



Merle Leland Keller

July 21, 1940 - June 14, 2014

Merle L. Keller, best known as the Veterans Home's Santa Claus, passed away at the young age of 73. Merle battled a serious infection and related complications for several days before passing on June 14, 2014. Merle spent most of his life on the Sacramento River, living a free and wonderful life of hunting, fishing, and helping others. Working as a fishing guide, he taught many how to fish, navigate the river, and how to appreciate nature's simple pleasures. Merle spent his last 15 years at the Yountville Veterans Home. He spent time taking in the various activities, baseball games, and off-campus outings, but mostly making toys and moccasins for children. He gave the presents to local schools for the less fortunate children. Each year he would put on his Santa suit, and with the help of an elf or two, make the rounds at the Home passing out candy, love, hope, and the twinkle in his eye. Yes, Virginia, Santa really did live in Yountville.

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the album *Obituary Wall*



Treadway & Wigger Funeral Chapel & Crematory - February 05, 2020 at 09:26 AM



“ *Merle Leland Keller*

November 19, 2019 at 12:00 AM