Christopher "Kit" Putnam

Christopher "Kit" Putnam Christopher "Kit" Putnam was born on January 6, 1944, to George and Ruth Putnam in New York City and passed into his heavenly home on Christmas Day of this year in Visalia, Ca. Though our hearts ache for the loss of our dear husband, dad, brother, uncle, and friend, we are comforted by the knowledge that his health struggles have ended and he is now in the presence of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. To know Kit is to know of his deep love for three things...baseball, people, and His Lord. When it came to athletics, Kit had it all. God blessed him with natural talent - strength, agility, speed, and the ability to handle pressure. He started organized baseball when he was 8 years old and was active in pursuing his dream through elementary, middle, prep and high school. He continued playing through college and included a year of professional ball in Canada. At the age of 18, Kit was offered a handsome sum to sign a contract with the New York Yankees, but unfortunately his dad was against that move. So in 1966, at the age of 22, he was drafted by the New York Mets. He went on to play all over the United States with his longest time, 3 seasons, spent in Visalia, with the Visalia Mets. There he finalized his professional baseball career and served as Player-Coach in 1972. Following his time spent in baseball, his interest went to physical therapy and from there, into sales. As in baseball, he was recognized by many awards and acknowledgements for outstanding production. Throughout his sales career, he always went the extra mile to help his customers...a servant's heart trying to benefit others. Once Kit made a decision to follow Jesus, he kept pursuing Him in spite of any struggles or shortcomings. He embraced the love of Christ and was eager to share that unconditional love with those he met in day-to-day life. True to Kit, he put his whole heart into everything he touched. His most recent passion was befriending those struggling with substance abuse and homelessness. Through that ministry, he was able to touch those less fortunate through friendship and love. We, as his family, were always assured of his love for us and his encouragement was freely given. He loved "his girls" and was so proud of his daughters and the lives they have made with their husbands and children. Even in the end he clung to the Lord and expressed a deep love for his family. In the final days of his life, he was seen lifting his hands to the Lord, mouthing "Thank you, Jesus". And when asked if he was seeing glimpses of heaven, he nodded, smiled and mouthed the word "beautiful". We rest in the assurance that Kit's deep and abiding faith carried him into his Savior's loving arms. Our hearts break for the loss of the loving man but we rejoice in his freedom and healing. Kit is survived by the love of his life, Kae Putnam, his daughters Jennifer (Tim) Morse of Ruston, LA, and Alyssa (Aaron) Haley of Hanford, CA. He is also survived by his brother Jeff (Dicia) Putnam of Dallas, TX and grandchildren Evan Morse, Stacey Morse, and Julia Morse of Ruston, LA, and Aryana Haley of Hanford, CA, as well as several nieces and nephews. In honor of Kit's love for those in need, the family is requesting donations be made to The Warehouse Minstry, 319 W. Murray Ave., Visalia, CA 93291, in care of Cisco Bergen. A memorial service was held previously in Visalia. A memorial tribute may be offered by logging onto www. salseranddillard.com

Funeral Home
Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 East Caldwell Avenue Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 635-1144

Published in Visalia Times-Delta and Tulare Adv-Register on Jan. 24, 2015