

Memorial Book



In Loving Memory of

Thomas E. Schell

(August 11, 1935 - November 21, 2007)



Do not fear death so much, but rather the inadequate life.

Bertolt Brecht

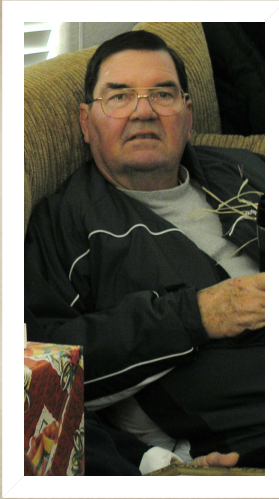
This memorial website was created to remember our dearest **Thomas E. Schell** who was born in **Steubenville, Ohio** on **August 11, 1935** and passed away on **November 21, 2007**. One man, many callings - Son, Brother, Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great Grandfather, Uncle and Friend.....

You will live forever in our memories and hearts.

The background is a textured, mottled olive-green or taupe color. In the upper right quadrant, there are two roses. The one on the left is smaller and more tightly closed. The one on the right is larger and more open, showing more of its petals. Both roses are a similar muted green or greyish-green color, blending with the background. The word "Gallery" is written in a white, elegant script font, centered horizontally and partially overlapping the roses.

Gallery

so sweet, so unforgettable...



Dad Christmas 06



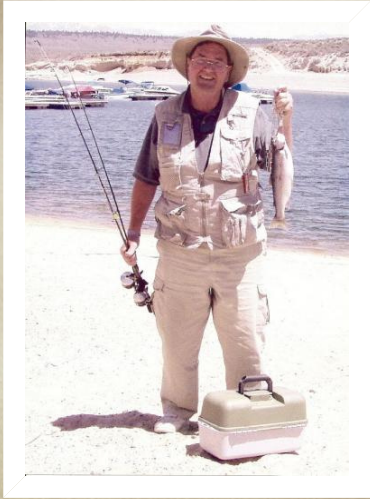
Mom Dad Amber small



Wedding small



Dad Radio small



Dad fish small



Dad 1 Year small



Two roses are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The rose on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. They are set against a mottled, olive-green background that has a subtle, grainy texture.

Memorial Candles

our words, your light...

01/14/2008

Kate Doordan

*So long, Rubber
Dummy...You made it so we
can't forget!*

01/14/2008

**Lucy-mom to angel
Laura Hunter**

*My thoughts and prayers
are with you Thomas. And
with all who love and and
miss you so much. God bless
you all.*

01/13/2008

Tom & Edna Reed

*Betty & Tom thank you so
much for being the
grandparents our Abby
never had. God Bless You All*

01/13/2008

Izzy

*Until I see you again, I will
keep you in my thoughts. I
know you will always be
with me on the basketball
court. I love you!*

01/13/2008

Heather McClure

*Grandpa-I miss you more
and more everyday. I will
never forget you... This track
season will be hard, but im
deticating it to you.*

01/13/2008

Martha Schell VanKirk

*It was a great pleasure to
have you as my brother for
70 years! till we meet again,
Love to all, Sis*

01/13/2008

Ted David

*Tom's work on the air made
his name a household word.
He touched many lives and
made them better. May he
rest in peace.*

01/13/2008

Cheryl Flickinger

*May God Bless all of you but
especially you Martha, I
know Uncle Tommy was the
wind beneath you wings.*

01/13/2008

Lynn Dheel

*Uncle Tommy, Your
philosophies emenent, your
knowledge legendary, your
love immeasurable, your
memory in my heart,
eternal.*

01/13/2008

**Angel Antonieta Abreu's
Family**

*Very sorry for the loss of
your precious Thomas,i will
keep you and family in my
prayers.God be with you.*

01/13/2008

**Angela wrate~nickys
mum**

*Thinking of you all. so sorry
for your loss . God bless you
all xx*

01/13/2008

the girls

*May God Bless you and your
family. And know that you
will all be together again one
day.*

01/13/2008

Donna Marie McClure

*Dad, Until we meet in
heaven, you'll be the angel
on my shoulder FOREVER.
Your daughter, Donna*

Two roses are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The rose on the left is smaller and more tightly curled, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing more of its petals. They are set against a mottled, olive-green background that has a subtle, grainy texture, resembling aged paper or a watercolor wash.

