

SOUTHERN PACIFIC NEWSLETTER
Edited by Bill Fowler
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David Cornwall King
1935 ~ 2022

Dave, who lived in Belmont, California, passed peacefully from this life to the next on July 31, 2022 at the age of 87.

Dave was born in 1935 and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia. He graduated from the University of British Columbia with a degree in civil engineering.

Before joining Southern Pacific, Dave worked for Canadian National and Missouri Pacific. He also obtained an advanced degree from the University of California at Berkely. His career with Southern Pacific was centered around operations. He was an operating officer in Oregon and Arizona before coming to the general office building to work on operations planning and computer modeling. He was based in Denver during the final years of his Southern Pacific career.

Dave enjoyed twenty-five years of retirement before passing. He loved trains, jazz music, and travel, particularly to Paris. He is survived by Darline, his wife of sixty years; two children; five grandchildren; and three great grandchildren.

Editor's request: When changing email addresses, please send your new address to billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org.



Harding Joseph Rome Jr.
December 19, 1947 ~
September 12, 2022

Harding Joseph Rome Jr., of Houston, Texas, beloved husband, father, grandfather, and friend, died on September 12, 2022. Harding was born in Houma, Louisiana, on December 19, 1947, graduated from Louisiana State University and then joined the USMC. After leaving the USMC, he earned his law degree from the University of Houston and practiced law for over forty years, mainly while working for Southern Pacific/Union Pacific.

Harding was an avid reader, cyclist, car enthusiast, aviator, and world traveler. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; his daughters, Aimee and Reagan (J. D.); his stepsons, Dan (Jenny), and William (Haley); four grandchildren; as well as other family members and countless friends.



Jose Rolando Renazco
August 27, 1931 ~ October 3,
2022

Jose Rolando Renazco of Sacramento, California, and 91 years old, passed away on October 3rd, 2022 peacefully in his home of thirty years after a long battle with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Rolando Jose Renazco-Carcamo was born on August 27, 1931 in Managua, Nicaragua to Concepcion Carcamo and Paula Renazco. The

name change would come later in life when he would come to the United States in the 1960s. Before coming to the states, he completed a fifth grade education, learned/worked in various trades and was mostly known as a taxi driver. After starting a family and having two children (Rolando and Bertha), he made a sudden life change when he decided to join his mother Paula on her way to the United States. Upon arriving in San Francisco, he applied to work for Southern Pacific on a tip from a family friend. He was assigned to the railyards near the Cow Palace. He overcame racism and racial isolation for years and went on to work for Southern Pacific for twenty-five years.

He was abruptly laid off by Southern Pacific in the 1970s and then worked in various areas such as concrete finishing, plumbing, house painting, carpentry, electrical installation, machining parts, and detailing cars.

In 1990, Southern Pacific called him back to work. He moved to Sacramento and bought the house where he would live until the end of his life. He retired from Southern Pacific in the late 1990s.

Jose is survived by five children, Rolando, Bertha, James, Allan, and Daisy; fourteen grandchildren, Annalisa, Ella, Jacob, Lola, Grayson, Jeni, Karen, James Jr, Juliet, Amanda, Ernie, Amalia, Jose Luis, and Arceli; and fifteen great-grandchildren.



Fred G. Huizar
December 31, 1931 ~ August 25, 2022

Fred G. Huizar, having lived a long and wonderful ninety years of life, passed on August 25, 2022, from pancreatic cancer at his home in Sacramento, California surrounded by love and support of his family.

Fred was a native Sacramentan and graduated from Sacramento High School in 1951. During his lifetime, Fred proudly served in the United States Army from 1953 to 1955 as a corporal stationed in Korea. He also served as a medical

company sergeant in the U.S Army National Guard from 1955 to 1959. During his service he completed a four-year machinist apprenticeship with Southern Pacific, where he went on to work as a machinist for the next 43 years, until he reluctantly retired in November 1993.

His love of football inspired him to coach at both St. Joseph's and St. Anne's Elementary Schools and he proudly served his community as a past president of the Mexican American Educational Association, which sought to provide education assistance to the Hispanic community. He also remained an active 55-year Life Member of the Sacramento Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, Lodge No. 6.

Fred is survived by his loving wife of thirty-one years, Carolyn Huizar; his children, Cristine Fernandez, Beverly Huizar-Goelz, and Craig Huizar, as well as their related families. He loved with deep affection, his many nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, who will remember him fondly as Uncle Fred and Poppy.

He peacefully departed to reunite with his ex-wife of twenty-five years, Mary Helen Huizar; mother, Amelia; father, Augustine; brothers, Louis, Edward and Augustine; sisters; Lupe and Lucy; and finally with the close friends he affectionately regarded as family.



