



Edwards Ritchie Hopple

January 6, 1930 - March 8, 2020

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Ed Hopple was fun, caring and giving. He loved life, traveling, his children and grandchildren and a Manhattan on the rocks.

Hopple lived the last 33 years of his life with metastatic prostate cancer. He lived and lived fully.

Hopple was born in Cincinnati, OH spent a good portion of his business life in Bakersfield but loved Cabo San Lucas, Mexico and the Adirondacks, N.Y. If he knew you, almost knew you or liked you, he would invite you to use his homes.

"Bring a change of underwear, I have everything else," he would say.

Hopple, an Army veteran who had a successful career in the radio and advertising business, was generous.

"Ed donated to everything and was the most giving person I've ever met," said Mike Allen, general manager of the stations and business partner of 43 years.

"He supported every kid who had a project. Besides his own children, he probably sent another seven or eight kids to college."

He was a member of the North Bakersfield Rotary, one of the first board members for CSUB, donated to the Bakersfield Symphony Orchestra and was on the Mercy Hospital Board.

Hopple was relentlessly positive, fun and was always looking for a laugh.

"Once Ed invited Superior Court Judge Jack Lund to his place in Mexico,"

Allen said. "Before he left, he printed 12 t-shirts with Lund's photo on it. He paid a street vendor \$100 to approach Lund when he was lying on the beach and sell him one of the shirts. Lund waved him away but the salesman wouldn't quit. Finally, Lund looked and said, "Who gave you those things?" There were Ed-isms: When friends said goodbye, Hopple would said, "Write if you get work," or "See you in the funny papers." To his employees, he would say, "When the cat is away, the mice act like rats."

In addition to being a pioneer in Hispanic broadcasting in the southern San Joaquin Valley and classical music (lost money but didn't care), career highlights include being the Marketing Director for the Las Vegas Flamingo Hotel, owning the Biltmore Hotel in North Lake Tahoe, KENO Las Vegas, KWAC-KCHJ-KIWI and KMAP (Radio Disney) in Bakersfield.

Survivors include his daughter Lori Cirella (husband Mark), granddaughters Abby Coburn (husband Matt), Courtney Cirella, daughter Susan Brownell (husband Skip) and grandson Dylan, daughter Meri Hopple, grandsons Ryan Roberts, Eddie Roberts (wife Danielle), great-granddaughter Brooks and niece Vicki Coleman (wife Chase).

Cemetery Details

Historic Union Cemetery

730 Potomac Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93307
<http://www.unioncemetery1872.com>

Previous Events

Graveside

MAR 23. 12:00 PM (PT)

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Tribute Wall

SC

“ Hi Meri, Lori, and Susan. I was sad to hear that your dad had passed away. Your dad was a great dad, funny and kind. My name is Susan Cunningham.
I used to babysit Meri many times. I can remember my dad walking me down to the end of the alley and your dad taking me to your house. I can remember when your mom or dad had your Christmas party. My mom, dad and myself would go and meet some friends, pick up hotdogs, and bring them home for dinner. Later we moved to the Tamarack Pine condos in Southwest Bakersfield near Laurelglen School.
Mom and I went on a bus trip to Washington, D.C. and New York where I met my husband. We have now been married for 30 years. I hope to keep in touch. Facebook is an easy way and my email is sjcoyle@lightspeed.net .

Susan Cunningham Coyle and Jim Coyle

Susan & Jim Coyle - March 22, 2020 at 03:43 AM

MH

DAD WAS ONE OF A KIND. AND THANK YOU SUSAN FIR YOUR KIND WORDS. I WAS THINK ABOUT YOUR DAD JUST THE OTHER DAY. I THANK GOD EVERY DAY FOR DR. CUNNINGHAM SAVING MY LIFE. HOPE YOU ARE WELL SUSAN. GOD BLESS AND BE SAFE. XOMERI

meri hopple - July 17, 2020 at 01:18 AM



Pamela
Tarango

“ I grew up in Westchester, and I love what Mr. Hopple did to bring holiday cheer to central Bakersfield. His Christmas displays brought comfort and joy to the people of Bakersfield. What a loving and generous gift he gave every year to our community.

Pamela Tarango - March 19, 2020 at 01:05 PM