

## Thomas "Tom" Gordon Callison

January 23, 1943 - February 5, 2018

Thomas "Tom" Gordon Callison passed away at home following a long illness at the age of 75. Tom was an only child born in Los Angeles to Wendell and Margaret Callison, January 23, 1943.

At the age of 7 the family moved to Klamath River living in Beaver Creek where Tom attended the Honolulu School with Elsie DeAvilla as one of his favorite teachers. At the age of 9 they moved to Yreka and Tom attended Jackson Street School and in 1961 he graduated from Yreka Union High School. While attending high school he worked for Safeway. Tom enlisted in the United States Air Force January 1962 and was stationed in Texas and Alaska, surviving the 1964 Earthquake in Anchorage. He was later stationed in Sacramento at the McClellan Air Force Base.

Tom married his high school sweetheart in 1965 Doris Wheeler. After the Air Force they returned to Yreka to start a family.

Tom helped establish the South Yreka Fire Protection District in 1973 and served as Chief for 20 plus years. He worked for 20 years for the Safeway stores and another 16 for the Yreka Union High School District. He announced both football and basketball games and was a cheerleading advisor. He was a member of the National Grange and a former Master of the Greenhorn Grange. He was a member of the Montague and Yreka Methodist

Churches. He loved camping, boating and all community and family activities.

Tom is survived by his wife Doris of 53 years; his son Keith Callison, daughter-in-law Teri and their three sons, Zane, Chase and Caden of Yreka; his daughter Wendy Clark, son-in-law Adam and their two sons Liam and Gavin of Santee, Ca.; Sister-in-law and brother-in-law Nola and Marino Rizzardo of Montague; brother-in-law Glen Schmidt of Phoenix, OR; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

A grave side memorial service with military honors will be held Friday, February 9, 2018 at 1pm in the Evergreen Cemetery in Yreka, followed by a reception at the Yreka Methodist Church. Memorial contributions may be made to Miner Power, P.O. Box 775, Yreka, CA 96097 or to the Rogue Valley Dialysis Patients Trust Fund, 760 Golf View Drive, Ste. #200, Medford, OR 97504.

# Cemetery Details

## Evergreen Cemetery

Top of Evergreen Lane  
Yreka, CA 96097

# Previous Events

## Memorial Graveside Service

FEB 9. 1:00 PM (PT)

Evergreen Cemetery  
Top of Evergreen Lane  
Yreka, CA 96097

# Tribute Wall

PD

“ *The family of Joe and Pat DeVault would like to send our condolences to the Callison family. Tom was one of Joe's good friend and employee during his years at Safeway. Our prayers are with you all.*

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**Pat DeVault** - February 09, 2018 at 01:36 PM

ED

“ *A life well lived certainly comes to mind when I( think of my friend Tom. We became acquainted as kids in the Jackson St School and later the family moved to Greenhorn Road where we were closest neighbors. We probably got into a bit of teenage mischief but nothing serious. I remember Tom always trying to please his Dad. Looking back on Tom's life, I would say Cal would be very proud indeed. Mary has very fond memories also of Tom as a teenager and the entire Wheeler family and the connection has endured throughout our lives. Tom managed the Odd Fellows Little League Team and I assisted. All great memories. So long my friend. Errol DeRose*

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**Errol DeRose** - February 07, 2018 at 05:32 PM

JF

“ *I too am so sad to hear of Tom's passing & will really miss him. He was so brave & courageous as he worked through his illness & his many, many trips to Medford. I always loved visiting with him & seeing his great smile whenever we ran into one another. You have a special, caring family & I'm so glad you can be there to support one another. Much Love, Judy L Foster*

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**Judy L Foster** - February 07, 2018 at 01:43 PM

“Tom Callison will always be one my “Champions” from my Yreka experiences. His care for and commitments to the students and adults at Yreka Union High School and the community of Yreka will always serve as a reminder to the greatness of his heart and the depth of his commitment to all things Scarlet and Gold and the Yreka Miners!

*An anecdote I cherish regularly, involving Tom, happened early in my tenure as the Head Football Coach at Yreka High School. During those early years, Tom served as the Friday night public address announcer as the “voice of the Miners” at home games. On the chilly evening of this story, our Varsity Miners Football team was clinging to a late lead against a challenging league rival when their running back broke free down the visitors’ sideline on what appeared to be a long, go-ahead touchdown. As the back scampered along, Tom’s thundering voice crashed through the frozen air and all heard his message, “Catch that son-of-a-@#%\$&!” As you can imagine, it wasn’t Tom’s intention for the “world” or at least the stadium full of fans and the surrounding neighborhoods to hear his “thoughts”, but, as happened on more than one occasion (to more than one PA announcer), Tom forgot he left the microphone “hot” and the entire Miners’ world heard his passionate plea (as did some unhappy opponents’ parents and fans). Thankfully for the Miners’ Football team, several Miners also heard his plea and caught the rascally running back, and the Miners held them out of the endzone and eventually won the game.*

*Tom Callison was a wonderful man and a great friend. I have and will continue to miss him. But, as you can tell, he will always hold some very important and meaningful memories for me to cherish and enjoy.*

*Doris, may you and your children and grandchildren dwell on the beauty of a life well-lived as you struggle with the sorrow from your loss. May God’s hands of grace and mercy provide you comfort.*

*Respectfully and lovingly,*

*Orlyn and Dena Culp and Family*

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**Orlyn L Culp II** - February 07, 2018 at 09:59 AM

BL

*Tom Collison as a fellow  
AIR FORCE VETERAN I knew Tom for years, He was ALWAYS  
respected by anyone he came in touch with.  
He will GREATLY be remembered by everyone  
Our greatest regards to Toms FAMILY ...  
Respectfully,  
BART Lanning*

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**BART LANNING** - February 08, 2018 at 01:38 AM

PN

*Although we knew Tim and Doris, We really got to know Tom best  
through our daughters when they were at YHS. We heard many warm  
stories and anecdotes of his support and caring for the students. You  
will be missed. We send Doris and the family God's blessings and  
comfort at this time and in the days ahead. Phil and Ellen Noble, Elisa,  
and Christie.*

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**Phil and Ellen Noble** - February 08, 2018 at 11:55 AM

LB

“ *I'm so sad to hear this news. Mr. Callison was such a great guy.  
Sending good thoughts to his sweet family.*

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**Lyna Black** - February 07, 2018 at 01:37 AM

 Jen  
Gamble

“ *Mr. Callison was one my all time favorites from YHS. Not only was  
he a great cheer advisor, he was a good friend to me. Always had  
the best smile and his laugh was contagious. Rest in peace, Mr C.  
You will be greatly missed, but you won't ever be forgotten.*

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**Jen Gamble** - February 06, 2018 at 11:24 PM

PE

“ Thanks for the memories from YHS. My heart goes out to your family and friends as well as thoughts and hugs




Penguin - February 06, 2018 at 11:16 PM

Y(

“ Sending lots of hugs and prayers to Mr Callison family ! Our hearts are with them!!

Yvonne Farwell (Payne)

Yvonne Farwell (Payne) - February 06, 2018 at 09:26 PM

 Sarah Pracna

“ This is heartbreaking! Mr. Callison is such a bright memory for me from my years at YHS. He's such a sweet person, and I'm sure he will be missed by many.

Sarah Pracna - February 06, 2018 at 08:42 PM

 Kathy Preszler

“ Tom had a contagious smile and laugh. I only really knew him through YREKA High School but his love and encouragement to many kids and parents was a blessing. Praying for each family member that you are comforted and loved by Jesus during your loss.

Kathy Preszler - February 06, 2018 at 03:34 PM