



Arthur Lee Turner

June 18, 1945 - June 20, 2025

Arthur Lee Turner, known to all as “Lee,” passed away on June 20, 2025, surrounded by his family at Enloe Hospital in Chico, just two days after his 80th birthday.

A lifelong resident of Corning, California, Lee dedicated his life to education, community service, church, and his beloved family.

Born on June 18, 1945, in Corning to Lola Lee Turner and Ross Miller Turner Jr., Lee grew up on his family’s olive ranch with his brother, Ross, and continued to tend to his several acres of olives with love, care, and pride throughout his life. He attended Corning-area elementary and high schools, where he played high school football, was a member of 4-H, and graduated with the Class of 1963. Lee went on to earn his bachelor’s degree from Chico State in 1967, followed by his teaching credential in 1968.

In 1968, Lee married Judy Jackson, beginning a loving and devoted marriage that spanned 56 years. He taught 8th grade U.S. history and Physical Education in Corning for 38 years, where generations of students remembered him for making history “come alive” and for helping lead lunchtime intramural sports. He was honored with a Teacher of the Year Award, a testament to his passion for education and the lasting impact he had on his students.

Beyond the classroom, Lee served as an umpire for Little League baseball and as a referee for football and middle school basketball. He was a member of the Corning Cardinals Boosters club and volunteered for many activities. Lee was an Eagle Scout and a devoted member of the First Presbyterian Church of Corning for 65 years, where he served faithfully as an Elder and gave generously of his time and care.

After retirement in 2010, Lee continued to serve the community through his volunteer work at Corning Christian Assistance food bank. He was a familiar and friendly face around town – someone who never met a stranger and was always eager for conversation.

Lee's love of history extended beyond the classroom. He enjoyed traveling to historic sites, U.S. National Parks, battlefield memorials, and professional baseball stadiums across the country. He also traveled internationally to Europe, Egypt, Peru, China, and Mexico. Each summer, he cherished time with family at Lake Tahoe. A devoted reader of newspapers, his favorite book was *Roots* by Alex Haley. He also took great joy in watching his sons and grandsons play sports, perform in band concerts, and appear in theatrical productions.

A proud fan of northern California professional sports teams, especially the San Francisco 49ers and San Francisco Giants, Lee was always up for a spirited discussion about the latest game.

Lee was preceded in death by his parents, Lola Turner and Ross Turner Jr. He is survived by his beloved wife, Judy Turner; his brother, Ross M. Turner; his sons Mitch Turner (Lily) of Magalia, CA; and Cory Turner (Mahalley) of Chico, CA; and his cherished grandsons, Anakin, Beaux, Kevin, Stone, and Ethan.

Lee's legacy is one of integrity, kindness, dedication, generosity, and deep community roots. He will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing and loving him.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 28, at 2 pm at the First Presbyterian Church of Corning, 471 Marguerite Avenue. A reception will follow at the church.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests mailing donations in Lee's memory to the First Presbyterian Church, 471 Marguerite Ave., Corning, CA 96021, or your charity of choice.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN **28**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

First United Presbyterian Church
471 Marguerite Ave
Corning, CA 96021

Tribute Wall

JS

“ I still remember so of the Getty's berg Address that we used to recite in front of the class. He will be missed dearly.

Jamie Slusher - September 18, 2025 at 01:26 AM

TM

“ He will definitely be missed. He was such a fun teacher, and I wish my son had the pleasure of having him as a teacher, but he had retired by then.

Trudy Metcalf - June 25, 2025 at 01:33 PM

MA

“ 1 file added to the album Lee Turner Photos

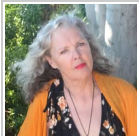


Mahalley Allen - June 25, 2025 at 01:47 AM

JU

Yes, he was so easy to love and a gift to all who knew him.

Julie - June 26, 2025 at 12:25 PM



“ He was my 8th grade history teacher. His wife taught 7th grade...english maybe? Great memories. My deepest condolences to his family and friends. Prayers for comfort and peace

Valerie Roller - June 25, 2025 at 01:42 AM

WG

“ *Mr. Turner was such a great man and teacher. He was always kind, fair and made the classroom fun—a true educator and solid person. Rest in peace.*

Wendi Glaser - June 24, 2025 at 09:26 PM

DR

“ *When I had Mr. Turner for 8th grade history (back in the dark ages), he would take a small group of students to the Chico State library to check out books on his library card for the term papers we were working on. Then on the way home, we stopped at Dairy Queen. Fun memory. He seemed pleased when I shared that memory with him a couple of years ago.*

Diana Cardoza Robertson - June 24, 2025 at 03:40 PM

NM

“ *When I was an aide at Maywood School I would go into Mr. Turner's class sometimes to help students I was working with. He was such a fun, upbeat teacher, always positive, with a great sense of humor! I also have fond memory of getting to accompany the 8th graders on the Sacramento field trips.*

Nancy Molina - June 24, 2025 at 12:39 PM



Me turner was a great teacher always positive when I got into trouble always got send to his room to do my homework for detention

Mike Kinnee - June 27, 2025 at 02:58 AM

WF

“ *With Love, Your CSU, FAAF Family purchased the Serene Reflections Bouquet for the family of Arthur Lee Turner.*



With Love, Your CSU, FAAF Family - June 24, 2025 at 11:42 AM

SP

“ *Mr. Turner was a great teacher. He made learning fun. I have great memories of Jr. High. My condolences to the Turner family.*

Sarah Pinkham - June 23, 2025 at 11:18 PM

PM

When I was young, we visited his mom's home frequently. She was wonderful and, I remember Lee being very nice.

Pamela Martin Moore - June 24, 2025 at 01:47 PM

LS

Mr. Turner was a great teacher, made learning fun and was always there to help when needed. Condolences to his family.

Lynn Senter - June 29, 2025 at 07:32 PM