



The Real McCoy

Newsletter of the McCoy Chapter
of the YMCA Alumni Association

Serving Northern and Central California and Northern Nevada since 1928.

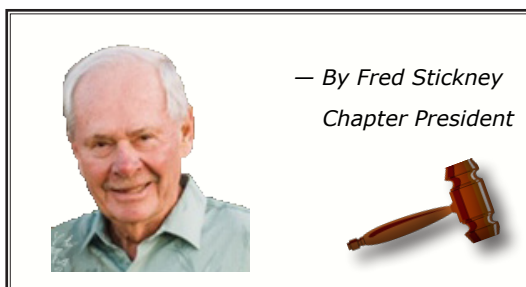
Spring Issue

August 2022
Volume 39, Issue 2

McCoy Chapter 94th Anniversary 1928-2022

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— By Fred Stickney
Chapter President

Fred's Reflections

Summer greetings to all!

The McCoy chapter is busy with planning events for the fall and expanding our membership in the coming year. Our program committee has been working on possible sites for activities. The Board visited Camp Campbell YMCA in the Santa Cruz mountains this spring, to see if the site would work for a group retreat. The Program committee is looking further, at other places in Northern California, for a day activity this fall. All suggestions are welcomed and you can text your ideas to Bud Doane, our program chairman.

For the past 15 years McCoy Chapter has been sharing activities with the Allen-Stone Chapter. The Ashland Shakespeare program on April 19-22 was finally open to in person attendance, after being closed because of Covid, fire and smoke, for the past two years. Late snow kept some of our members from attending, however Sally and I made it and enjoyed the two plays offered to our group. We had some great times together and once again did wine tasting at the Dana Campbell Vineyard with host Pat Flannery.

Allen-Stone will host again next year and in 2024 year, the McCoy chapter will again host for 2 years. We are now looking for volunteers to host. Those of us who have hosted in the past, can support our new team. We have successfully shared this responsibility for many years, and it is an enjoyable activity.

My term of being President will be ending on December 31, 2022. The nominating committee, led by **Greg O'Brien** will begin the selection process for candidates for President and Secretary, this fall. I have enjoyed working with the board, committee's and members these last few years. I look forward to continuing to support the McCoy chapter and enjoying the fellowship with our members.

Have a great summer and I look forward to more McCoy activities this fall.

Fred

Fred Stickney,
McCoy Chapter President

Coming Events



Y Reunion (New Orleans) - Nov 2-4



Henry J. McCoy
1847 - 1921
First General Secretary
San Francisco YMCA
1881 - 1915

Y Alumni Mission Statement

The mission of the YMCA Alumni Association is to enable members to promote a nurturing worldwide Christian fellowship that provides educational, social service and charitable opportunities.

The Real McCoy is the official Newsletter of the McCoy Chapter of the YMCA Alumni Association..

It is published three or four times a year: February, May, August and November. Articles and news for inclusion should be received by the 1st of the month of publication.

Some photos may have been "doctored" to make them more interesting.

Submissions may be sent to Pam Sheble by e-mail (see emails in next column) or mailed to Pam at 2730 Sequoia Way, Belmont, CA 94002.

International Service Corps needs your help!

I have been the Chair for ISC for about 18 months, and served on the Task Force for almost four years. One of the goals I/we had a couple years ago, was to find someone from each of our 17 Chapters, to sit on our Task Force. I know in retirement it sounds like one more project, but what we are asking is minimal.

We are asking for one person from your Chapter to meet with ISC for one monthly meeting, and distribute our minutes each month to your Chapter members. I also noticed in the email list for McCoy, several members do not have emails listed. If someone without an email is interested, we can find a different means to communicate with them.

For anyone who might be interested and have questions, please call or email me. I would like to share with you some projects we are working on, as well as several of our international contacts.

