



## Francis Drake

September 26, 1927 - January 21, 2017

In loving memory of Frank Drake

“The way to love anything is to realize that it might be lost.”

– G.K Chesterton

Francis “Frank” Edward Drake, 89 of San Luis Obispo, California, passed away peacefully on January 21, 2017 of natural causes.

Frank was born in Seattle, WA on September 26, 1927, the only child of Joseph and Marie Drake. He graduated from O’Dea High School. After graduation, Frank enlisted in the US Navy, where he was stationed in San Francisco during the final years of WWII. After the war, he attended Seattle University. Frank had a passion for politics, which evolved when he served as Assistant Sergeant at Arms of the Washington State Legislature.

In 1950, Frank married the late Kathleen Drake (nee LaFortune). They had 7 children together. During this time, he was self-employed as a contractor and then worked as an electrician for Boeing Corp.

Frank married to the late Doris C Eaton (nee Iles), in 1963. They were together for over 35 years, until her death in 1998. He was stepfather to her four children. During this time, Frank accepted a position with PG&E. The

couple moved to Santa Cruz, California and eventually they settled in San Luis Obispo when construction began on the Diablo Canyon Power Plant in 1970. There he held the position of Los Padres District Budget Director until his retirement in 1987.

Frank found love again when he met Connie Garner (nee Cochran) at a friends surprise party. They were married June 24, 2000 and have devotedly spent the past 17 years together.

Frank was active in several civic organizations and Charities such as Kiwanis Club, Elks Lodge, Special Olympics, and has supported Hotline, the Women's Shelter, the Mental Health Assn and Hospice. Frank had a huge heart and encouraged and assisted many in need. At times he made have seemed a bit gruff, but was actually more of a big teddy bear and was known for lovingly teasing others. He loved kids and help start the first Children's Museum in SLO. Frank was a robust singer and energetically supported the arts. He was an active parishioner of Mission San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, where he served as a Eucharistic Minister and Lector, as well as supporting their music ministry. Frank was an avid reader and also enjoyed cooking and catering charitable events.

The recipient of numerous civic and humanitarian awards including: SLO Citizen of the Year, United Way Humanitarian of the Year, Kiwanian of the Year, Elks Distinguished Citizenship Award, and Special Olympics Service Award, Frank was always quick to give the credit to others.

Frank is survived by his beloved wife, Connie; son, Joseph Drake; daughter, Mary (Osman) Guven; son, Thomas (Denise) Drake; daughter, Margaret Mulrone; son, James (Lauren) Cline; daughter, Ellen (Jeannie) Savidge; son, Robert (Cheryl) Laroche; step children, Judy Fizer, Michele (Robert) Alexander, Toni Jenson, Greg (Patti) Eaton, Michael (Dee) McBade, John

(Belinda) McBade, 26 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren, and great-great grandchildren; several cousins and five nieces and nephews.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Marie; his first wife, Kathleen; his second wife, Doris; his granddaughter Nicole.

Frank was a loving, caring and generous person who was devoted to God and exemplified the true spirit of giving. He enjoyed sharing a meal and breaking bread with people. He will be remembered for his intelligence, strong work ethic, and corny sense of humor. Frank will be greatly missed.

"The song is ended, but the melody lingers on..."

- Irving Berlin

# Previous Events

## Vigil/Rosary

FEB 3. 6:00 PM (PT)

Reis Family Mortuary and Crematory  
991 Nipomo Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 544-7400  
k.reis1958@gmail.com  
<https://www.reisfamilymortuary.net/>

## Mass

FEB 4. 12:30 PM (PT)

Old Mission Catholic Church  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

## Interment

FEB 4. 1:30 PM (PT)

Old Mission Catholic Cemetery  
101 Bridge St  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 541-0584  
<http://www.cfcsmonterey.org>

# Tribute Wall

WF

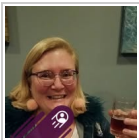
“ I knew Frank through his support of the Senior Nutrition Program where I worked. Mike knew Frank through his support of Hotline where Mike worked. When Mike and I met through a Spanish class and started dating I told Frank I was dating someone he knew. When he heard it was Mike he gave his wholehearted approval. He was so pleased to see us together. I thought, anyone who gets such accolades from Frank must be a good guy. Frank ushered at our wedding. Our mutual admiration and affection for Frank was one of the strong threads in our relationship.

*We send our heartfelt condolences to Connie and all of the family.*

*Wendy Fertschneider and Mike Bossenberry*

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**Wendy Fertschneider** - February 04, 2017 at 11:33 PM

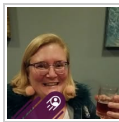


“ *Kristen Springer lit a candle in memory of Francis Drake*



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**Kristen Springer** - January 25, 2017 at 11:41 AM



*Frank you will be missed!*

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**Kristen Springer** - January 25, 2017 at 11:42 AM



*Your heart will live on !!* 🧡💖

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**Anne Ramirez** - January 26, 2017 at 01:17 AM



“ Pat Lamprecht lit a candle in memory of Francis Drake



Pat Lamprecht - January 24, 2017 at 06:44 PM



“ I miss Frank. I miss the corny jokes and the teasing. I always knew he cared about each of us. He was loving and devoted to God. But I miss Frank.

Pat Lamprecht - January 24, 2017 at 06:43 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Kathy Wolff - January 24, 2017 at 01:45 PM



“ Kathy Wolff lit a candle in memory of Francis Drake



Kathy Wolff - January 24, 2017 at 01:29 PM

KW

“ Frank was like a father to me. We even shared a name as my middle name was Frances (my own father's middle name was Francis and he died when I was 7 years old). We spent many years together doing things for the community. He exemplified the true spirit of giving and taught me so much. He was Santa to the Women's Shelter, for the Mental Health Association and for friends who needed a lift; he was chief cook and bottle washer for community events, private parties, and friends. He enjoyed sharing a meal and breaking bread with people. He was generous beyond his means to those in need and made it a point to find a person work when their employment opportunities ran out - often hiring them to do jobs for him or his friends. He was connected for the sole purpose of helping others in need. He provided rides to people without any hesitation -- even if it was to Los Angeles or San Francisco for medical appointments. He was a robust singer and arts supporter. He was often the first one to yell "yeah" at a Vocal Arts concert and the person who started the standing ovations.

He helped start the first Children's Museum in SLO and was instrumental in keeping it in good shape helping to paint, build exhibits, raise funds. He got others involved in the endeavor -- Kiwanis, Elks, individuals. He loved doing things for kids.

When my husband and I celebrated our 20th wedding anniversary in Yosemite in 1999, Frank was there. At that event we individually thanked people for their presence in our lives. This is what we said to Frank, " Frank, substitute parent, there for us no matter what, giving to others beyond his means. A role model, a friend, a support through thick and thin. A GIVER in personal relationships and to the whole community. Thank you for BIG-HEARTEDNESS."

May you now find rest and comfort, sweet Frank.  
We send our prayers to Connie and the family

Kathy & Dale Wolff.

**Kathleen Wolff** - January 24, 2017 at 12:37 PM



*What sweet memories to share* 🍷🌟

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**Anne Ramirez** - January 26, 2017 at 01:12 AM