



## Edwin L Bedford

April 11, 1932 - September 2, 2016

Ed Bedford died at home on September 2 of pulmonary fibrosis and heart failure. He was 84. Ed was born in Los Angeles, CA. When he was a small child his grandfather, an actor, took Ed to his first opera. That was a seed that grew as Ed grew. He became an opera lover and an expert musicologist. He attended public schools in L.A. and entered Pomona College after graduating from L.A. High School in 1950. In 1952 during the Korean War Ed joined the Navy and was stationed for the duration of the war in Japan where he was one of the court reporters for the Pacific Area Naval courts. After he was discharged from the Navy he returned to California where he attended and graduated from The University of California at Berkeley. He also got his M.A. from Berkeley.

Ed began his teaching career in a small San Joaquin Valley town, Avenal, where he taught for several years before moving back to the San Francisco Bay Area where he taught for many years at Terra Linda High School in San Rafael. He was patron of the San Francisco Opera and the San Francisco Symphony as well as serving on the Marin County Arts Council for many years. Ed moved to Newport Oregon in 1998.

Ed traveled almost every summer to music festivals in many countries. Among his favorite composers was Richard Wagner and in order to better enjoy those German operas Ed went to a German Language school in Germany. He

spoke German fluently. He also traveled around the U.S. and Canada in his motor home. He was an avid outdoorsman and frequently went camping.

Ed was a loyal member of St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Newport.

Ed was a person with insatiable curiosity and a contagious sense of humor. He was a great and warm friend. He is survived by his partner of 51 years Sam Wilcox and his brother and sister in law Bill and Pat Bedford of Pasadena, California. He also leaves behind several nieces, grandnieces and grandnephews.

# Tribute Wall

JC

“ *Jeff Cumberland lit a candle in memory of Edwin L Bedford*



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**Jeff Cumberland** - January 15, 2023 at 12:00 AM

ME

“ *I loved Mr. Bedford! He was my freshman history teacher in Terra Linda High School a long long time ago....1969! He used to tease me and I would turn so red. I learned a lot from him. We will have our 50th year class reunion in 2022 and I will remember him to our classmates. He led a full life and I'm so glad he and Mr. Wilcox-another teacher in T.L. had a happy life together. Rest in Peace Mr. Bedford.*

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**Marilyn Epstein** - May 08, 2021 at 12:00 AM

RM

“ *Rich Martino lit a candle in memory of Edwin L Bedford*



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**Rich Martino** - July 29, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *Michael Moss lit a candle in memory of Edwin L Bedford*



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**Michael Moss** - December 25, 2019 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ *Mr. Bedford was our history in Avenal for many years. He made history interesting. We enjoyed his many interesting stories. It was a sad day when Mr Bedford left our school. We just had a class reunion in May and we all talked and shared our Mr Bedford stories. He was loved and admired by everyone even after all these years. Rest In Peace Mr Bedford you made our lives better.and our world more interesting with your history class.*

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**Verlene Hall** - June 10, 2019 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ *He was Mr. Bedford to me as my world history teacher and if I remember correctly and not sure, but US history also, here in Avenal. There are a lot of things I don't remember now at my age but what I do is, he certainly left an impression on me and made learning about something I was not in the slightest way interested in at the time, fun. He taught us not as much from a book but from his stories of his personal experiences and that was amazing and so wonderful to listen to. We laughed a lot in that class. When he left Avenal we were the losers. Great man and teacher. He left a positive impression on my life. Thank you Mr. Bedford! You are home now.*



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**Avenal Ca** - June 07, 2019 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ Ed was a great teacher and our family all had him at Terra Linda High. His use of humor was an effective teaching tool. His quick wit was contagious. He made us think about religion and to think critically. We also had Sam Wilcox as a teacher and he too had that quick wit and style. We were lucky to have this memorable and thought provoking pair at the school.

Michael Ham - February 05, 2019 at 12:00 AM

LE

“ Lori Edwards lit a candle in memory of Edwin L Bedford



Lori Edwards - June 21, 2017 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ Dear Sam,I am so very sorry for your loss. Ed was truly an inspiring man and teacher.My sister, Elizabeth, was at her High School and found out about Ed passing. She shared this with me as she knew that both of you were my favorite teachers, making High School bearable. I always knew your classes would fuel me up and make me think. I still enjoy thinking and sharing ideas and thoughts with anyone who will participate in a conversation with me. :-) Thank you. I too went into teaching, largely because of you both.It sounds like Eds life was full right up to the end. To be with someone you love in a long relationship and doing what you love...we should all be so fortunate. I was Debbie Dunlavy in High School and have been married 43 years, have three grown sons and four grandchildren and all of them have heard me share memories of your classes. Thank you,DebbieStill love philosophy.

Debbie Moore - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DM

“ *Debbie Moore lit a candle in memory of Edwin L Bedford*



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**Debbie Moore** - October 12, 2016 at 12:00 AM