Condolences

from the deepest of our hearts...

Bob Sirkin

Friend

February 3, 2008

My longtime friend and former ABC Bureau Chief (Atlanta) Bill Knowles sent me your wonderful email about your Dad. I worked with and greatly admired your Dad. He was, in every sense, a complete journalist and a man of great character. Without question, your Dad had the best, most reliable law enforcement sources in the business! And, as you'll read in my reply to Bill, Tom was always willing to help out a colleague.

Please accept my sincere condolences and please pass them on to your family. The problem with our business today, we no longer have reporters such as Tom Schell. They don't make em like Tom any longer.

Bill Diehl

Friend

February 3, 2008

We've never met but I knew your father through our work together at ABC. I'm sure you've heard these accolades before but he was truly one of the best in the business. I joined ABC News Radio as a correspondent in 1971 and through the years was always impressed with Tom's coverage of some of the biggest events in our lives. Not only was he a credit to this profession he was one of the nicest, warmest people I've ever worked with.

My deepest condolences on his passing.

Art Browne

Friend

February 3, 2008

Greatly saddened today to learn of Tom's passing. He was always "my kind of guy" in that he was sharp & smart - a go-getter - energetic and spirited. No assignment was ever too tough! Never any whining! He was always RTG! I recall so vividly his

persistent work on the Hillside Strangler case and so many others. During those years I was Natl Editor at ABC-TV and was accustomed to calling on Tom Shell when the "going got tough," on the West Coast and elsewhere!
His smile "lighted up" any room!
I am so very sorry for you and your family. Please except my sincere condolences.

Peter Imber

Friend

February 3, 2008

Dear Donna,

My name is Peter Imber and I worked with Tom in the LA Bureau from 1983 until he retired. He was a class act as they say and the type of journalist we don't see much anymore unfortunately. He wanted just to report the story, not be a star in it.

I'll never forget the story he told me about his naming Oscar Robertson the Big O when he was the announcer for the University of Cincinnati basketball games. I don't know if it was true and I don't care, it was a great story. Tom, was a wonderful pro and man.

My condolences on his passing. I'll miss him.

Elaine Hogue

Dear Friend

February 3, 2008

My thoughts and prayers are with you, Betty, and the rest of your family. I worked with your father at ABC News and had the pleasure of producing many of his stories in the 1980's and 90's. Not only did I think of him as a dear friend, he was so kind to me when I first started at the bureau and so generous sharing information to a girl who was beyond green but lucky enough to land a job at ABC News. I loved him dearly. I have the most wonderful memories of sitting in his office kibitzing...and him talking about his family. He was so proud. Please let me know of the celebration...he was a man who I feel so grateful to know.

Love to Betty and all the Schell's

Jeri Hamilton

Friend

February 3, 2008

I don't know you, but I did know your dad when he and I worked at ABC News. He was a lovely man, generous to a fault and in my opinion undervalued...but then correspondents are often undervalued by the goons who run the networks, as I am sure you know.

Tom and I used to gather with our colleagues in The saloon, a restaurant below our studios where Kevin Bacon once worked as a waiter on roller skates. We'd trade war stories, trash management and have a good old time til the wee hours.

I am sorry he is no longer with us.

Bob Gibson

Friend

February 3, 2008

I wanted to take a moment of your time to say I'm deeply saddened by the passing of your Dad, Tom Schell, whom I met once or twice during my news years as an anchor-writer on the ABC Radio Information Network in New York. If Tom were assigned a story, we always felt it would be well covered in terms of information, fairness and understanding for the listener. On the rare occasions that we met, he loved to tell some 'war stories,' about our business and as I recall from more than 30 years ago, those tales were worth hearing.

For you and your loving family, I offer my deepest condolences and ask if there's a charity or cause to which a contribution can be made in memory of your father, please feel free to let me know.

Again, I'm so sorry for your loss!!!

Most sincerely,

Bob Gibson

Dave Dolson

MPAA

February 3, 2008

Dear Donna: You don't know me - we never met. But this morning I learned of your Dad's passing and I just wanted to pass along my condolences.

He and I worked at the Motion Picture Association of America in the early 1990's - he as the head press guru and me as a supervisor of U.S. Anti-Piracy Operations. We travelled a bit doing various law enforcement and industry conventions. Your Dad was a great guy - always friendly with a good sense of humor (that helped when the uninformed tried to make a big deal out of stealing movies).

