



## Charles Bruce Wilson

August 2, 1932 - March 18, 2025

Charles Bruce Wilson passed away peacefully on March 18, 2025 at the age of 92. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends. Born on August 2, 1932 at Parks Victory Hospital, a 4th generation Napan to his parents Francis Brooks Wilson, Sr., and Dorothy Marion McKenzie Wilson Madigan.

Siblings: Francis Brooks Wilson, Jr., Nancy Conkright Courtney, Mary Donohoe, Helen Smernes, all predeceased.

Nieces & Nephew's: Bruce Conkright, Carolyn Hancock (deceased), Patrick Conkright, Mary Ellen Moskowite, Susan Blevins (deceased), Thomas Donohoe, Diane Williamson (deceased), Margaret Donohoe, Janice Magana (deceased), Jeanne Godwin, and Daniel (Nick) Smernes.

Born and raised in Napa. He preferred to be called Bruce. Bruce attended St. John's Catholic School, class of 1947. Napa Union High School, class of 1951. Chico State College, 1951-1953, 1956-1958. San Jose State University 1958-1962 with a BS degree in civil engineering in 1962, also MS degree in civil engineering in 1968.

Military Service: U.S. Army, July 1953-July 1955, Pfc Chemical Corps, served in Germany.

Career: Supervising Civil Engineer, Santa Clara Valley Water District 1962-1995, 32 years. A member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

San Jose State University Alumni Association, Spartan Foundation, and a parishioner in the Holy Spirit Catholic Church.

President of Cobb Mountain Hunting Club, 30 years. Editor of ARDEFACETS

(Santa Clara Valley Water District retirement group newsletter), 10 years.

Pioneer Award, Santa Clara Valley Water District.

Hobbies: 49er season ticket holder for 50 years, attended Super Bowl XVI in Detroit, and never missed a 49er home game in which Joe Montana started.

San Jose State Spartan football season ticket holder for 45 years.

He enjoyed crossword puzzles, vegetable gardening, photography, memoir and essay writing, collector of movie DVDs, having morning coffee at Maple Leaf Donut Shop in Almaden Valley with his friends, and monthly lunch with professional colleagues from the Santa Clara Valley Water District.

A Funeral Mass will be held at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, 960 Caymas Street, Napa, CA on Monday, April 7, at 1 pm.

Committal service and crypt placement to follow at Tulocay Cemetery, 411 Coombsville Road, Napa, CA at 2pm.

Celebration of Life to follow.

# Cemetery Details

## Tulocay Cemetery

411 Coombsville Rd  
Napa, CA 94558

# Previous Events

## Mass

APR 7. 1:00 PM - 1:45 PM (PT)

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church  
981 Napa St.  
Napa, CA 94559  
(707) 226-9379  
<http://www.stjb1858.com/>

## Burial

APR 7. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (PT)

Tulocay Cemetery  
411 Coombsville Rd  
Napa, CA 94558

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Charles Bruce Wilson.*



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April 05, 2025 at 12:02 AM



“ *Bruce was the kindest gentleman I ever knew. After Napa High we went our separate ways and reunited several years ago on a cruise to the Panama Canal where we shared our engineering background. RIP*

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**Joe Rodgers** - April 03, 2025 at 02:33 PM

DC

“ Bruce was already a well established engineer at the water district when I was hired as a junior engineer in 1980. I always enjoyed seeing him around in the hallways and at breaks in the cafeteria and hearing his stories about various projects that he had worked on. He was a respected engineer and, more than that, a faithful and dear friend to so many. He was one of the founding members of our retiree group, the Association of Retired District Employees (ARDE), and was always there with a smile every time he was able to attend our functions. In the early days, he was editor of our newsletter. More recently at our holiday Christmas luncheon, he brought me a listing of some jokes he had saved from many years of our water district newsletter. Since I would be welcoming the group, he asked me to read the jokes for everyone’s entertainment. I was a bit anxious about it and wanted to be sure it went well. Everyone really enjoyed hearing the jokes and laughed so hard. Afterwards he came over to me and said quietly “nice job Dave”. I was so pleased that he approved, although he wouldn’t have told me if he didn’t approve. He always was so gracious and well meaning and was such a pleasure to have known as a workmate, friend and mentor for 45 years. Everyone in our retiree group was always inspired by Bruce’s love of life and his warm hearted greetings each time we met. On behalf of our ARDE members, our sincere condolences to all of his dear family. Please know that Bruce was loved by so many coworkers at the Santa Clara Valley Water District. He will be missed.

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Dave Chesterman - March 31, 2025 at 06:04 PM