



William Bradford James "Andy" Anderson

May 23, 1915 - January 9, 2022

William Bradford James "Andy" Anderson, aged 106, died on Sunday, January 9th. Born in Oregon in 1915, Andy lived a life so long and interesting, you might think it was one of his famous "Big Fat Lies" he told his grandchildren, but the stories were all true. His career spanned over 38 years as the District Manager of Cheese and Butter for Safeway stores in the East Bay, and he retired in 1982, known by his co-workers as Mr. Cheese. He lived in the East Bay most of his life (28 years in Martinez and the remainder in Benicia). Andy played semi-pro soccer before WWII broke out and was a star baseball player when he was in the army during the war. He was an avid golfer and belonged to the Sequoia Country Club in Arnold where he maintained a cabin for over 40 years.

William was a devoted husband to his wife Carol — after just one week of knowing one another, they fell in love and got married in the courthouse by a man with a peg-leg, using a \$7 ring. They were together for 66 years, and Andy was a devoted care-giver at the end of her life. He loved fine food and wines, especially cheese, sausage, and lots of orange juice. He was famous for driving around on his scooter in Benicia and making friends everywhere he went. He lived by an acronym he created with his own initials: WBJA - "Why Be Just Anybody?" Known to everyone affectionately as Grandpa Cheese or Gramps, he will be truly missed.

William is survived by his daughter Cathy Dillard, his sons Jim (Bill Barker) Anderson and Mark Anderson, and his niece Dolores Smith. He was also survived by his grandchildren Aimee (John) Williams and Andy (Carey) Dillard, and his great-grandchildren Macy, Madison, and Mac Williams. He was preceded in death by his wife Carol (2011), and his son-in-law Bill Dillard (2021), who he adored and considered his own son.

"Life is a gift that you must unwrap. It's up to you to determine if what's inside will lead you to happiness or dismay. You have the power to make that decision for yourself." — Grandpa Cheese

Services will be private.

Tribute Wall



“ *William Bradford James "Andy" Anderson*

November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *A wonderful long life where the was able to spend more time with his lovely family. I only saw him smile. My wonderful memories fill the hole in your heart. I hope there is cheese in heaven. My condolences.*

Candice Estey Swanson MPM - January 13, 2022 at 12:34 PM



“ *Kathy and family so sorry for your loss your parents were great people always enjoyed your mom and only had few encounters with your Dad my thoughts are with you. Bruce Dinsdale*

Bruce Dinsdale - January 12, 2022 at 03:26 PM