It helped our working relationship that we had a mutual friend, Bill Knowles, who was kind enough to e-mail me today about your Dad. I hope you find solace in knowing that your Dad had many friends throughout his career. While we lost touch a while back, i will always have kind thoughts about him.

Best of luck in the future.

Bill Knowles

Friend

February 3, 2008

Your dad worked for me for three years when I ran the LA bureau of ABC News. He was the one of the greatest reporters, with the greatest attitude, with whom I ever worked. News of his death shocks me. I had planned to look him up in Paso Robles on a planned California trip after I return home next summer.

Again -- it is a big loss to those of us who worked with and admired your dad. He was class all the way.

Terry Adamo

Memories

February 3, 2008

Dear Donna, Betty and family,

I am so sorry to hear about Tom. I am in shock.

We kept in touch via email and I thought it was strange not to have heard from him in a few months but like everything else, I just thought he was busy.

There are no words I can say to you to ease your pain. I am just so sorry.

I know you know this about Tom...he was a great man. He was one of the nicest people I met when I transferred to Los Angeles. I was so happy to meet someone else who was originally from back East and who understood the transition I was going through. He was also one of the most intelligent men I have ever known. When it came to major news especially about the world he knew it...he knew it all and was always right on the money.

He loved all of you so much...but then I am sure you know that. When I moved to L.A., you Donna were still in school. I never got tired of hearing all of the stories about your growing up and the "rug rats" as he so endearingly referred to his grandchildren and always, when he spoke about all of you...always with a big smile on his face.

Just a few months ago I thought about how when the show Alf came out and he I would share each episode and how it made us laugh...he went out and surprised me with a stuffed animal Alf. I came into the office and there it was and he told me he bought one for Donna too.

Then there was your wedding and your soldier boy...he was the proud Papa of all of his children and how he adored his beautiful Betty.

I will keep him in my prayers and I send my love to all of you.

***Joanne Mallie Masiello
and Ton***

Deepest Sympathy

February 3, 2008

Our deepest sympathy on the loss of your father. We had the privilege to work with him and ABC and CBS. He was a gentleman and a gentle man who will be missed by all who knew him.

David Cohen

Remembering

February 3, 2008

I worked with your dad at ABC and have known him for more than 30 years. After we both left ABC at about the same time, we stayed in touch, even swapping e-mail a few months ago. Unfortunately, work and family obligations got in the way of us seeing each other the past few years - even though we were only 100 miles or so apart.

When we did get together, Tom's first words were about his kids - the joy and angst they brought to him and your mother. Always more joy, and even the words about the angst were filled with tremendous pride, great love and deep affection.

I know that his challenges of the past few years have been difficult. But Tom always exuded confidence and expressed a positive outlook.

To me, Tom was a good and decent man who enjoyed his work, loved his life and embraced his family. The world would be a much better place if there were more people like Tom.

I am very sorry to hear of your dad's death and am very saddened to know that he will no longer be just down the road.

Sincerely,
David Cohen

John Grimes

Jmg925@aol.com

January 14, 2008

Dear Donna,

We have never met, but I got to know and respect your dad very shortly after I arrived at ABC in 1972. One memory in particular. In 1972 Tom and I were both assigned to the GOP convention in Miami Beach. Dick Nixon was nominated for his second term even as rumblings of Watergate were being felt in Washington. Vietnam was also an issue, and thousands of protestors had come to Miami Beach including Jane Fonda. One afternoon Tom suggested we march amid the demonstrators to get some natural sound, etc. The Miami Beach police responded with a barrage of tear gas, my first in-person encounter with the stuff. Tom said he'd had it during the LA riots. Tom led me to a nearby house with an outside water faucet where we both got relief from the cold water. These memories are so long ago, but still crystal clear. A few days later we ran into each other at the Miami airport and had a drink before boarding our respective planes. Your dad was a complete pro and a I deeply regret his passing. Fondest regards, John Grimes

Sam DePino

Sam153@aol.com

January 14, 2008

Tom was one of the reasons I was both proud and humble at the same time when I was with the ABC Radio network. Proud that I was allowed to work with people of his quality and humble enough to "steal" as much of his professional qualities as possible to help me evolve! He is missed! I'd love to hear some of his reports on this website. Sincerely, Sam DePino

Lynn Dheel

Niece

January 14, 2008

Dear Aunt Betty,

My prayers are with you and your family as you go through the changes Uncle's passing has forced on your lives. Though he's no longer suffering, and we know he's at peace, we miss him.

