



Aldo Ruozi

January 1, 1917 - February 16, 2016

Al was born September 1, 1917, in Bakersfield, California. He grew up on a small cotton and alfalfa farm southeast of town. He was fascinated by welding and attended night school to learn the trade. World War II began and Al moved to Richmond, California, to work for Henry J. Kaiser Shipbuilding. He soon became a lead-man and then a welding instructor for the State of California. His students built both Liberty and Victory ships for the War Production Board. Al later entered the Army and attained the rank of Technician 4th Grade. He was among the first occupation troops to arrive in Japan following the surrender and was stationed in Sapporo.

Al founded Interstate Equipment & Mfg. Company in 1948 which started out as a welding shop building various types of machinery. He began to think about his younger days on the family farm walking behind a plow horse. Having a love for the soil, he pondered whether there was a better way to work the land. In the early 1950s, Al began to develop a unique cotton stalk and root shredder that later evolved into a one-pass tillage machine, the Cotton Shredder-Bedder. This implement digs up and shreds cotton stalks and roots, tills the soil and reshapes the same beds all in one trip across the field. It deposits valuable organic matter back into the growing area in preparation for the next crop. He was granted nine United States and foreign patents.

Al was a visionary and inventor decades ahead of his time with his efforts to improve the soil for future generations. His system of conservation tillage is today the preferred method of working the land as it saves fuel, increases water penetration, reduces compaction and helps to clear the air due to less equipment traversing the earth. In 1989, the National Institute of Standards and Technology evaluated and recommended his machine to the Department of Energy as an energy-saving implement for the farm. In 2005, Al received the Conservation Tillage Innovator Award presented by the University of California, Conservation Tillage Workgroup, for his many years of research, innovation and contributions to growers with his reduced tillage farming methods. In 2012, he was recognized by the University as the leading pioneer in minimum and conservation tillage systems in California.

Al leaves his beloved wife of 75 years, Dora, two daughters, Doris Ann Ruozi and Marilyn Robolino both of Bakersfield, and a sister Louise Crawford of Santa Rosa.

Visitation will be on Tuesday, February 23rd from 4:00-6:00 pm at Mission Family Mortuary, 531 California Ave. Catholic graveside services will be held on Wednesday, February 24th at 1:15 pm at the Bakersfield National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers please make a donation to your favorite charity .

Cemetery Details

Bakersfield National Cemetery

30338 East Bear Mountain Blvd
Arvin, CA 93203

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 23. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Mission Family Mortuary
531 California Ave
Bakersfield, CA 93304
1 (661) 323-3339
<https://missionfamilymortuary.com/>

Graveside

FEB 24. 1:15 PM (PT)

Bakersfield National Cemetery
30338 East Bear Mountain Blvd
Arvin, CA 93203

Tribute Wall



“ 2 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Mission Funeral Home - February 23, 2016 at 04:01 PM