Thank you, **Wayne E. Uhrig** - *Chair International Service Corps.*

email: wuhrig.msusports@gmail.com *phone:* 1-740-398-2830

McCoy Chapter Board

President	Fred Stickney fredstick10@gmail.com
Vice President	Bud Doane Budoane@yahoo.com
Secretary	Sally Stickney (interim) sallystick@aol.com
Treasurer & Archivist	Chris Logan christine.logan@gmail.com
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FaceBook Administrator	Vacant
International	Vacant
Membership	Kathy Catanho kcatanho@pacbell.net
Member at Large	Jan Dale jdalescv@gmail.com

More Help Wanted!

Please consider helping us and join our board. We need people to serve. We need someone to check with the YUSA and give us some International News, We need need a someone who is willing to help support our Facebook page on the internet. Finally we need someone to serve as our Secretary. None of these jobs involve much time commitment (a few zoom calls and perhaps a once a year "in person" meeting. If you are willing to help, contact Fred Stickney at fredstick10@gmail.com.



Y Alums Venture to Blackhawk Museum

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submitted by Bud Doane



Harry Smeenk, Sally & Fred Stickney, Patt Mayer, Pearl Carpenter, Bud Doane, Ginny Sprague, Stephen & Regina Waterman, Julie Wesolek, Barb Cardenas, Bob Smeenk, Chris Logan, Don Zerwer.

Fourteen courageous Y Alums braved the Blackhawk Museum in May. The museum has changed dramatically since we visited it several years ago. Instead of just an automobile museum there are now five exhibits. In the *Spirit of the Old West* exhibit we were confronted with an imposing full-sized buffalo followed by an extensive collection of tools, weapons and Native American, trappers and traders, settlers and cowboys exhibits.

In the *World of Nature*, A full-sized elephant towered over us and a rhinoceros charged us. We also observed an enormous, diverse collection of exotic animals from all over the world. Continuing on, we were able to visit the *Into China Gallery*, *Art of Africa* and the *Classic Automobile Collections*. The five galleries were too much to cover in two hours and several returned to the museum after lunch. If you haven't been to the museum in a few years (or have never been there), it is certainly worth a return visit.

Lunch was at Fat Maddie's in Blackhawk Plaza, a beautiful shopping mall. As is the case in all of our gatherings, reconnecting with Y friends from the past was an important part of the day. The food was great, the fellowship greater.



National Service Project Update

Submitted by Bob Smeenk



The Sioux YMCA has changed it's Name - YMCA of the Seven Council Fires

Sioux YMCA has changed it's name. The Board of Directors, Board of Trustees, key staff and community members made up the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion task force. This group was tasked with creating the new name for this unique YMCA to represent the community as effectively as possible. They will be transitioning the names of all of our social media and creating a new website, ymca7fires.org.

Everyone knows the saying "If you build it, they will come" from the movie Field of Dreams. In our case, "We will come and we will build it!" With the National Service Project, we have our own "Field of Dreams" which will soon be transformed into four tiny homes over the next several years. It is exciting after over 2.5 years of planning, fundraising and organizing, we are ready to start erecting the walls and the roof for the first home with Waves 3 & 4 beginning the weeks of July 10th and 17th. National Service Project Chair [Lou Falk](#) will be arriving onsite on July 10th to view the progress that has been taking place in preparation for the actual building of the first home!

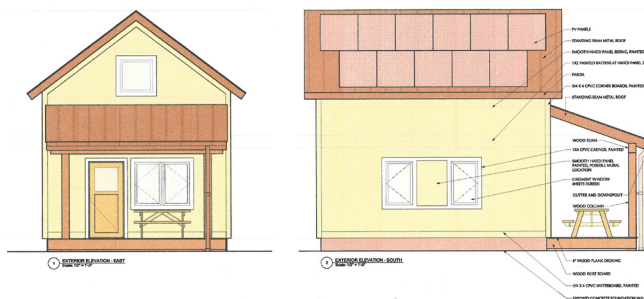
We are grateful for all of the volunteers, the generous donors and the many supporters who have helped to make this project a reality, and not just a dream! It has been a fabulous partnership with the [YMCA of the Seven Council Fires](#) in helping them to address their shortage of transitional housing.

