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**Thomas Raymond Hoffman(1933 - 2015)**

Our heavenly father has summoned longtime Willits resident and retired [schoolteacher](#), Thomas "Tom" Raymond Hoffman, on March 31 to be eternally joined with his loving wife Myra, who passed in 2001. Born June 21, 1933 in St. Helena, Tom spent his youth growing up in San Francisco, excelling in both football and baseball. After High School, Tom was drafted by the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1952 and spent several years traveling and pitching in several Minor-A league organizations from Boise Idaho to Batavia, N.Y. to Jessup, Georgia. However, while playing ball, duty called and Tom was drafted into the U.S. [Army](#) fighting in the [Korean War](#), thus ending his shot at playing in the Majors. Stationed in Ford Ord, California and Fort Bliss, Texas, he rose to the rank of Cadre Sgt in tank armament.

After fulfilling his commitment to country, Tom married his High School sweetheart Myra Marks in 1957. After graduating from Cal Berkeley with a Degree in Business, he spent his early career working at Dean Witter. Although business looked like a promising career path, Tom decided to go back to college and chase his true passion- teaching. Earning his teaching credential from University of San Francisco, he made the bold decision to move his family of six from Pacifica, California to this remote little logging town up North. Tom took to the area very quickly becoming active in the Willits community, serving as a Board member (and PA game Announcer) for Willits Youth Football for 5 years, coached Willits Police Basketball & Little League baseball teams, served as President of the Lions Club and coached the Willits High JV Baseball team.

Known as "Mr. Hoffman" around Willits, he taught 4th grade to generations of Willits residents for 25 years before retiring in 1993. Never one to sit around, Tom continued on as school traffic crossing guard for several years. He also did a short stint as co-race horse owner with close friend Jim Donaldson earning a 1st place finish with "Jammin Johnny" before retiring permanently.

Tom is survived by his older brother Bob Hoffman and wife Anne (San Diego), three sons Douglas & wife Ruth (Holly Springs, NC), Gary & wife Mary, grandchildren Thomas (Texas) & Katie (Fremont), Greg (Willits) & daughter Anne-Marie Nava & husband Fredy, grandchildren Michael, David (Tenn), Myra & Megan (Willits).

The family has requested contributions in Tom's name be made to Willits Educational Foundation, PO Box 2206, Willits, CA 95490.

Arrangements under the care and direction of Anker-Lucier Mortuary.

**Funeral Home****Anker-Lucier Mortuary**

95 W. Commercial Street Willits, CA 95490  
(707) 459-5515

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