



## CURTIS MARTIN ALLEN

May 3, 1957 - January 3, 2018

Curt M. Allen, died at his home in Grass Valley, CA, on January 3, 2018. He was 60.

A brilliant electronics engineer and holder of many patents, his achievements included the invention of a ground-penetrating radar device that can detect human respiration and heartbeat through two feet of concrete. He was thus a designated First Responder who was flown from Santa Barbara, California, where he resided at the time, (on one of only two aircraft in the nation that were not grounded—the other being Air Force One with President George W. Bush onboard), to the scene of the horrific disaster in New York City of 9-11-2001. As a result of his heroic participation in the rescue efforts, he was one of those honored by the President at a special gathering.

For twenty years Curt worked at the Santa Barbara Research Center of Space Technology Labs under a joint venture of Lockheed-Martin and EG&G. Prior to that he worked at Hewlett-Packard in Colorado. As a member of the Baha'i Faith, he served for a period of some months as a volunteer at the Baha'i World Center in Haifa, Israel.

At the time of his passing Curt had been suffering for several years from chronic maladies that defied diagnosis and treatment. Nonetheless, in the last years of his retirement he provided kind companionship and care for his

elderly mother and enjoyed serving at the Center of the Arts in Grass Valley, where he was designated a Volunteer of the Year. He also found joy in assisting locally with Wildlife Rescue.

He is survived by his mother Terri Allen, of Grass Valley; his father Donald P. Allen, of Redwood City, CA; his sister Leslie A. Platner, of Mountain View, CA; his brother Paul D. Allen, of Emerald Hills, CA; and their extended families. In lieu of purchasing flowers, the family requests that donations go to Nevada County Food Bank: <https://foodbankofnc.org>.

# Previous Events

## GRAVESIDE

JAN 12. 1:00 PM (PT)

CLEAR CREEK CEMETERY  
17676 MCCOURTNEY ROAD  
GRASS VALLEY, CA 95949

# Tribute Wall

MB

“ I worked side by side with Curtis in Santa Barbara. I counted him as the most respectful, thoughtful, memorable and knowledgeable of the coworkers there. I sincerely believe that a person could have gathered a handful of discrete electronic components, thrown them on the floor, and then told Curtis what they wanted him to build, and he would have built it. And it would have worked the first time it was powered on.

*Until today I thought he was still creating electronic magic. Now I know he was needed elsewhere. I wish all his family and friends comfort in knowing that he was a friend and a man with a heart, kindness and common sense beyond measure.*

*Rest in peace dear friend. I miss you.*

*Mark Bouscaren  
Lompoc, CA*

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**Mark Bouscaren** - August 11, 2022 at 08:34 PM

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“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Beth** - January 10, 2018 at 10:54 PM