We still have room for additional volunteers on Wave 6 (October 30th) to join Boots on the Ground Chair [George Painter](#) with actual construction and other onsite duties. Please register at www.tinyurl.com/wawokiye and send any questions to the national NSP email account at alumniy515@gmail.com.

Don't forget, If we build them, families and individuals will come to use them! We are making a difference in the lives of individuals who are served by the YMCA of

the Seven Council Fires. Please join your fellow YMCA Alumni members with the largest and most transformational project our association has ever taken on! [#YMCASevenCouncilFiresPartnership](https://twitter.com/ymca7fires).

To see a short video on the progress of the project (2 minutes) please go to https://youtu.be/luy_aEYARzU



Idaho Getaway - Coeur d'Alene

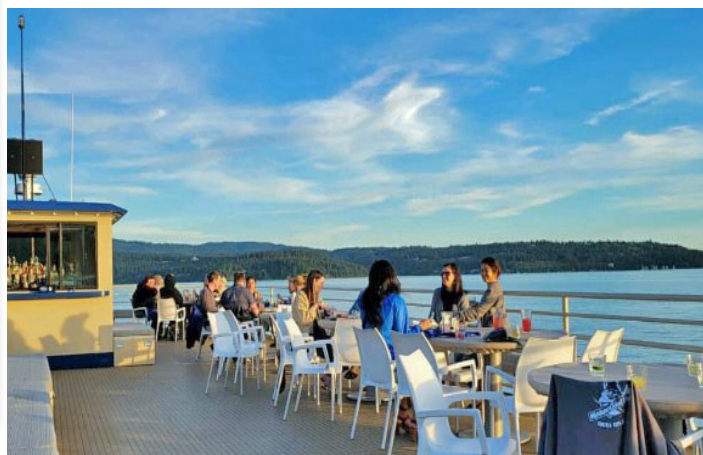
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Submitted by Chris Logan



Thanks to the Allen-Stone YMCA Alumni Chapter, we were able to make new friends, visit the beautiful city of Coeur d'Alene and explore the river at Post Falls, Idaho. Many of the 20 participants knew each other well, however, newcomers were welcomed warmly. I brought along **Anita Stokes** my roommate from college in Missouri. **Bea Halk** who is a member of Marston, McCoy and Allen Stone, brought her friend **Lisa Betterson**, a fellow Marston member.

Rich Wallis and team put together an interesting combination of activities including hiking Tubbs Hill in McEuen park and exploring the downtown art galleries. We especially appreciated the Post River Falls area with full rivers and green grass. In the evenings, we enjoyed a sunset dinner cruise on Lake Coeur d'Alene and dinner at Cedar's Restaurant. Planning has begun for a trip in 2023!



We Remember some friends from Allen-Stone chapter

John Mistkawi passed away peacefully on June 27th. He was 88. John attended Springfield College in Massachusetts and later attended Willamette University in Salem, Oregon where he graduated in 1964. While at Willamette he worked at the Salem YMCA. He met his wife Judy working at the YMCA Camp Silver Creek. In 1967, John received a master's from Springfield College. John and Judy then moved to Berkeley, Calif., where John worked as the Senior Program Director for the Berkeley YMCA. In 1968, John returned to Salem where he became the Executive Director of the Salem Family YMCA, retiring in 1997.