May God bless each of you with what you need most to fill the hole this passing has left in your hearts.

Much Love,

Lynn

Tom & Edna Reed

Sharing your loss

January 14, 2008

Dear Betty and Family,

It has been a privilege to have Tom cross our lives path. He was a very special man. We weren't familiar with him professionally, and we are just now aware of what a unique person he was in his field. The man

we knew was a great husband, father and grand father. He was a friend to all, we enjoyed the times he visited our home. Your family is very dear to us and our hearts go out to all of you.

Tom's memory will live on in the hearts of those that loved him.

May you feel the arms of God holding you close at this time of tremendous loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

God bless you all, Love, Tom and Edna Reed

Martha

Sister

January 13, 2008

Dear Betty and Family,

I hope you know how deeply we in Steubenville all feel your loss.. Tom was one in a million, and a chip off the old block of Dad..LeRoy Schell, they are probably having a good time in Heaven...I have had a couple of good signs, so I believe they are both watching over all of us..

Again, our love is with you and all are in our prayers..

Love you all, Martha..

The background is a textured, mottled olive-green or sepia tone. In the upper center, there are two roses. The one on the right is larger and more open, while the one on the left is smaller and more tightly closed. They appear to be rendered in a soft, painterly style, blending into the background.

Memories

all the gray you turned into colors...

Dick Martinez

I remember Tom from my days at the La Cienega studios in the 70's. He was always down to earth and one of the hardest working journalists I've known. After I left L.A. for the Washington Bureau I ran into Tom on campaign trips and other assignments. What a busy guy! I especially remember his rapport with the troops in the newsrooms at ABC. Tom always had time for everyone. Easy to remember and hard to forget Tom.

Hank Weinbloom

I met Tom face to face once or perhaps twice. But he was often on the other end of the phone, at the other end of the country. Tom was one of those news guys who was "plugged in". He knew stuff. He had Sources. He worked his sources. He would steer us toward a new story or a new angle, or he'd steer us away from one that didn't check out. He was ALWAYS right. Is that what it means to be a rubber dummy? Then that's what I want to be.

Bill Fitzgerald

Tom Schell was a gentleman journalist with a disarming sense of humor. My professional contact with Tom was always like talking to an old friend. After he retired we still talked by phone about work and family. Tom loved his family and his conversation would sometimes include some regret that his career had kept him away from family more than he wanted.

Tom Schell represented all that was good about journalism in the last half of the 20th Century. To meet Tom for dinner was always special. His first person stories never failed to entertain. I suspect a lot of us will always wish he had written a book of anecdotal stories because his first person perspective saw so much more than just the 30 or so seconds he was given by broadcast producers. In fact, brevity is one of the less enduring parts of broadcast journalism. There was so much more Tom wanted to tell us.

Tom's departure reminds me of an old show biz saying. I believe in context it was advice to all performers wanting to have a successful and lasting career. It goes, "The first rule of show business is, always leave them wanting more."

Tom was a successful reporter with a long career. His stories, his laughter and his friendship are a wonderful part of my life. I hope where ever you are Tom you are still telling stories....and still leaving folks wanting more.

Mike Silverstein

My favorite memory of Tom concerns his unexpected trip to Canada's Northwest Territories. As he told the story, he was playing golf one weekend afternoon, when he was paged and told to report to LAX - or some nearby airport - immediately. A Russian satellite had fallen to earth somewhere in the frozen north, and he was to cover the story in time for the weekend news shows. When he mentioned he was wearing shorts and a golf shirt, the news desk said time was of the essence. Go!

So Tom arrived at the airport, met his crew, and they hopped on a charter for Yellowknife or some other hamlet up there. When he arrived, he headed for the Hudson's Bay store and bought some winter clothes, so as not to freeze to death.

He stayed there several days, covered the search for the fallen satellite, and returned home and filled out an expense report that included a couple hundred dollars for clothing.

It bounced back to Tom, with the notation that "we do not pay for clothing."

When he protested and noted the circumstances, he was told that he could alter the form in any way he wished, and change the figures, but not use the word clothing.

So Tom padded the transportation, cab fare, meals, parking, telephone, and whatever...deleted the cost of the clothing...yet the figure miraculously came to the same amount as his first submission.

