



## Olbert Eugene Lively

September 6, 1928 - October 18, 2009

Olbert Eugene Lively passed away peacefully in his Arnold, CA home with his family by his side. Born to George and Linnie Marie Lively in Sheldon, Missouri. His family moved to Porterville, CA in 1933 where he attended school. In 1946, he enlisted in the Army and served until being Honorably Discharged due to his father's diagnosis with cancer in 1948. He settled back in Porterville and began his long career in the lumber business by logging and working in the Springville area. He came to Ceres in 1949 to take a temporary position with Diamond Match Company that lasted 16 years. There he met his future partner, Rudy Strunk, with whom he left Diamond to build Valley Distributors, Inc. in Turlock. He enjoyed much success and made lifetime friends during his tenure in the lumber business. He retired in 1993 and sold Valley Distributors to his then partners, Danny Mendoza and Danny Vierra, in 1996. Gene's love of trees continued when after retirement, he convinced his loving wife Kaytee of 33 years to move to the mountains, trees and golf courses of Arnold, CA. They have resided there for the past 13 years. Gene enjoyed many hobbies from driving race cars, motorcycles, Jeeps and Big Berthas. His latest favorite was driving a bright orange 1927 Model T to various car shows and in parades around the state. He was a member of Sequoia Woods Country Club, Turlock Golf and Country Club, Past President of Denair Lions Club, Modesto 4 Wheelers, and various lumber associations. He is survived by his wife Kaytee; daughter Kelley Day, and her husband , Alan; grandchildren Austin, Mitchell and Rachel Day, Christin Clark Gomes,

Jonathan, Kaytlynn and Brooke Clark; great grandsons Mark and Kurtis Gomes; sister Juanita Waibl, Sister-in-law Arlene Linhares and her husband Gary; and many extended family members. Gene is preceded in death by son Kurtis Clark; and brother in law Johnny Waibl. A Memorial Service will be held at Turlock Funeral Home on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2009 at 11:00 am. Private interment will be held at San Joaquin Valley National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Vna Hospice of Sonora, P.O. Box 4805, Sonora, CA 95370 or Denair Education Foundation, P.O. Box 213, Denair, CA 95316.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Olbert Eugene Lively*

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January 28, 2023 at 09:01 AM