Mike Ellis passed away on July 30th from pancreatic cancer. Mike was a special guy in the YMCA... Sri Lanka YMCA as a world service worker. Independent YMCA's -- Tillamook, Oregon and YMCA of USA as well. Affecting many many people communities and YMCA's. Michael was an avid adventurer too. At Seabeck last year he presented his adventure of climbing to base camp at Mt Everest with both pictures and tidbits on life there. He was writing stories too for his grandchildren and helped on the Volunteer Committee for the National Service Project building tiny homes at the Sioux YMCA now known as the YMCA of Seven Council Fires. Mike was as active as he could be. Mike did so much and continued to do so, even though a freak accident on his daily bike ride -- 50 miles plus a day-- put him in a wheelchair.

Member News

Lanny and Jackie Couvillon (Novato, CA) Lanny and a group of Mount Diablo YMCA Alum's get together once or twice a year for lunch at Perry's on Union Street in San Francisco. The Covid Pandemic caused a few get togethers to be cancelled, but five met recently for fun and fellowship. Pictured are: **Tom Martin, Lanny Couvillon, Terri Texeira, Mike Maxwell, and Bud Sheble.** **Greg O'Brien** was planning on attending but had to cancel because he came down with Covid.



Dave and Joyce Mercer (Vancouver, WA) "We spent 3 weeks cruising the Great Lakes in late June and July. Sailed all lakes but Superior. It was a super trip. We also spent 3 days in Ashland with sister and brother-in-law Jane and Curt. Leaving in August for 2 weeks down the Ohio River. It has been a busy summer but lots of fun."



Joanne and Bill Newton (Orangevale, CA) Joanne reports "I, with our daughter and granddaughter went to Louisiana for 1 week in May for the Philbrook family reunion (Bill stayed home). On returning home our flight was canceled 3 times-spent 1 night at the airport and 2 nights with a niece in New Orleans. Our dog, Tosha, had a rough time on July 4th in spite of medication so Bill slept on the floor with her till midnight. In August we go to Mendocino for Bill's family reunion. Last year Bill had to renew his driver's license and due to the Covid, no tests were given and his license is good for 5 more years. I have to take the test this month!!!!

Donna Roper (Guerneville, CA) "Earlier this year, I spent a couple of weeks in Prince Edward Island where many of my relatives still reside. Beautiful country and great food!"

Prince Edward Island is the setting for the "Anne of Green Gables" books and movies.



Member News (cont.)

Sally and Fred Stickney (Moraga, CA) Sally reports " Wehave enjoyed a fun summer. A trip to Michigan to see Fred's cousins was a highlight. Fred and his cousin Ken went to



YMCA camp Hayowenta on Torch Lake for many years, thanks to their grandfather Fred B. Freeman who was a YMCA Director. Lots of memories of their childhood. We enjoyed staying on Sugar Island near Sault St. Marie,

near Canada and visiting cousins in East Lansing too. Our biggest news is that we are GreatGrandparents to Ella Jean Gentry, born in Austin, Texas on June 28th. Looking forward to holding her, when we visit in September

Bud and Pam Sheble (Belmont, CA), **Larry and Erlene Benevento** (Visalia, CA), **Kathy Catanho and Dave Eakin** (Castro Valley, CA), & **Marshall Pike** (Red Bluff, CA). **Bud** and **Larry** organized a reunion of their Camp Staff from the late 60s to early 70s in June. Bud was the Director of **YMCA Camp Loma Mar** and Larry was his Program Director. Using friends, connections, and social media, they managed to find and gather about 25 alums of that wonderful time to spend the day reminiscing and having fun. Many of the people, now in their 70s, hadn't been together in 50 years! The highlight was the after lunch "Campfire Session" with everyone participating in the skits and songs they remembered doing with kids at camp during their camp staff days. Five couples who met during that time later married – truly the "summer of love". Bud and Larry noted that Camp Loma Mar needed to raise \$60,000 to undertake the task of rebuilding the Campfire Bowl and Stage, which Bud remembered helping to rebuild as a volunteer 60 years previously. So the group decided to take on the project. They raised amongst themselves a total of \$53,000 in funding and \$10,000 in donated labor. Everyone will reunite again next year to see the finished project.