Except, in typical Rubber Dummy fashion, he included a note at the bottom: "P.S. There is a suit of clothes in here. See if you can find it."

They paid the expense request. In full.

We loved working with Tom as a professional, and we treasured him as a friend.

BARBARA MAYERS

HI DONNA, MY NAME IS BARBARA MAYERS, AND ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NEVER MET, TOM

AND HIS SISTER, MARTHA, ALONG WITH MY SISTER NANCY, GO BACK A LONG WAY, TO WHEN WE WERE KIDS. TOM'S AUNT JESSIE MARRIED MY HUSBAND DAVE'S BROTHER. JESSIE WAS THE SISTER OF TOM'S MOTHER. THE GRANDPARENTS (MR. AND MRS. STEWART) LIVED RIGHT ACROSS THE STREET, FROM US. TOM AND MARTHA WOULD COME TO VISIT THEIR GRANDPARENTS, AND WE ALL BECAME CLOSE FRIENDS, VISITING BACK AND FORTH, AND PLAYING TOGETHER. ACTUALLY I MET MY HUSBAND, THROUGH NAN AND JESSIE. WE WERE MARRIED 56 YEARS AGO LAST OCTOBER. AFTER TOM'S PASSING, MY HUSBAND RECALLED ALL THE TIMES HE USED TO TAKE TOM WITH HIM WHEN HE WOULD MAKE DELIVERIES, FOR HIS FATHER'S HARDWARE STORE, IN DOWNTOWN STEUBENVILLE. HE SAID TOM LOVED GOING WITH HIM, AND RIDING UP FRONT, IN THE PICK-UP TRUCK. WHEN TOM CAME HOME FOR HIS SURPRISE VISIT, FOR MARTHA'S BIRTHDAY PARTY, WE WERE SO HAPPY TO SEE HIM. HE NEVER FAILED TO CONTACT US, WHENEVER HE WAS IN THE AREA. WE HAVE MANY FOND MEMORIES OF TOM, MARTHA, NANCY AND I, AND OUR CHILDHOOD DAYS ON PINE STREET. HE NEVER FORGOT HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY, AND HE HAD A GREAT MEMORY, OF HIS EARLY DAYS IN STEUBENVILLE. HE WILL BE GREATLY MISSED, AND ALWAYS REMEMBERED VERY FONDLY. SINCERELY, BARBARA MAYERS

Lynn Dheel

My fondest memories of Uncle Tommy are as my mother's only sibling. He was a humble man who never forgot where he came from, probably because she wouldn't let him! My heart aches for the loss of someone who was fortunate enough to be loved and admired by so many. From my perspective, aside from my mom, he was the last surviving member of our enchanted family stories. Someone who remembered a history that only they could share. Anyone having the pleasure of seeing them together would agree! Long before the man Tom Schell became, there was a boy who had a baby sister that couldn't keep her clothes on chasing after him. There were years as a Navy family; there were the years as the children of a postman, the years of adolescence as his father attended law school and became a successful politician who believed "If the son was no improvement over the father, then both had failed." Uncle Tommy made his father a very proud man. There were elementary school teachers, high school football coaches, basketball teammates, band members, and classmates who remember him well. Uncle Tommy went to the same college as his father, but was side tracked by a job in local radio. No one guessed then, it was the foundation of a career that would take him around the world; or, that he would become one of the best in the business. Those early stories brought a smile to his face, and he would put all of us in stitches with his own laughter as he remembered *when....* I remember he called mom regularly, a practice that continued through out his entire life. What a remarkable man.

Gil Longin

The sobriquet's genesis escapes me now, but Tom's idea of naming himself "The Rubber Dummy" endeared him to all of us who took his calls from the stump during Hubert Humphrey's run for the White House in 1968. When ABC mounted a phone on a tree on the Hearst estate during the Patty Hearst saga in 1974-75, Tom picked up one day answering our call with "Hello, ABC Tree." A good reporter with a good sense of humor who never forgot to check in with radio after he moved to the tube. Thanks, Tom, for all of it.

Stu Chamberlain

I remember the first time I met Tom. He was then a TV correspondent for ABC News, and he had just returned from covering a frightfully-difficult story... the annual seal hunt in the north Atlantic. He had not even gone home after he got back to New York, but instead dropped by the newsroom. As it happened, we had a sick call that night. Before I even asked, Tom volunteered to cover it. He spent the next five hours writing and delivering radio newscasts!

