



Horst "Opa" Huettenhain

January 17, 1937 - July 10, 2015

Horst "Opa" Huettenhain, 78, of Benicia passed away Friday at his home following a long illness. He was born in Osnabruck, Germany but has called Benicia his home since 1977. He worked as a Mining Engineer for Bechtel Corporation for over 25 years and has many coal processing patents to his credit.

Horst enjoyed sailing, golfing, and trains of all kinds. His passion was traveling around the world with his best friend and love of his life, "Toddle" and spending time with his children, grandchildren, and all others who knew him as "Opa".

Horst is survived by Carolyn, his wife of 42 years; daughters Petra L'Abbe and Barbara McBride; sons Todd (Dana) and Neil (Kelli) Huettenhain; daughter-in-law Corinne Deloso; sister Renate Thuring and his grandchildren Shannon, Jeffrey, Emma, Maddie, Megan, Hannah, Sara & Michael. He was preceded in death by his son Phil in 2007.

An open house will be held at the Huettenhain family residence on Friday, July 17 from 4:30 to 8:30 pm. The family requests that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Horst's name to the California State Railroad Museum Foundation at <http://www.csrmf.org/support-the-museum/gift-in-honor-or-in-memory>.

Arrangements are under the direction of Passalacqua Funeral Chapel.

Tribute Wall



“ *Horst "Opa" Huettenhain*

November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Gloria Galligan - July 16, 2015 at 11:09 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Gloria Galligan - July 16, 2015 at 11:05 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Gloria Galligan - July 16, 2015 at 11:02 PM

AM

“ *My heart and blessings go out to all the family. You and Horst are in my thoughts and prayers.* ”

Anacaria Myrrha - July 16, 2015 at 10:46 AM



“ *Grande Gourmet Fruit Basket was purchased for the family of Horst "Opa" Huettenhain.* ”



July 15, 2015 at 09:03 AM



“ *Horst is a cousin of mine from the big tribe Huettenhein/Huettenhain/Huettenhen. My mother is a born Huettenhein. We share some common blood, even though only in a very diluted form. When one day I had the idea that my youngest son Philipp should improve his english knowledge I wrote a mail to Horst and asked him, if by any chance he had grandchildren his age. He said yes, a few, and we would be very welcome. So in summer 2010 Philipp, then 14, and I travelled from The Hague, The Netherlands, to Benicia, to meet some total strangers. Horst welcomed us on San Francisco Airport, and immediately I felt at ease. I liked him a lot, I loved Carolyn a lot, I loved their cosy home, I adored the way they lived family! We had 2 1/2 wonderful weeks there that both, Philipp and I, will never forget. We got to know the whole big family. I loved Horst's sense of humor and we laughed a lot. Last time we saw each other was on one of their trips when they passed The Netherlands, we sat at Scheveningen Beach, probably 3 years ago. With great sadness I realized ever since from far away how he started to struggle with cancer, but I always thought and hoped that he will fight it, he fought back so hard, he wanted to live on. He still seemed full of plans, travel plans with family...and now he is gone. I am very sad but also very grateful that I got to know him at all. He will never be forgotten neither by Philipp, nor by me. Fare well, Opa! We will all meet once again, I hope!*



Dorothee with Philipp Hälsig

Dorothee von Eicken-Haelsig - July 15, 2015 at 04:40 AM

KS

“ I remember when Toddle and I met Horst at Powell Valley Lake. We asked to see his newspaper and of course, that started a conversation. He followed us home and Toddle was "stuck with him" from then on. What a blessing he was to our family. Love and Prayers to the entire family.



Kim Shuler - July 14, 2015 at 04:37 PM