Group before lunch. **Marshall Pike** on far left, **Bud Sheble** far right



Larry Benevento and **Kathy Catanho** with help from **Annie Casey** (came down from Washington) on guitar led the singing



Back Row: **Dave Eakin**, **Kathy Catanho**, **Bud and Pam Sheble**, **Matt Sheble** (son) and **Erlene Benevento**



Bud Sheble leads group in "Little Cabin in the Woods". Yes, they sang all the corny camp songs!

Your news could have been here too!
Next time send it to Pam Sheble –
pamsheble@comcast.net



Treasurer's Report

By Chris Logan
Treasurer



The following is the report as of June 30, 2022.

March 31st Beginning Balance \$6097.81

Income

Dues and Contributions \$100.00

Total Income \$100.00

Expense

Newsletter -\$477.96

Office Supplies \$15.00

Total Expenses -\$492.96

March 31 Ending Balance - \$5,704.85

For the first quarter of 2022 we received \$100 from one donation. Direct donations to the McCoy chapter are always welcome.

Send to: Chris Logan, 126 E. Charleston Road, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

If you have not renewed for 2022, payments may be made either online at <https://www.ymcaalumni.org> or mailed to:

YMCA Alumni

Attn: Bob Hastedt, Treasurer

P.O. Box 120989

Staten Island, NY 10312-0989

Be sure to reference the McCoy Chapter. Thanks!

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Logan, Treasurer

Chris



'Let the good times roll...' Nov. 2-4, 2022

Now is the time to make plans to join us at YMCA Alumni Reunion '22 in New Orleans, Louisiana Nov. 2-4, 2022. Reunion registration and hotel booking is open. Register separately for each.

Make the decision to be with us in November when the weather is still comfortable in America's most unique and exciting city. Connect again...

Please go to www.ymcaalumni.org for more information and registration materials.

Important Websites to Checkout:

Y Alumni Website:

<https://ymcaalumni.org>



Y Alumni newsletter is mailed to Y Alumni members 8 times a year. Go to above website and join now.

Y Alumni Travel Club:

<http://www.ymcaalumnitavelclub.org>

YMCA Retirement Fund Website:

<http://www.yretirement.org/default.aspx>

Online readers click below:

[McCoy Chapter Alumni FaceBook Page](#)

Printed copy readers go to:
www.facebook.com and search for
McCoy Chapter Alumni.



Dear Fellow Alumni:

The Covid pandemic continues to impact our alumni and health issues, loss of jobs, and financial challenges abound. As you might imagine, giving to EAF by Y Alumni across the country and here in the McCoy Chapter has dropped off. I want to thank everyone who helped us get off to a great start for 2022. You can rest assured that your generous support will make a big difference to many. I would also like to invite those of you who may not have had the opportunity to make your gift, to do so now. You can go online to the YMCA Alumni website, <https://ymcaalumni.org>, or you can call me at 408 206-5933 and I will send you a pledge form and you can pay by check or with credit card. You can also pay monthly online if you prefer. Please make sure that you list the McCoy Chapter when making your gift and mention that it is for the year 2022. Thank you for your help. It is deeply appreciated.

Ron

EAF Liaison - Ron Markillie
ronmarkillie@comcast.net



Shakespeare Festival 2022

submitted by: Sally Stickney



Pictured: Nanci Morris, Tom Horsley, Cheri Brennan, Dave Mercer, Fred Stickney, Joyce Mercer, Peter Morris, Caroline Brooks, Bob Brooks, Sally Stickney, and Dan & Ann Nische.

The YMCA Shakespeare group of 16 attendee's had a super time. We saw two plays, "Unseen", a drama set in a Middle Eastern country, with a story of a photographer with her issues around the war going on and her emotional feelings with a friend and her mother. The second play, a musical called "Once on This Island", was about Haiti and families. Good music and very theatrical with dance, singing and laughter. Both were new plays and were very different. When we saw these productions, they still needed some fine tuning. Our group enjoyed discussing what we thought of the plays.