Roy "Ike" Peterson
1937 ~ 2022

God sent down his angels to take Roy "Ike" Petersen home on September 30, 2022, at the age of 85, in Lodi, California after fighting a brave battle with dementia.

He was preceded in death by parents Sylvine and Kenneth "Ike" Petersen. Ike is survived by beloved wife Karen; his children Tony (Beth) Petersen, Andy (Susan) Petersen, Krista (Sean) Haas; sisters Pattie (Nick) Sciola, Sylvine Bean; grandchildren Andy, Nikki, Tyler, Katie, Taylor, Luke, and Logan; as well as many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Ike was born in Lewiston, Idaho and raised in Spokane, Washington, where he attended Gonzaga Preparatory School. He graduated from Humboldt State as a member of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity and was an accomplished athlete in both baseball and football. While attending Humboldt State, he met and married the love of his life of 58 years, Karen, who remembers fondly his charismatic personality and even better dance moves.

Ike's thirty-eight-year career with Southern Pacific took him and his family of five many places, including Redding, California; Truckee, California; Klamath Falls, Oregon; Pine Bluff, Arkansas; and Stockton, California, where he remained living in Lodi, California after retirement. Although working for Southern Pacific was his occupation, he considered being a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather as his most important job, never missing a dance recital or sporting event where his voice from the stands could be heard over all others. Later in life he dedicated his time helping take care of his beloved grandchildren who gave him the title "Hotdog."

Ike had an infectious personality that would soon turn any stranger into a friend whether that be at Denny's, his early morning breakfast spot; Lockeford Springs Golf Course, where he not only played golf but loved to walk the greens and fix divots; or on his long walks with Ginger, his furry four-legged companion. He was a friend to all. Family vacations, traveling throughout the country to visit family, and trips to Lake Tahoe were some of Ike's most cherished memories.

Ike, Hotdog, the self-proclaimed "Last Viking," was deeply loved and will be missed by all.



William T. "Tiger" Lyons
December 25, 1936 ~
August 9, 2022

William "Tiger" Lyons passed away peacefully at the age of 85 with his family at his bedside in Victorville, California on August 9, 2022. William was born in Columbus, Ohio to Charlene

Bradley & William J. Lyons before moving to California.

William, also known as "Bill or Tiger" to his friends and family started his career working for Southern Pacific in 1955. Tiger spent his entire Southern Pacific career on the Los Angeles division, and retired from his railroad family in 2014 closing a 59-year career, 55 of those being a railroad conductor. William is survived by his brother Raymond Bradley, and three sons, William, Richard, and James all of whom live in the high desert of southeastern California.



Floyd Gene Keen
March 20, 1930 ~ October 5,
2022

Floyd lived in Redding, California and was born in Fowler, Colorado to Robert Earl Keen and Lillie Mae Cox. He had three brothers and two sisters. The family moved to Gridley, California in 1939, and he later attended Gridley High School.

He started working for the Southern Pacific in 1951 and retired as a roadmaster in 1984. Floyd married the love of his life, Wanda on September 1, 1950. They were parted by her death in February 2019. They had four daughters, Malinda and Larry Shira of Shingletown, California, Velda and Mervin Burke of Redding, Wanda and Richard Kellogg of Redding, and Truvon and Bill Butcher of Wisconsin. Floyd had eight grandchildren and twenty-one great grandchildren.

He was a member of the Redding Moose Lodge and Shasta Travelers. Floyd was the backbone of his family and loved by everyone who knew him.



Eugene "Gene" Peter Reilly
September 11, 1945 ~
October 24, 2022

Eugene "Gene" Peter Reilly, 77, of Highlands Ranch, Colorado, passed away peacefully at home on October 24, 2022,

surrounded by loved ones. Gene tackled his recent cancer diagnosis as he dealt with many experiences in his life: he managed his illness with strength and courage and wanted to spend as much time with loved ones as possible. His family is grateful that they were able to spend so much time with him over the past six months.

Gene graduated from San Jose State University and went on to lead a successful career in the railroad industry for over 35 years, including being chief engineer of Southern Pacific. In his spare time, Gene loved being outdoors and on the river fly fishing, traveling, spending time with his family, playing games with his kids and grandkids, and volunteering at the local Orvis shop teaching fly tying and casting lessons.

He was a sweet and loving partner to his wife, Rose, for over 51 years, as well as a supportive and loving father to his children, Jeanne (and spouse Jason), Mike, Suzy (and spouse Jonathan), and Jason (and spouse Angie), and an amazing Grampy to his grandchildren Eliza and Alex.

Wanted: Oral histories of former Southern Pacific System employees. If you wish to contribute, please contact Bill Fowler at billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org.