



Memorial Service for Professor Emeritus James D. Perrizo



James David Perrizo passed from this world on December 4th, 2010 at age 71. He fought pancreatic cancer for over 8 months. In his last hours, he was surrounded by close family at his home in Hayward, California. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Helene, his three children, Teva, Rano and Melia, and four grandchildren.

James was born in Los Angeles, California on December 10, 1938 to Frances and Mary Ellen Perrizo. He was joined by siblings: Carol, Kathy, John, Patricia, and Joseph. They spent their early years running a farm and a movie theater in Oconto, Wisconsin. At the age of 18, James left Wisconsin to join the United States Navy. He trained at the NAVCAD Naval Academy in Pensacola, Florida and San Diego, CA and became a Naval Officer. He was a Naval Carrier and Helicopter Pilot and served from 1957 to 1969.

After his Naval career, he attended CSU Hayward and University of California, Berkeley, where he completed his AB, MA and MFA in Art. In 1964, he met Helene Martin. After a 6 month engagement and selling his motorcycle, they were married on August 1, 1964.

He flew as a pilot throughout most of his life, from his own Cargo Airline, Logging, Firefighting for CDF and elsewhere, News Reporting, Film and Movie, Tuna Boats to Animal Tracking in Alaska. He had a passion for flying that took him around the world.

He also continued his artwork and mentored students as a professor at California State University of Hayward. During his time as Department Chair, he helped to bring digital media to the art department there. He worked with large scale aluminum pieces that towered over him, bronze sculptures, performance art and other media. He used emerging techniques to bring his imagination to life.

He was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed boating, hunting, fishing, motorcycling and camping. In his retirement, he served the community by volunteering for the CHP, the Hayward Personnel Commission, and the Retired Public Employees' Association of California.

James was cremated on December 10, 2010, the same day he entered this world. A memorial service will be held on January 23, 2011 at 2 pm for friends and family at the Ballena Bay Yacht Club. It is located at 1550 Ballena Blvd in Alameda. His remains will be given back to the Pacific as was his wish. He was a deep thinker, a searcher, an explorer, a teacher, an aviator, an artist, and a good man. He will be missed by all of us.

If you wish to donate send to: VA Hospice Palo Alto, 3801 Miranda Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94304 or Kaiser Foundation Hospice Hayward, 30116 Eigenbrodt Way, Union City, CA 94587."