The snow in the mountains during that time, made it impossible for us to visit the new Ashland YMCA camp, which is located on the road to Crater Lake.

We found lots to enjoy around town, with the great restaurants and our fun visit to Dana Campbell Vineyard and tasting room. Our social room at the Holiday Inn provided time to gather and spend evenings sharing updates on our lives, etc. Many thanks for Peter and Nanci Morris and their leadership and great hosting.

Fred and I had the experience of a snow whiteout, as we drove south on I 5 up to Mt. Ashland and then blue skies on the other side. It was a springtime experience of rain, sunshine and snow flurries.

Happy Anniversary

Congratulations and best wishes to the following couples:

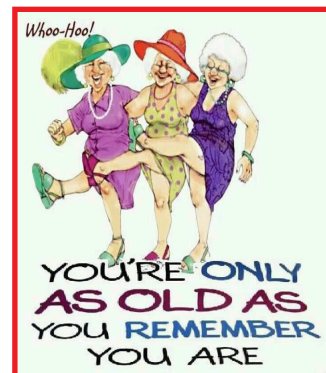
69 Years		
Arnie & Jody Leonard		Sept 12
68 Years		
Maria & Robert Garcia		Oct 17
64 Years		
Dave & Joyce Mercer		Aug 23
63 Years		
Carl and Mary DuBois		Nov 22
61 Years		
Fred & Sally Stickney		Sept 24
59 Years		
Robin D. & Ann McDonald		Aug 2
Bud & Pam Sheble		Aug 31
55 Years		
Lanny & Jackie Couvillon		Sept 8
53 Years		
Larry & Erlene Benevento		Sept 20
52 Years		
Don & Sallie Huebner		Aug 8
Don & Rosella Zerwer		Sept 26
49 Years		
Dave & Mary Alice Thornton		Sept 17
34 Years		
Eli & Barbara Cardenas		Aug 8
Greg & Chris O'Brien		Aug 22
23 Years		
Bill & Sherry Hubartt		Oct 9
Rod & Ellie Carpenter		Oct 23
22 Years		
Jim Daughn & Joan Dove		Sept 30
9 Years		
Terri Texeira & Sherry Wright		Sept 1

We would really like to acknowledge all wedding anniversary dates and birthdays, so please give us yours next time you pay your dues or send the information to Pam Sheble at 2730 Sequoia Way, Belmont, CA 94002 or via email at

pamsheble@comcast.net



Sharon Gish	Aug 7
Joyce Starr	Aug 10
Connie Pemberton	Aug 11
Jan Gaeden	Aug 12
Dave Mercer	Aug 14
Sallie Stickney	Aug 15
Erlene Benevento	Aug 18
Ann McDonald	Aug 19
John Youngberg	Aug 20
Don Anderson	Aug 21
Mary DuBois	Aug 21
Bea Halk	Aug 22
Bill Hubartt	Aug 22
Marilyn Hennessey-Libers	Aug 25
Ginny Sprague	Aug 26
Hank Bagelmann	Aug 28
Joanne Newton	Sept 2
Karleen Monroe	Sept 3
Jody Leonard	Sept 5
Robin McDonald	Sept 17
Pearl Carpenter	Sept 25
Bill Newton	Sept 25
Marshall Pike	Sept 29
Jim Daughn	Oct 5
Edith Stratman	Oct 5
Yee-ling Fong	Oct 7
Jo Bagelmann	Oct 9
Donna Roper	Oct 12
Jan Greer	Oct 16
Jan Dale	Oct 19
Eileen Murray	Oct 22
Mike Murphy	Oct 26
Chris Logan	Oct 27
Bruce Ahlquist	Oct 28
Tracy Muckey	Oct 29
Greg O'Brien	Oct 30
Chris O'Brien	Nov 4
Ron Markillie	Nov 8
John Boore	Nov 9
Don Zerwer	Nov 14
Steve Rogers	Nov 17
Madelaine Stiver	Nov 18
Jerry James	Nov 22
Dee Bright	Nov 23
Rosella Zerwer	Nov 27
Sally Huebner	Nov 28
Pat Bergthold	Nov 30





