at 08:35 PM



“ So very sorry for you loss. My condolences to the family. Such a great and nice family bless you all

charlene Dinsdale - May 10, 2021 at 08:07 PM



“ My deepest sympathies to Sharon. Every time I saw Rolland. He was a gentleman, always put a smile on my face. Always cherish the memories. That the family and close friends. Had with Rolland and family

Love the Cady Family



Darla O'Donnell - May 10, 2021 at 07:56 PM



“ So very sorry for the loss of Roland, May God bless you at this difficult time.

Ann and Ron Pearman - May 11, 2021 at 12:51 PM



“ Serenity Wreath was purchased for the family of Rolland Van Blaricom.



May 10, 2021 at 05:36 PM