



Joseph Philip Linscomb

October 10, 1931 - August 2, 2020

Dr. Joseph Philip Linscomb, longtime San Pedro resident, exemplary leader in public education, and family man, passed away peacefully on August 2. He was 88. Born on October 10, 1931 in Alexandria, Louisiana to Gaston and Corine Linscomb, “Phil”, as he was known to family, friends, and colleagues, was a devoted husband, father and grandfather not only to his three sons, but to his grandchildren, nieces and nephews and cousins. He was a true example of how to live a full and fully-realized life. He moved with his parents at the age of eight to Los Angeles, specifically Watts, to join family who had emigrated from Louisiana earlier. The Louisiana Catholic Creole culture of his ancestors was a central guiding force in his upbringing. His parents instilled in him the ethics, respect for people, and high standards that he displayed his entire life. Faith, family, servant leadership and social justice were the pillars on which he stood. He attended St. Lawrence of Brendisi Catholic school, the parish and school being the center of family and community in his early life, and with his excellent humor and extremely good looks, was very popular in both school and the neighborhood. An only child, he was close to his many first cousins, especially Dora and Dorothy Gilmore, who he’d often said were the closest thing he had to sisters; they remained close for the rest of their lives. When his father died, Phil’s promise to him that he would continue with his education led to his enrollment at Compton College and subsequently at UCLA where he graduated in 1954 with a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education and a teaching credential. Phil began his career in teaching with the Los Angeles Unified School District. This was quickly interrupted when he was called to serve in the United States Army for 3 years. He attended Officers Candidate School. Upon graduation he was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, where he was trained as a paratrooper and eventually was assigned to train others. During this time, he made more than 45 jumps himself and also received flight training. This led to a permanent love of flying small planes as a hobby. He was honorably discharged from the Army and would join the Army National Guard attaining the rank of Captain, while serving in a military police unit. He also returned to his teaching career and continued his own education. He earned a Master’s Degree from California State University, Los Angeles in 1961 and a Doctorate in Education Administration in 1971 from Brigham Young University. In those years after leaving the Army when Phil was

working as a 6th grade teacher, he met Miyoko Janet Yoshida – the best kindergarten teacher in the history of LAUSD – who would become the love of his life. They were married in Chicago in 1966 and moved to San Pedro. They would become parents to three sons: David, Chris, and Mark. During Dr. Linscomb's thirty-seven year career in public education, he held many administrator positions. He served as Vice Principal, Principal, Region Administrator, and Associate Superintendent of Instruction for the Los Angeles Unified School District. He then accepted a position as Deputy Superintendent in the Pasadena Unified School District and subsequently served as Superintendent of Pasadena Unified School District until his retirement in 1992. After his retirement from public education, he continued his work as an educator joining the Archdiocese of Los Angeles as President of a consortium of urban area Catholic high schools. He also served as an Adjunct Professor of Education in the doctoral program at the University of LaVerne where he mentored many professional educators seeking to enhance public education in California and beyond. Phil loved traveling; his journey through life afforded him many opportunities to see the world. He was privileged to serve on the board of the Public Broadcasting System which took him to Washington DC and elsewhere in the United States. His advocacy in furthering Arts Education sent him to China. Although he loved the community of Pasadena, his heart and home was in San Pedro, where proximity to the ocean allowed him to indulge in boating, fishing and being with family. He was an active parishioner at Holy Trinity Catholic Church in San Pedro, where two of his grandchildren attended school. Phil was a loving father, uncle and cousin to many, but his favorite role was as a doting grandfather to his four grandchildren. As his family grew to include his wonderful daughters-in-law, Mary and Heidi, their families became part of his as well; the circle of love and family grew even wider and stronger. In his later years, he and Janet were constant presences in their grandchildren's lives. He was happiest when he was with them and involved in their lives. Phil is preceded in death by his parents, Gaston and Corine (Beridon) Linscomb; his cousins Aubrey, Dora and Kathleen Dunn (who was his goddaughter), and Dorothy Gilmore; his niece Yumi Harada Goody, and his sisters-in-law Ikuko Dorothy Uyehara and Noriko Ethel Harada. He is survived by his loving wife of 54 years Miyoko Janet; three sons, David (Mary) of Santa Rosa; Chris (Heidi) and Mark of San Pedro; grandchildren Jackson, Klara, Sarah and Katie; nieces and nephews Robert Uyehara, John (Myra) Uyehara, Kane (Sabrina) Uyehara and their children; Kyoko (Adam) Dole; Maya and Lucas Goody; Dr. Carolyn Dunn and her children; his in-laws, the Westcott, Heberer and Goodwin families; and his many cousins, extended family, and friends.

Family and friends of Joseph are invited to share their favorite photos, video memories and heart felt messages on his Tribute page on the Green Hills Mortuary Website.

