

Mr. Paul Madonna

August 28, 1939 - October 2, 2024

Paul Madonna was born In August 1939 at Mountain View Hospital in San Luis Obispo to Plinio Madonna and Mary Elizabeth Williams. He passed away in October, 2024. He attended schools in Cayucos and Coast Union High School in Cambria before heading off to college.

He earned a degree from UC Davis in range management and a teaching credential from Cal Poly. While at UC Davis, he took classes at UC Berkeley where he began his lifetime membership in the Cal Band. He spent many years playing in the alumni band at many Cal football games, taking his sons along with him to share his passion for the band and football.

He served in the U.S. Army after graduation, proudly playing with the band as they sent off soldier transport planes to the Vietnam War and greeting returning soldiers. He and his lifelong Army buddies marched at the Rose Parade, the Salinas Rodeo and other parades.

After his Army service, he taught for several years at different county schools but always helped his dad work the ranch. When his father passed away, he took over the family cattle ranch. He was a charter member of the National Cattlemen's Association and a lifelong member of the Society for Range Management. He was one of the first farmers in SLO County to plant avocados, working alongside the Ag Extension service to plant multiple avocado varieties to see which ones would work best in SLO County.

He was a president of SLO Farm Supply Company when they were just beginning their expansion into other local cities. He served on the board of

directors for 50 years. He took on leadership of Cambria Parlor #152, Native Sons of the Golden West, and kept it going for close to 50 years. He played his baritone and/or tuba, with the SLO County Band and Morro Bay White Caps Band for as long as he could.

When his sons started school, he began his journey with the SLO County Office of Education where he also served as president on and off over nearly 40 years. He was still serving on the board at the time of his passing.

For a lot of you who knew him, you shared his passion for winemaking where he helped several local wine owners get started in picking, crushing and aging wine. He also was an expert in the art of sausage making, teaching all how to twist twine as you made links to hang in the wine cellar. His main joy in life came from riding the hills, checking his cattle and keeping the avocados producing.

He is survived by his wife Kathryn, sons Ben (Esmeralda), Mark (Katie) and Peter (Lauren) along with six grandchildren Kendra, Calvin, Brooklyn, Madison, Austin and Bronx. Also surviving him is his brother John as well as many cousins.

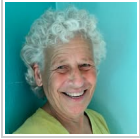
Private family services have been held.

If you would like to donate in his honor, please consider the Cayucos Veterans Hall restoration fund. His wedding reception was there in 1974 and he spent many hours at the Vets Hall, playing music at the Portuguese Festivals. His family celebrated multiple events at the Hall from school programs and graduations to life celebrations including the one for his mother Mary Elizabeth and other friends.

Gifts can be made online by clicking here: <https://www.cfsloco.org/funds/cayucos-vets-hall-restoration/> or checks can be sent to The Community Foundation at 550 Dana Street, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Please be sure to indicate the gifts are designated to Cayucos Vet's Hall Restoration Project in memory of Paul Madonna.

Reis Family Mortuary is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall



“ I played clarinet in the White Caps Band for 15 years. Paul played baritone. He was always there for rehearsal and performances if he could be. He got others to substitute for him if he could not make a performance. He was a gentleman. Soft spoken. Friendly with a big smile. Loved music. Smart.

Betty Winholtz - October 25, 2024 at 02:40 AM

GB

“ When I was growing up in Cayucos I remember Paul being a nice and responsible guy. That was at least 60 years ago and he kept being that way! Soft spoken, respectful, community focused, smart and intent on getting stuff done. He will be missed. Greg Bettencourt

Greg Bettencourt - October 10, 2024 at 11:33 PM

JC

“ On behalf our our Classified Union CSEA Ch 444, our condolences to the Madonna Family. He committment to our students, staff, and community never waivered.



On my personal behalf, I hold respect for Mr. Madonna's ability to relate to all. His kindess and appreciation for others will not be forgotten. May prayers are with his family.

Jennie Curto - October 10, 2024 at 07:08 PM

ME

“ *Meghan lit a candle in memory of Mr. Paul Madonna*



Meghan - October 10, 2024 at 06:50 PM

SM

“ *Shirley Marshall lit a candle in memory of Mr. Paul Madonna*



Shirley Marshall - October 10, 2024 at 02:43 PM

JB

“ *Mr. Madonna was a kind, patient, and wonderful person. He will truly be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time. Jim Brescia*

James Brescia - October 10, 2024 at 10:52 AM



“ *A wonderful and gracious man. May the family rejoice in the fact that he was admired and respected. A true gift to everyone. The Ronsin family*

Dale Ronsin - October 08, 2024 at 10:07 PM