

*Celebrating the Life of...*



**Robert Alan Grimm**  
(aka “Just plain Bob”)

December 16, 1926 - March 21, 2015

*Parkside Hall, San Jose, California*  
*2 o'clock pm • May 2, 2015*

## Robert A. Grimm

Bob Grimm was born in Macon, Missouri in 1926. He passed away on March 21, 2015 of sudden cardiac arrest while traveling with friends on safari in Tanzania, Africa; he was 88 years young.

Just out of high school he enlisted in the Navy and served stateside until a year after WWII ended. He attended Valparaiso University, and then received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from Purdue University.

He joined Hewlett-Packard as a development engineer in 1951. In 1953 he married Marion Ruth Graham. In 1962 they moved from Mountain View to Los Altos to accommodate a growing family of five kids, and Bob remained at the same Los Altos home until his death.

From 1956 to 1968, Bob served as manufacturing manager and later general manager of HP's Dymec Division. He next served as marketing manager for HP's Systems Division and Automatic Measurement Division. In 1974 he was appointed director of the company's Integrated Circuits Laboratory in HP's central research laboratories. In 1978 he was made director of the company's Technology Research Center for semiconductor research. He was selected to create and direct the Manufacturing Research Center in 1984, which he did until his retirement in 1986.

Bob was active in community affairs. He was a volunteer worker for the United Way organization for 20 years, more than half of those on the board of trustees of the United Way of Santa Clara County where he served as president (1974 and 1975). He served as president of the United Way of California from 1978 to 1980.

He was elected to a four-year term on the Los Altos City Council in 1976, and was appointed mayor of the City in 1979. He was re-elected to a second four-year term on the Council in 1980.

He has served on the boards of the American Red Cross, YMCA of the Mid-Peninsula, Foothill-De Anza Colleges Foundation, Los Altos Community Foundation, Center for Excellence in Nonprofits, Downtown College Prep (a charter high school), Bank of Los Altos, and Resource Area for Teaching (RAFT). He also served on the Finance and Audit Committee of the Foothill-De Anza Community Colleges. At the time of his death he was serving on the boards of the Tech Museum of Innovation and the Los Altos Festival of Lights Association.

Bob was a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. He was a member of Sigma Xi, Tau Beta Pi, and Eta Kappa Nu: science, engineering and electrical engineering honor societies. He was a registered engineer in the State of California.

Bob is survived by his four children: Thomas (Veronica), Sue (Clyde) Cummings, Mike (Donna), and Patty; his 10 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. Marion, his wife for 55 years, died in 2008. He is also predeceased by his son Terry, sister Donna Geiger, and his brother Stan.

Bob will be sorely missed by his family and his many close and dear friends who all enriched his life as much as he did theirs through his spirit of generosity, fun, hard work, and lifelong curiosity that never waned.

*Celebrating the Life of*  
**Bob Grimm**

Speakers

Dick Henning, MC	Foothill College
Thomas Grimm	Son
Carl Cottrell	HP Alum & friend
Al Bagley	HP Alum & friend
Roy Lave	Los Altos friend
Art Carmichael	Los Altos friend
Peter Giles	Tech Museum of Innovation (founding President)
Jennifer Andaluz	Downtown College Prep
Sue Cummings	Daughter
Matthew Grimm	Grandson

The family invites you to share your "Bob stories" with each other  
and/or write your thoughts & memories  
on the blank cards provided on the tables.  
Cards can be placed in the baskets in the lobby.

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*"The things we do outlast our mortality... They're like the pyramids  
that the Egyptians built to honor the pharaohs. Only instead of being  
made of stone, they're made out of the memories people have of you."*

*(R.J. Palacio, author)*

*“Being human always points, and is directed, to something or someone other than oneself. The more one forgets himself—by giving himself to a cause to serve or another person to love—the more human he is.”*

*(Viktor Frankl)*

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For those who wish to, donations may be made in Bob’s memory to any of the following:

- Tech Museum of Innovation  
201 So. Market Street  
San Jose, CA 95113  
or thru their website: [www.thetech.org](http://www.thetech.org)
- Los Altos History Museum  
51 So. San Antonio Road  
Los Altos, CA 94022  
or thru their website: [www.losaltoshistory.org](http://www.losaltoshistory.org)
- Downtown College Prep  
(general fund or their Bob Grimm Scholarship Fund)  
1400 Parkmoor Avenue, Suite 206  
San Jose, CA 95126  
or thru their website: [www.dcp.org](http://www.dcp.org)
- a Bob-related charity of your choice

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To read more about Bob’s life and history,  
follow this URL to the Hewlett-Packard Memoirs site:  
[http://www.hpmemoryproject.org/timeline/company/memories\\_home.htm](http://www.hpmemoryproject.org/timeline/company/memories_home.htm)

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*“The best way to be missed when you’re gone  
is to stand for something when you’re here.”*

*(Seth Godin, author)*