Hail and farewell, Tom. The good people all remember you.

Elizabeth McClure

I will never forget anything that i ever shared with my grandpa. He was an amazing guy and the best that a person could get. The greatest memory i will ever have is when I was about 2 years old. I was visiting him and my grandma and we were outside one night. I looked in the sky and there was a crescent moon, but at the time, I never knew there was such a thing. Grandpa was holding me and I looked at him and said, "The moon is broken grandpa, you need to fix it." He told me he would and when there was a full moon I was very excited that he fixed it. Now I guess he is closer, so it will be easier for him to fix it. I am always going to remember that time. My grandpa was an amazing guy and he will always be remembered.

Cheryl Flickinger



I will never forget when Uncle Tommy,(that is all I have ever known him by), came home to Steubenville for Martha's birthday party. I worked so hard to keep it from her. The day of the party was the best. When he walked into the room Martha's face lit up like a radiant sunbeam. I think that weekend was one of the best that a brother and sister could have spent together. May he be with God and looking down on all who knew him. It was a pleasure to have known UNCLE TOMMY

Two roses are positioned in the upper right quadrant of the image. The rose on the left is smaller and more tightly closed, while the one on the right is larger and more open, showing its petals. Both are rendered in a soft, painterly style that blends into the background.

Life Story

every hour, every thought, every smile...

August 11, 1935

Born in **Ohio Steubenville, Ohio** on **August 11, 1935**.

November 21, 2007

Passed away on **November 21, 2007**.

November 21, 2007

Thomas E. Schell
August 11, 1932 – November 21, 2007

Thomas E. Schell, 72, passed away with family by his side on November 21, 2007, in Templeton, California. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, 3 children, 4 grandchildren, a great-grandchild and sister.

He was born and raised in Steubenville, Ohio in 1935, moved to Glendale, California in 1964 and settled in Paso Robles, California in 1999.

He began his radio career in Cincinnati, OH, but his range of talents and distinctive voice were quickly spotted by ABC who moved him to Los Angeles where he was a respected and Emmy award winning correspondent for ABC Radio and ABC News for more than three decades. Even his introduction to Los Angeles was a baptism of fire as Tom was assigned to cover the Watts riots in the civil rights era. Since then Tom covered every major story on the west coast including the kidnapping of heiress Patty Hearst, the Hillside Stranger and the era of terror which gripped Los Angeles, the execution of Gary Gilmore in Utah, the political career and presidency of Ronald Reagan, the eruption of Mount St. Helens in Washington state and the inferno of the MGM Grand hotel fire in Las Vegas. Two tragedies of particular note are the crash of a Western Airlines DC-10 in Mexico City and the destruction of a US Airways airliner over San Luis Obispo where Schell's reportage earned him the lasting respect of colleagues both at ABC and other

national networks.

Schell distinguished himself on overseas assignments that included the civil wars in Nicaragua and El Salvador. During his tenure at the Los Angeles bureau those who worked with him said there wasn't a single national story that Tom Schell wasn't a part of either on or off camera. Colleagues recall that Tom Schell was a gracious and generous professional who offered his knowledge, expertise and gifts to all those who worked with him. As an investigative reporter the contacts he established throughout years of covering every important national story gave Tom a unique access to law enforcement and elected officials that was the envy of his peers.

Because of his reputation for trustworthiness and fairness Tom was a welcomed guest lecturer at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia and the International Association of Chiefs of Police annual convention speaking on media relations with law enforcement.

He was an integral part in his grandchildren's lives, sharing his numerous stories and attending their school and sporting events when time permitted. They were his life and always brought that sparkle to his eyes. "Grandpa", as he was called by all, is "Now closer to the moon so it will be easier to fix when it goes out!" He will be missed by all.

A private cremation will be held with no visitation or services. The family is planning a Celebration of Life to be held this summer.

The Schell and McClure families wish to thank the Paso Robles Fire Department, Sierra Vista and Twin Cities Hospitals along with the Kidney Dialysis Center of Templeton for the excellent care they provided during his illness.

In lieu of flowers the family is requesting that donations be made to the Fire Family Foundation, who assists our firefighters and their families throughout the state of California at 815 W. Colorado Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90041.

By: Peter Shaplen

Our Deepest Sympathy

www.last-memories.com