



Mr. James Michael Roark

January 20, 1943 - September 27, 2025

James M. Roark passed away on September 27, 2025 at Sierra Vista Hospital in San Luis Obispo, CA.

Born January 20, 1943 in St. Louis, Missouri to Hugo and Rosalie Roark, Jim grew up in Southern California and carried a lifelong love of learning. He studied at University of Southern California, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Harvard Graduate School and Claremont Business School, always eager to expand his understanding of the world. In 1967 he joined the U.S. Marine Corps where he served as a captain in the 3rd Marine Division in Vietnam. He led Marines as a Platoon Commander and as Rifle Company Commander in the 2nd Battalion 9th Marine Regiment.

For 45 years Jim served as president of Electrol Mfg. Co. in Fullerton, CA before retiring to the Central Coast. Retirement gave him the chance to write; he published a novel *In the Spring of the Year* and several short stories. He devoted two decades to establishing and running The Vietnam Fund, a charity supporting schools in Vietnam.

Jim was known for his warmth, humor, generosity and extreme love of theater. His wide-ranging knowledge made conversations with him both lively and meaningful, he never met a stranger. He was a lifelong Yankees fan, cheered on the USC Trojans in football, faithfully attended Morro Bay Presbyterian

Church and cherished time with family above all else.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy "Gigi" Roark; his children Lisa De Prudhoe and Jon De Prudhoe of England; Elizabeth Roark of Del Mar, CA; stepsons Jeffrey (Terri) Wilson of Charlotte, NC, and Gregory Wilson of Gainesville, GA; and grandchildren Miranda Wilson, August Wilson, Dylan Thompson, and Smith Wilson.

A memorial service will be held at Morro Bay Presbyterian Church on October 18th at 1:00 PM, with burial in Sandpoint, Idaho on October 21st.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Jim's name to the charity of your choice.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT 18. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (PT)

Morro Bay Presbyterian Church
485 Piney Way
Morro Bay, CA 93442