



Thomas Allen Sunde

MAY 8, 2024



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FUNERAL HOME, MEMORIAL PARK & CREMATORY

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Thomas Allen Sunde

MAY 8, 2024

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Thomas Allen Sunde on May 08, 2024. Thomas Allen Sunde, known as Allen or Al, of Belmont, California, transitioned peacefully in his home on Wednesday, the 8th of May, 2024.

Allen was born Allen Lee Lund in 1943 in Lunds Valley, North Dakota. He was adopted and lovingly raised by Trygve and Thelma Sunde with his brother, Truman Sunde, in Hannah, North Dakota, near the U.S.-Canada border. He received his education in a quaint schoolhouse in Hannah before becoming a boarding student at Oak Grove High School in Fargo.

After completing high school, Allen attended Concordia College in Moorhead, North Dakota, with his brother Truman (Carole). He joined the Air Force shortly thereafter and was stationed as a Radar Operator in Crescent City, California. Following his service, he relocated to San Jose, CA, where he met his beloved wife, Elizabeth Vargas Sunde. They married in San Salvador in January, 1969 and shared 55 incredibly loving years of marriage. They settled in Belmont, blessed with two daughters: Lisa Marie Sunde and Kristen Lynn Sunde (Paul Trask).

Allen dedicated 33 years of his professional life to United Airlines, where he worked as a Lead Rampservice and DTS Station Fueling Trainer — impacting the lives of innumerable United rampservice men and women throughout the '70s, '80s, and '90s. He always helped the little guy, and if he saw someone struggling, he was their biggest champion.

His contributions within his department were significant. In the 1980s he developed early computer programs for the ramp at San Francisco International Airport (SFO). In 1994, when the Boeing 777 debuted, he became the go-to specialist for United fueling teams in handling fueling and safety requirements. He's accredited by his peers for his systematic training approach which guided the global standard for Fueling Safety and Operations within United Airlines.

Allen left behind a legacy of professionalism, kindness, mentorship, and dedication to specialized skills when he retired in 2002.



Obituary

Thomas Allen Sunde

In addition to his career at United Airlines, Allen enjoyed his expertise as a computer programmer, tax accountant, and machinist. He was a member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers. His love of travel took him and Elizabeth to many destinations worldwide. He was as passionate about U.S. history, geography, current events, and the American experience as he was about aeronautics. He was obsessed with Jeopardy! He delighted in puzzles, crosswords, cards, and gaming of many varieties. Allen was active in the charitable community of the Maria Goretti Auxiliary, an organization dedicated to assisting those in need in El Salvador. In most recent years, Allen and Elizabeth were active members of the Sons of Norway, Vigeland Lodge of Redwood City.

As a father, Allen found joy and took immense pride in his two daughters. He supported their interests and was always amused and present to their creative endeavors. He cherished his daughters deeply and held them close to his heart.

Allen Sunde will be most remembered for his unwavering commitment to family and tradition. After 60 years of researching his lineage, he discovered his birth mother, Alice Lund (d.1992). In 2003 he was lovingly united with his Lund family, discovering he had several siblings and countless members of extended family. Allen couldn't believe the blessing of finding his birth family in his lifetime. For the past two decades, learning about his blood relations became his favorite pastime. He was filled with gratitude and awe for this beautiful turn of events, made possible by Google and the gentle encouragement of Elizabeth.

In his passing, Allen leaves behind a profound legacy rooted in tradition: a deeply spiritual reverence for family, a devotion to his beloved Elizabeth, an effortless integrity, a commitment to respecting and understanding history, a strong sense of citizenship and patriotism, and an admiration for human ingenuity and technological inventions. His love, dedication, and values will continue to inspire and guide his wife, Elizabeth, his daughters, Lisa and Kristen, his son-in-law, Paul, his siblings, Debbie, Pam, David, Valorie, Margo, and Tamara, as well as his many nephews, nieces, cousins, and their numerous children ... and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

All services will be held at:

