



BAILEY, ROBERT ORVILLE "BOB" Robert Orville "Bob" Bailey, a longtime resident & real estate broker in Santa Cruz County, died Tuesday at Sequoia Hospital after a long illness.

Active in the Aptos Chamber of Commerce from many years, Mr. Bailey received the Chamber's distinguished "Man of the Year Award" in 1997. He was recognized for his longtime commitment to the community of Aptos at an honorary dinner. "For many years Bob has been know as 'Mr. Aptos' and many referred to Rio del Mar Beach as Bob's beach. His presence in our community will be greatly

missed but his leadership and love of Aptos will live on," said Ms. Karen Hibble, Director of the Aptos Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Bailey was born December 8, 1924 in Napa, California. He is the son of Willis Arthur and Hazel Jane Bailey, a well-known elementary school teacher in Watsonville for several decades. Mr. Bailey had two sisters -Jean Dunnaway of Oregon and Margaret Hunter of Aptos, who are both deceased.

A 1943 graduate of Watsonville High School, Mr. Bailey also attended Salinas Junior College and San Jose State University. He served in the Navy in World War II from 1942 to 1946, and then settled in San Jose where he raised his family of five sons with Olive Ann Arnerich Bailey of Watsonville. Mr. Bailey was employed by Swanson Ford in Los Gatos for 10 years.

Mr. Bailey moved to Aptos with his family in 1967. He began his real estate career in 1974 by opening Bob Bailey Real Estate in the Redwood Village in Aptos. In typical fashion, Mr. Bailey voluntarily acted as property manager for Redwood Village to provide much needed attention and encourage restoration to its historic buildings. Sons Robert & Paul, joined their father soon thereafter and together built a team of 16 agents.

In 1982, Mr. Bailey established Bob Bailey Real Estate and Property Management Company on Aptos Beach Drive to concentrate on vacation rentals. He and wife Jan owned the company together and received the Aptos Chamber Business of the Year Award in 1991. "Bob had a heart of god and without fail backed his employees in difficult situations at work and in their personal lives. He led our team in creating a business that brings thousands into the Aptos area, the town that he loved so much," said office managers Gayle Hart and Dawn Hart. The Bailey family indicates that Bob Bailey Real Estate and Property Management Company will continue in its commitment to the community and tradition of high service to its clientele.

Mr. Bailey served on the Santa Cruz County Conference and Visitor Council's Community Relations Committee and Aptos Chamber Tourism Committee. He worked with the Sheriff's Department and the Community Enhancement Committee to clean up the Rio del Mar Beach Esplanade. He was a member of the Rio del Mar Improvement Association since 1967, and was a member of its board of directors.

Mr. Bailey was an Eagle Scout and Scoutmaster. He was a Shriner for 37 years, raising money to fight childhood diseases.

Mr. Bailey received the Golden Veteran award as a 50-year Mason, Pajaro Lodge #110, now the Soquel/ Pajaro Lodge, and a senior member DeMolay.

Mr. Bailey is survived by his wife, Jan Bailey of Aptos; his five sons, Kent of Oakland; Paul, Robert, Willis, and Michael, all of Aptos; grandchildren, Joe, Lisa, Willis, Tyler, Julie, Michael, Amy, and Nicholas, all of Aptos; stepchildren Yvonne Rovera of Santa Cruz, Ronnie Obertello Jr. of Hollister, Laura Helgueros of Aptos; and step grandchildren Garrett and Wyatt Rovera, Andy and Jennifer Obertello, and Armando and Ashlie Helgueros.

On Friday, August 21, from 4:30 to 7:00 pm at Mehl's Colonial Chapel, 222 East Lake Avenue in Watsonville a visitation will be open to the public, with a brief service to be held at 7 pm.

A celebration in tribute to Bob Bailey will be held on Saturday, August 22, from 4 to 7 pm in the Gold Room of Seascape Golf Lodge, 610 Clubhouse Drive in Aptos.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to S.S. Jeremiah O'Brien, Fort Mason Center, Building A, San Francisco, 94123. The S.S. Jeremiah currently docked in San Francisco, was the vessel on which Mr. Bailey served in World War II.