



Dad's Obituary

Jim P. Larsen Passed on January 5, 2017

Passed away peacefully on January 5, 2017 in Fort Bragg at the age of 92. Native of Petaluma and beloved husband for 65 years of the late Donna Larsen. Son of late Jens and Ella Larsen of Petaluma. Loving father of Karen Larsen, Dr. Jim A. Larsen, Ann Ellsworth (Skip), Jane Notmeyer (Barry), Joan Larsen Spiller, and Ray Larsen. Adored grandfather of Sandra Nelson, Ashlee Ellsworth, Amy Ellsworth, Heidi Noah (Brian), Carly Raymond (Justin), Melanie Higgins, Kelly Higgins, Kaycee Spiller, Joe Larsen, Jessica Larsen, Ella Larsen, and the late Jeffrey Scullen. Ten great-grandchildren also survive Jim.

Jim, affectionally known as "Big Jim" was born in Petaluma, California into the Danish heritage family of Jens Larsen and Ella Boysen Larsen. Raised on chicken ranches, Jim attended Petaluma High School and Cal Poly San Luis Obispo where he studied Ag and Poultry business. After serving in the Navy as a cook on a minesweeper ship, Jim met his wife Donna at a Navy dance in Long Beach. They loved to dance and became early members of the Cotillion Club in Petaluma. Jim worked for Pioneer, Kimber and DeKalb hatcheries and sold more egg layers than any salesman in Northern California over his 40 years of work.

Big Jim had a love for hunting, fishing, and the great outdoors. He carried his fishing pole everywhere he worked and traveled. Jim was an Eagle Scout and Sea Scout. For over 20 years, Big Jim taught hunting safety courses to residents. He was a member of the Outdoorsmen Club, Petaluma Elks 901, Danish Brotherhood and Dania Lodges, Native Sons of the Golden West, and the Masonic Lodge. Jim and Donna were members of the Petaluma Golf and C.C. He was responsible for introducing hunting, fishing, bowling, and golfing to many of his chicken ranch customers. Big Jim carried a pocket calendar in his shirt pocket with every weekend of the year planned ahead.

Friends are invited to attend a Memorial Service on Friday February 3rd at 1:00 p.m. at the Cypress Hill Memorial Park in Petaluma, and 2:00 p.m. at the Petaluma Elks Lodge. In Big Jim's memory, contributions can be made to the Petaluma Wildlife Museum.