Skylawn Memorial Park
Route 35 @ Highway 92



Obituary

Thomas Allen Sunde

San Mateo

May 21st Tuesday

3:30pm – 7:00pm Visitation | Skylawn Pacific Chapel

May 22nd Wednesday

10:00am – 12:00pm Allen's Life Celebration | Skylawn Pacific Chapel

12:00pm Burial | Veterans Garden XIV

1:00pm – 4:00pm Luncheon Reception | Skylawn Funeral Home

Please rsvp to the services at <https://everloved.com/life-of/t-allen-sunde/>

In lieu of flowers, the Sunde family kindly suggests donations to one of Allen's favorite charities listed below:

Caritas Creek

Changing the world one kid at a time

<https://www.caritascreek.org/donate>

The Salvation Army

Meeting human needs without discrimination and with full transparency

<https://give.salvationarmyusa.org/give>

Map Link: <https://www.skylawnmemorialpark.com/download/175740/SkylawnPropertyMap.pdf>

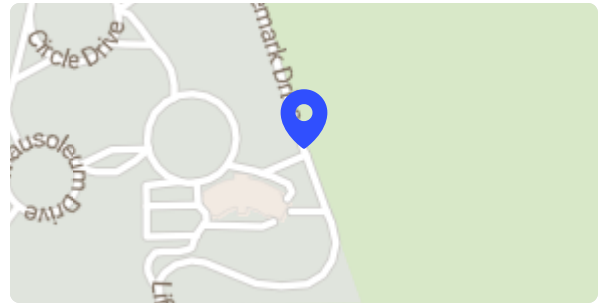


Visitation

Tuesday, May 21, 2024

3:00 PM - 7:00 PM PT

Skylawn Funeral Home and Crematory
888 LifeMark Road, Half Moon Bay CA 94019

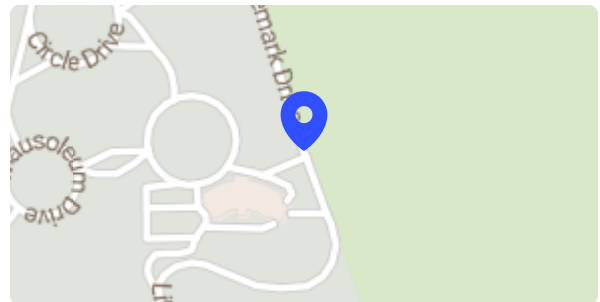


Funeral Service

Wednesday, May 22, 2024

10:00 AM PT

Skylawn Funeral Home and Crematory
888 LifeMark Road, Half Moon Bay CA 94019



Cemetery Details

Skylawn Memorial Park
Hwy 92 at Skyline Blvd., San Mateo CA 94402

(650) 227-3142





Tribute Wall

Thomas Allen Sunde



Tim Sunde posted:

GRATEFUL Uncle Al, thanks soooo much for hopping in when dad died. You went way over the top reorganizing all the finances and getting a clear picture of our parents were positioned. This was the single biggest gift we received. thank you, -timmy

May 20 at 5:03 AM



Lisa Sunde shared a photo to the **Dad** album.



May 19 at 7:03 PM



Phyllis M Iverson posted:

You came into my life so unexpectedly and made it so much better. You were a joy to be around. I felt like I knew you forever. God Bless you Allen, and God Bless Elizabeth, Lisa, and Kristan

May 17 at 4:36 PM



Anthony Snyder posted:

We will always have joyous and fond memories of get togethers at the house. Laughing and talking about Family and Sports and everything. His presence was always warm and hospitable. I am forever grateful that he made my 65th Bday Party and enjoyed the Family & Friends, Music and Food. And he loved the Craft Beer. LOL. Rest in Peace. Lovingly, Anthony and Vivi..

May 17 at 6:37 AM



Media

Thomas Allen Sunde



Lisa Sunde shared a photo to the Dad album.

May 19 at 7:03 PM



Allen Sunde 1945



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Thomas by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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