



MELVIN MILTON PINENTEL

February 18, 1935 - January 14, 2016

Melvin “Mel” Pimentel, Mickey Mouse’s most ardent and loyal fan, died suddenly and peacefully at home Jan. 14, 2016 with his cherished wife Joan of 48 years by his side.

Mel lived a full life as a husband, father, brother, grandfather and friend. He raised six children, admired 13 grandchildren and was blessed with seven great-grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by his family, cousins, and a multitude of loyal friends. Mel was employed at Charles Krug Winery for 25 years; he began in the days of Robert and Peter Mondavi. He was an active member of several organizations in his beloved community, Lake of the Pines. He often spoke of his many fond memories with the Pinesmen, Sirs, hiking club: Wanderlust, The Follies and other local theatre. Mel filled up a room with his booming voice, hearty laughter and chiding logic. No subject was off limits for discussions or passionate debate.

He helped create indelible memories for his children: Christmas Eve celebrations until midnight, and 4th of July from dawn until dusk. As Dad, “Mel” always insisted, “It’s never good-bye but see you later!”

Through gifts and tokens of love he amassed a large collection of Mickey Mouse memorabilia; toy cars and photographs. He celebrated his 60 birthday in Disneyland, as he began his trek to live a childhood filled with magic and

wonder.

He loved family gatherings, get-togethers with friends, acting, hiking, bocce ball and golf. At home Mel liked to “putter” (his word for working outdoors), adding to his garden, repairing items or building a shed or birdhouses. Mel soon found it was tough to keep these birdhouses full, due to those pesky squirrels. He would carefully and humanely trap the squirrels (the thieving, uninvited squirrels), then lovingly relocate each one to their new grandpa approved home — the “Squirrel Sanctuary” behind the fire house.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 24 at the Lake of the Pines Clubhouse, 11665 Lakeshore North Auburn, CA 95602.

Arrangements are under the care of Chapel of the Angels Mortuary.