



Arend "Pete" Folkens

May 31, 1920 - May 17, 2022

BENICIA, CA. – Arend “Pete” Folkens, 101, a long-time resident of the Oakmont community in the Sonoma Valley, and recently of Benicia, died on Tuesday, May 17, 2022, in Benicia. He was the devoted husband of Pauline Louise (Schade) Folkens and a loving father, grandfather, great-grandfather, uncle, godfather, and friend.

Arend was born May 31, 1920 in Rock Rapids, Iowa, 15 days after his parents, Pieter (“Piet”) and Anna (Feenstra) Fokkens, arrived in the United States from Parrage, Freisland (Netherlands) through Ellis Island.

Arend was a veteran of World War II serving in the U.S. Coast Guard aboard a patrol frigate (PF-34) in the Western Pacific, particularly in the Aitape (New Guinea) Invasion and Leyte Gulf. Upon returning from the war, he enrolled at the University of Washington in Seattle where his studies were interrupted in his final year as he was called up to fight in the Korean War aboard a destroyer (DD-755) of the U.S. Navy. He later returned to finish his degree and became a Huskies fan for life and the first of his extended family to graduate from college.

Arend and Pauline were married in 1951, settling in Bakersfield where he was a mortgage banker and active in church, community, and public service, including serving as one of the first members of the Board of Directors of the

Golden Empire Transit District. They moved to Northern California in 1978 where he worked for CalVet and eventually settled in Oakmont. Arend's interests included music of many genres; traveling, especially visiting family in The Netherlands; playing tennis until age 90; hiking; play-reading; and playing dominoes.

A man of the highest integrity, honesty, and character, he had a deep personal conviction to "do the right thing" and to ensure that "his word was his bond."

Surviving are his sons Pieter (Ellen) Folkens of Benicia, and Karl (Nell) Folkens of Florence, SC; four grandchildren, Elizabeth Folkens of Cayce, SC, Arend Pieter (Lauren) Folkens of Ooltewah, TN, Anna (Dave Streng) Folkens of Charlotte, NC, and Alysen Folkens of Benicia; a great-grandson, Louie Dinndorf of Florence; a great-granddaughter, Amelia Folkens of Ooltewah (due in August); godchildren David Bond and Sherrill Marshall; many nephews and a niece; and a special friend, Barbara Hoffman, of Oakmont.

Arend was predeceased by his wife of 52 years, his parents and sisters, Pearl Ann Hardersen and Jeannette Lilly, of Enumclaw, Washington.

A graveside service will be held at the San Joaquin National Cemetery, Santa Nella, CA, on May 27 at 12 noon to include a military honor guard. A memorial service will be held at Passalacqua Funeral Chapel, 901 W 2nd St, Benicia, CA, on Saturday, May 28 at 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to a charity of one's choosing.

Cemetery Details

San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery

32053 West McCabe Road
Santa Nella, CA

Previous Events

Graveside Service

MAY 27. 12:00 PM.

San Joaquin National Cemetery

Memorial Service

MAY 28. 10:30 AM (PT)

Passalacqua Funeral Chapel
901 W Second Street
Benicia, CA 94510
(707) 745-3130
info@passalacquafuneralchapel.com
<https://www.passalacquafuneralchapel.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Arend "Pete" Folkens*

November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *I remember him telling me that in his teens he received a quilt as a payment for some work he did for a neighbor. He realized many years later that it was the best that they could do since it was the depression and money was hard to come by. I met him when he was 99 and he still had it on his bed. He spoke about his appreciation for the warmth and comfort it gave him all those years. I was blessed to be his caretaker. Lillian*

Lillian - May 26, 2022 at 11:09 PM



“ *I had the pleasure of getting to know Pete while playing Dominos at Oakmont. He was always such a gentleman and I especially enjoyed seeing the twinkle of humor in his eyes when he won a round! I will fondly remember him, especially when playing a game of Dominos. God Bless You, Pete.*

Dana Facto

Dana Facto - May 26, 2022 at 01:49 PM