

**Robert Dallas(1931 - 2017)****ROBERT E. DALLAS****APRIL 14, 1931 - FEBRUARY 26, 2017**

Robert E. Dallas, 85, of Livingston CA passed away peacefully at his home on February 26th.

Robert was born on April 14th, 1931 to the late Theodore and Mary (Garcia) Dallas in Merced County, CA. He married his wife of forty-four years, Joan Estelle Curtis, in 1972.

Robert graduated from Merced High School in 1949 where he played four years of baseball. He then attended St. Mary's College on an athletic scholarship and played two years of his favorite sport. He signed a professional contract with the Brooklyn Dodgers organization where he played two years in their minor league system. However, a devastating car crash ended his playing career.

But Bob never left the playing field. His passion, love and knowledge for the game continued to shine throughout his life as a coach and sponsor. His coaching career spanned forty years in which he shared his knowledge of the game and generosity to numerous youth baseball and softball teams. Hundreds of lives' have been positively impacted because of Bob's influence and charitable nature.

Dirt on the ballfield wasn't the only dirt he was fond of. Bob followed in his father's footsteps as a second generation sweet potato farmer. Bob began his career as a salesman and business owner in the sweet potato industry. He later went into business with his two sons and in 1988 started Dallas Distributing Company. Bob continued to sell sweet potatoes till the age of 84.

Bob was a generous man to his family, friends and community. He was known for his honest, frank, yet sincere and genuine nature. He enjoyed talking about the game of baseball and telling stories of memories on and off the field. Bob is survived by his loving wife Joanie, sons Bobby (Jackie) and Tom (Janey), niece and Goddaughter Diane Dallas and numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, step children and step grandchildren. A viewing will be held on Friday, March 3rd from 5 to 7 PM at Wilson's Family Funeral Home in Atwater, CA. Burial services will take place on Saturday, March 4th at 11 AM at Winton Cemetery. The reception will be afterwards at the L.P.C. Hall in Livingston, Ca. A special thank you to Amy Marchini, Vrenda, Sue and staff.

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**Funeral Home****Wilson Family Funeral Home**

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