Those who were touched by Joseph's life are invited to watch the live stream of Joseph's service on 08/13/2020 @02:00PM. The link to virtually attend his tribute is <https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/28322957>

Comments



“ I had the great pleasure of working with Phil during his season as associate prof at University of LaVerne. With him, we mentored dissertation students through their defense. My best memories of my time with Phil was our easy and incredibly enjoyable conversations. I often say, for me when Phil spoke, I listened...like the EFHutton commercial. Phil was authentic, caring, intelligent, kind and a friend. I'm more of me because of my times with Phil. My sincere sympathy to his family. Phil was quality through and through.

Marty Butt, Ed.D. - November 12, 2020 at 11:00 PM



“ Dr. Phil Linscomb and his wife Janet have been highly respected educators in our community. Our condolences to the family. He will be missed but appreciated in his influence on so many young students over his career.

Lorraine and Jerry Gaines

Jerry Gaines - August 21, 2020 at 09:19 PM



“ I will remember Dr. Linscomb as such a wonderful, wise educator who I always admired and respected his counsel. There are no more of his kind and he will be missed. His legacy will continue in LAUSD.
Sincere condolences to his family.
Teri Ito Abbott

Teri Ito Abbott - August 14, 2020 at 05:08 PM



“ Allan and Marina Scholl purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Joseph Philip Linscomb.



Allan and Marina Scholl - August 13, 2020 at 07:27 PM



“ Dr. Phil Linscomb hired me to work in the Office of Instruction during an exciting time in California education when new curricula and standards were being developed for K-12 schools throughout the state. It was a busy time for all and, to this day, I can honestly say I have never worked for a kinder, more intelligent and hard working individual than Phil. I learned a great deal under his leadership and will always remember him as a mentor and friend. Goodby to a truly wonderful man -- "requiescat in pacem" Phil.

And to Janet and Phil's family, my deepest sympathy at your loss. Phil has crossed the river, but the other side is one of hope and remembrance for you and all who knew him.

Please know that we will always remember the two of you.

Allan and Marina Scholl

Allan and Marina Scholl - August 13, 2020 at 07:14 PM



“ An outstanding professional educational leader and a truly decent human being. Phil will be missed by so many of his colleagues. Most sincere condolences to Janet and the family.=From Stu & Micki

Stu & Micki Bernstein - August 13, 2020 at 06:23 PM



“ Chris & Family,
Thinking of you at this terrible time in your life.
The world is a lesser place for this Loss, Love & Respect
Dave Bentley

DAVID P BENTLEY - August 13, 2020 at 05:19 PM



“ Philip was a big part of my growing up years. I have so many happy memories of our big family gatherings. I picture him on the deck at Dorann's, laughing and joking, smoking his pipe, so kind to all the kids. He was an inspiration to me in my career, and in the way he valued education. We were so proud of the "doctor" in our family. Philip was a blessing and well loved member of our huge extended family of aunts/uncles/cousins. So many of them are in heaven now, there to welcome Phil.

Sandy Maramba - August 12, 2020 at 11:24 PM



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Carolyn Dunn - August 17, 2020 at 07:46 AM



“ I just read this morning about Phil's passing and it jolted me. Phil was a good friend and a mentor when I first entered administration with LAUSD back in the late '70s. I looked up to him and admired him immensely as the perfect role model. May you rest in eternal peace, old friend.

Bob Archerd

Bob Archerd - August 12, 2020 at 10:12 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Joseph Philip Linscomb.



August 12, 2020 at 07:07 PM



“ I am so very sorry to hear of the loss of your husband, father, grandfather. I remember him fondly as always being present at Holy Trinity for Jackson and Klara's events. My prayers are with you.
Linda Wiley

Linda Rogers Wiley - August 12, 2020 at 03:27 PM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Phil's passing. I worked for him when as principal, he hired me to work as a reading specialist at Baldwin Hills Elementary School. Later he wrote a letter of recommendation for me when I returned to teaching after some time away. He was such a professional and supportive person and I know he will be deeply missed.

Patricia McMahonCracchiola

patricia cracchiola - August 12, 2020 at 01:26 PM



“ In all my years at the LA USD, there was no one more respected and loved.

Jeffrey Felz - August 12, 2020 at 11:46 AM



“ I worked with Dr. Linscomb in the Office of Instruction in the LAUSD when he headed that section. He was a highly respected educator. In my encounters with him, I found him to be kind, friendly, knowledgeable, and accessible to his staff. He was a fine leader and a good man. My condolences to his family. Sue Quinn

Sue - August 12, 2020 at 09:59 AM



“ I will always remember Phil as such a kind and loving father, husband, and grandfather. He was so proud of you all. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all During this difficult time.

Nick and Barbara Dragich

Barbara Dragich - August 11, 2020 at 06:02 PM



“ Chris, Heidi, and the entire Linscomb family,
We are so sorry for your loss and thinking of you all through this difficult time.

Love

Gina, Tony, and Ava

gina antonovich - August 11, 2020 at 02:06 PM