JOIN US AT SEABECK THIS FALL

A Joint Allen-Stone - McCoy Retreat

You are invited to join with members of the Allen-Stone Chapter for 3 days of fun and learning at this beautiful retreat. Please go to www.seabeck.org to view the spectacular setting and facilities. The conference will explore ways to "Keep on Learning" with special presenters at group sessions. So, take a road trip this fall and drive up to the beautiful Northwest or fly up (1 hour and 15 minutes from Seattle Airport) and join the fun! Call Tom Horsley at 206-617-5590 for more information. Our board member **Bob Smeenk** has been attending for the past 7 years and says "A warm, welcoming group. A well planned conference with a variety of activities and presentations. You will also find it helpful in acquiring new information about the Y".

SEABECK REGISTRATION (Sept 12-14, 2022) Return by September 3, Program Start 4pm September 12. End lunch September 14.

Name _____ Spouse/partner _____ (if attending)

Phone: Email: _____

Phone: Email: _____

Address _____

City St Zip _____

We will be staying in the new Pines building for lodging and sessions.

Full registration (two nights lodging, six meals) _____ @ \$230

One day registration (one night, three meals) _____ @ \$115

Day only (three meals) ____ @ \$35 Amt

TOTAL Enclosed \$ _____

Special needs or request _____

Check Payable to: Allen Stone Y Alumni

Mail to: Tom Horsley 2608 -175th Ave NE

Redmond, WA 98052

Phone: (206) 617-5590

thomaschorsley@outlook.com



We Remember...

Dale Eugene Ventres

March 30, 1928 - June 15, 2022

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Dale E. Ventres passed away June 15, 2022 at Plymouth Village in Redlands California. He was 94 years of age. Dale was born March 30, 1928 in Canton IL. to Ernest and Phyllis Ventres of Clinton, IA. Dale had one brother, Robert Lee Ventres, who preceded him in death.

As a youth, even during the depression era, Dale's parents provided Dale and Robert with private music lessons. Dale playing the trombone and Robert the Trumpet. Dale would later play in local bands and won an award at a state solo contest. Dale enlisted and served in the Marine Corps from 1946 to 1948. He was a member of the U.S. Marine Corps band at Camp Pendleton, CA.

Dale's first job was at the YMCA in Clinton doing odd jobs. He exchanged the work for membership at the Y. He later took boxing lessons there. For many years during the Summers, he would attend Y camp Blackhawk at Maquoketa, IA. It was there at the age of 12 he decided he wanted to become a YMCA Secretary (Later the title was changed to Director).

He was hired by the Hollywood YMCA on November 1, 1949. It would begin a YMCA career that would last 36 years and would take him to California Y's in Hollywood, Highland Park, Eagle Rock, Wilshire, Fontana and Redlands. He was also a long time Rotarian serving in many capacities in the organization. After retiring from the Y in 1985 he began volunteer work with the YMCA's International Association of Retired Directors' Emergency Assistance Fund responsible for helping retired YMCA employees during emergencies. He was also active in the Rotary Club of Redlands and the Redlands Community Church.

Dale married Joanne (Jodie) Gammon on April 3, 1949 in Oceanside CA. Jodie preceded Dale in death in 2016. Dale was the father of Dana Ventres Larson of Astoria, Oregon, Christy Ventres Gorden, of Redlands, CA, and Scott Ventres of Geyserville, CA. He had 5 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Dale had requested there be no memorial service. He arranged for his remains to be donated to the Bodies for Science program at Loma Linda University.