



Richard "Dick" Cowardin

April 28, 1930 - October 29, 2025

Richard Murrel "Dick" Cowardin passed away on October 29, 2025 in Yreka. He was 95 years old.

Dick was born to Murrel and Edna Cowardin of La Mesa, California. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1952 to 1956 as a flight line firefighter. He then began working for the California Department of Forestry (CDF/Cal Fire) and retired after 34 years as a forester for the Siskiyou Unit.

Dick was an avid snow skier. He served as a volunteer ski patrol for several decades at both Mt. Ashland and Mt. Shasta. At 95 years old he made his last run down the slopes in February of 2025. On the slopes he was known as "Pops." His passion was working on the Alder Creek Divide Four Season resort. He had a vision of bringing a ski area and multi use year round resort to east Siskiyou County, and worked diligently on the project for over three decades. He truly believed the project would be great for Siskiyou County and had the potential to be one of the top resorts.

Dick enjoyed long bike rides and helped organize the first Siskiyou Centurion bike ride through the Shasta Valley.

Dick is survived by his daughter, Susie Carlstom and her son Terry Carlstom; brother, Dave Cowardin; step-daughter Cathie (Buker) Sabados and her sons Brian and Kevin McCanna; step-son Don Buker and his daughter Tiffany Buker; step-son Bob Buker and his children Tyler Johnson, Kayla (Buker) Colburn, Breanna Buker and Garrett Buker.

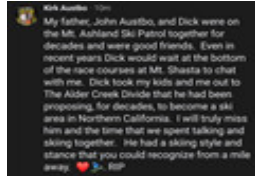
A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2025 at 2:00 PM

at the Greenhorn Grange, 300 Ranch Lane in Yreka. Bring your photos and stories to share. Please make memorial contributions to Madrone Hospice, 255 Collier Circle, Yreka, CA 96097 (<https://madronehospice.org/support>).

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Obituary Wall*



Girdner Funeral Chapel - April 27 at 03:19 PM

TF

“ *In memory of a loving and caring brother, father and friend. We shall always remember and miss you. Rest in peace, Richard*

The Cowardin, Goodell, Landreth and Abbey families - November 18, 2025 at 12:00 AM

CU

“ *With deepest sympathy. May the memories you hold bring you comfort and peace.*



CAL FIRE Siskiyou Unit - November 18, 2025 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ A life well lived as an alpine skier enthusiast!!!... When I was a child and my parents had work conflicts, Dick would always insure I made it to ski practices. I will never forget the adventurous rides going up to Mt. Ashland in his green bronco. ALWAYS early bird as patrolman and anxious to take first tracks of the day!!! Fond memories I will never forget!!! My sympathies to the families...

Shannon (Sumner) Salvestro

Shannon Salvestro - November 12, 2025 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ Condolences to Dick family. Our family have fond memories of skiing at Mt Ashland when he was on ski patrol.

Marcia Allen - November 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

LK

“ He was a nice man. He will be missed.

Linda Keno - November 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Many great snowmobiling trips with this great man

Ginger Moyles - November 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ My condolences to Dicks family. I remember him fondly, he was such a nice man.

Lisa Fowler Robustellini - November 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ *We had some great times!* ❤️

Eileen K Maier - November 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Girdner Funeral Chapel*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Richard "Dick" Cowardin - November 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM

KA

“ *Richard "Dick" Cowardin*

Kirk Austbo - November 10, 2025 at 12:00 AM