



## David Lee Franklin

December 11, 1943 - February 18, 2026

David Lee Franklin passed away peacefully at his home in Corning on February 18, 2026,

surrounded by the love of his family. He was 82 years old.

David was born on December 11, 1943, in Ohio to Charles Elmer Franklin and Doris Eloise

Miller. The middle of three sons, he spent part of his youth in Whittier, where he fondly learned

to fish from his mother—an experience he cherished and carried with him throughout his life. It

taught him perseverance, as his mother would not finish fishing until her limit was caught, even

if her sons were chumming over the side of the boat.

In high school, David distinguished himself as an exceptional athlete. As a pole vaulter, he set

his school's record at 11 feet 6 inches using a bamboo pole—an impressive achievement that

reflected his determination, discipline, and fearless spirit. That same perseverance became a

hallmark of the way he approached life.

David was a proud member of the Army National Guard for 12 years, serving his country with

dedication and honor. He spent his entire working career in food service,

enjoying the social connections it provided and valuing the many friendships he formed over the years.

An avid cribbage player, David spent countless hours at a local club and treasured the annual Tournament of Champions in Reno, Nevada—a tradition he faithfully continued since the early 2000s.

A devoted member of his faith, David served in many capacities throughout his life. Among his most cherished callings was serving as Bishop of the Cottonwood Ward, where he offered guidance, compassion, and steadfast leadership. Known affectionately as the “candy man” at church, he carried a large bag of treats for children ages 1 to 100+, always saving the best chocolate for the women. His warmth, kindness, and humor left a lasting impression on all who knew him.

On June 26, 1965, David married the love of his life, Karen Lorraine Franklin. Their marriage was later sealed for time and all eternity on January 6, 1979, in Los Angeles, California

Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Together, they built a life centered on

faith, family, and service, recently celebrating 60 years of devoted marriage.

David was a loving husband, devoted father, cherished uncle, and proud grandfather and great-grandfather. His happiest moments were spent surrounded by his family—at gatherings,

celebrations, and in the quiet simplicity of everyday life. He took great joy in

watching his

family grow and treasured every opportunity to be together.

David was preceded in death by his parents, his younger brother Phillip, and his nephew Glenn.

He is survived by his beloved wife, Karen; daughters Kristen (Phillip) and Kimberly (Brett);

seven grandchildren—Tyler, PJ, Mica, Becca (Zack), David, Melissa, and Nicolas; one great-

grandchild, Leia; his older brother, Terry; and his nieces and nephews, Gloria (Art), Michelle

(Robert), Jennifer, Ginger (James), Richard (Tracy), and Scott (Jenny). His legacy of faith,

Kindness, service, and unwavering love will live on in each of them.

David's life was a testament to dedication—dedication to his faith, his family, his country, and to

all who were fortunate enough to know him. He will be deeply missed and forever remembered.

# Cemetery Details

## Sunset Hill Cemetery

4470 Oren Ave  
Corning, CA 96021  
(530) 824-2255

# Previous Events

## Funeral Service

FEB 28. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (PT)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
111 N Marguerite Ave  
Corning, CA