



## James Robert Erickson

May 28, 1945 - March 12, 2013

Jim was born to Doris and Eldon Erickson in Tacoma, WA and was raised in San Jose, CA. He played guard for the Willow Glen High Rams, during the Rams' 48 consecutive football game win streak, with no ties, no losses. Jim graduated from UC Berkeley in 1967, was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force and served 3.5 years in the Minutemen Missile Control Center of North Dakota. Jim left the service as a Captain and with a Master's Degree from UND in Public Administration in 1970. Jim was the third generation to serve in the military. His grandfather fought in WWI, his father in WWII, and Jim served during Vietnam.

A 40 year career in City Management began in Vacaville, where he served as the Assistant City Manager. It was here that he met his wife Patti, and an incredible 37 year marriage followed. Jim served as City Manager in Folsom for 7 years, Millbrae for 22 years, and Benicia for 8 years. The opportunity to work with dedicated people and help ensure well governed cities, made all those late night council meetings tolerable.

In each community he worked, he also offered service through his participation and leadership as President in Folsom Lions and Millbrae Rotary clubs and member in Vacaville and Benicia Rotary. He parked cars for the Folsom Rodeo, created 5k Fun Runs and High School Football "Big Game" luncheons in Millbrae, to honor the two local high school teams and their coaches, poured many a glass of wine or beer at fundraising events, and was set up and cleanup crew on countless dinners, auctions, and street fairs. A

special source of pride was his work as a mentor at Liberty High School in Benicia and as an Honorary Commander at Travis Air Force Base.

Jim was a man of great faith, beginning in the First Covenant Church of San Jose, and later joining the Catholic Church. He was a man of great discipline, running 3 miles every day, lifting weights every other day. Even as disease made these activities impossible, he still did his recommended exercises daily. He was a man who loved CAL football, a season ticket holder for 36 years; this fondness was inherited from his father who played in the CAL marching band.

Jim leaves behind a legacy of impressive public and community service, but what brought him the most joy was his loving family: his adoring wife of 37 years, Patti and their children; Christina, Mark, Emily and Katherine. Together this family thrived with annual family vacations across the United States, family dinners, and religious celebrations. Thanks to Leo Sommaripa and Serene Davis Erickson the family tree continues to grow, with one grandchild Leila, and two more on the way. Jim is also survived by his brother Chris and his wife Marilyn, his in-laws, Mil and Matt O'Gara and 11 sisters and brother's in-law, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Our thanks go out to the Veteran's Administration who so attentively supported Jim through this disease with medical equipment and advice; the ALS Forbes Norris Research Center in SF where Jim participated in medical trials; and to the Vallejo Kaiser Hospice Program that guided us on his final journey home.

Jim's hopes and goals were to live a life of integrity, of deep faith, of strong sense of purpose, and great humility. Those of us lucky to know him, can attest to how well he achieved those goals. He will be sorely missed.

A vigil service will be held on Friday, March 15th at 7:30pm at St. Dominic's Church, Benicia with a Funeral Mass on Saturday, March 16th at 1:00pm at St. Dominic's Church, Benicia.

# Tribute Wall



“ *James Robert Erickson*

November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *To the Erickson family!*

*Our sincere condolences to all of you! What a great loss of husband, father, and friend. Jim will be missed by so many! He was well liked for his quiet, efficient manners at all times. Always polite and friendly, willing to lend a hand. St. Dunstan, Mills High School, and the city of Millbrae were enriched by the presence of the Erickson family and Jim. May he rest in peace!*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you all!*

*Stephanie Corti and family*

Stephanie Corti - March 22, 2013 at 07:08 PM



“ *The Friends of the Millbrae send their sympathy to Jim's family. He was such an important part of our Millbrae Community and we will always appreciate his support of the library as well as being such a delightful person with which to work.*

*Judi Sullivan and the Friends of the Millbrae Library*

Judith Sullivan - March 17, 2013 at 04:38 PM

JB

“ My husband, Tullio Bertini, a former councilman, then Planning Commission member, worked with Jim when he was Millbrae City Manager. He always spoke very highly of Jim and I know he would want me to extend my sympathies to his family. I am so sorry for their loss. Sincerely, Jeanne Bertini

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**Jeanne Bertini** - March 16, 2013 at 11:54 PM

TN

“ The Nowak Family made a \$ 25 to help preserve Jim's legacy online



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**The Nowak's** - March 16, 2013 at 08:58 PM

PS

“ Love and prayers and healing wishes from all of Patti Erickson's colleagues at the City of San Francisco Controller's Office. A few of us met Jim from time to time and remember him fondly. And we know from the daily joyful company of Patti when she worked with us what a wonderful man he was and the life and family that they built together.  
Peg Stevenson

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**Peg Stevenson** - March 15, 2013 at 06:05 PM

MA

“ It was a pleasure working with Jim. He was a quiet leader that got things done. I respected his tireless dedication to staff and work. He will be greatly missed. Patti, Brenda and I are sorry for your loss.

Mike Alvarez

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**Mike Alvarez** - March 15, 2013 at 06:01 PM



“ Jim was a leader and also my friend. I thank him for giving me the opportunity to grow and advance in my career and life. His guidance and friendship is something I never will forget. Jim will be missed and my thoughts are with his family. Jim was a great man!

*Gene Gantt*

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**Gene Gantt** - March 15, 2013 at 01:01 PM



“ Our thoughts and love go out to Jim's family. We remember Jim from the Millbrae years. Many a morning Jim would run past us on his way to the high school track. He always had a smile and kind word. We know his legacy will live on through his wonderful family.

*Bert and Linnaea Donlin*

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**Bert & Linnaea Donlin** - March 15, 2013 at 11:25 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of James Robert Erickson.




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March 15, 2013 at 07:05 AM

JN

“ *My deepest condolences to all. Jim was such an outstanding thoughtful City Manager and a great role model for all of us who looked up to him. I was always in awe of his calm and thoughtful approach.*

*Jim Nantell  
Retired Burlingame City Manager*

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**Jim Nantell** - March 14, 2013 at 11:09 PM

EP

“ *Jim --*

*We never met, but both have served as City Manager for the City of Folsom. God bless you. My prayers for you and your family.*

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**Evert Palmer** - March 14, 2013 at 06:50 PM

WF

“ *Patti, Katherine, and Family,  
Please accept our deepest sympathies for your loss of Jim, a wonderful husband, father, and gentleman. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.*

*With much love,  
Richard, Laurie, Jennifer, and Jacqueline Warner*

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**Warner Family** - March 14, 2013 at 06:13 PM

CO

“ *My support to Patti and family. I remember Jim from Millbrae as a member of our Rotary Club, as City Manager, and a personal friend. My Thanksgiving meal was a real treat with your family many years ago. I miss seeing him out running on Saturday mornings near the high school.*

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**Chuck Osborn** - March 14, 2013 at 11:56 AM



“ *I worked with Jim when I was on a commission in the City of Millbrae. I found him to be a fine man who was dedicated to his job and the City. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family.*

*Tom Marriscolo  
Millbrae, Ca.*

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**Tom Marriscolo** - March 14, 2013 at 10:47 AM