



Mark Betz

FEB 14, 1953 - MAR 27, 2026



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Mark Betz

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Mark Betz, 73, of Alameda, California, passed away peacefully at home on March 27, 2026, surrounded by his family.

Born on Valentine's Day in Alameda, Mark was a lifelong resident of the community he loved. He grew up in Alameda and graduated from Alameda High School, Class of 1972. He went on to build a long career as a Teamster.

Mark was a loving father and grandfather, and a deeply generous, loyal, one-of-a-kind man who was truly cherished as a best friend or brother by many. He had a big spirit, a gregarious nature, and a sense of humor that drew people in and made them feel at ease. Mark gave his time freely and wholeheartedly to friends and family—he was the kind of person who simply showed up, again and again, for the people around him.

His care for others was constant and unmistakable. Whether he was mowing not only his own lawn but continuing down the street to care for his neighbors' yards, or building a bicycle for a child who needed one, Mark expressed his love through action. He was the person you could always count on to fix what was broken, lend a hand, or step in without hesitation. Helping others wasn't something he did occasionally; it was simply who he was.

Mark had a lifelong love of adventure, especially boating, water skiing, jet skiing, and camping. He was also a passionate collector of treasures, with a deep appreciation for cars, motorcycles, antiques, and toys. Mechanical and creative, he always had a project underway and found genuine joy in working with his hands and bringing things back to life.

For decades, Mark brought smiles to the Alameda community as Charlie Chaplin in the Alameda Fourth of July parade—a role that perfectly captured his playful spirit and love of bringing joy to others.



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Mark is survived by his daughter, Jenny Betz; his daughter-in-law, Melissa Saunders; his grandson, Benjamin Saunders; and his nieces and nephew, Marcie Betz Arata, Trisha Aguilera, and Darren Betz. He was preceded in death by his parents, William and Elizabeth Betz, and his brother, Rick Betz.

Mark's life was defined by generosity, creativity, playfulness, and acts of kindness. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

In keeping with Mark's generous spirit and love for the Alameda community, donations in his memory may be made to the Friends of Alameda Parks Foundation:

<https://www.alamedaparks.org/donation/>



Tribute Wall

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Marcie Arata posted:

There are so many memories but I will never forget when I was probably 9 or 10 up in Clearlake and Uncle Mark took us for a ride on the Catamaran. Somehow we flipped! We thought it was the GREATEST thing ever and Grandma Betty was SO MAD at Uncle Mark. I kept telling gramma Betty " it was so fun don't be mad". She was a pistol. There are so many memories over these so many years. My dad thought he was the best guy ever. Best Bros 😊 Uncle Mark had a heart of gold and would do anything for anyone. I miss him so much. Love you always. My heart goes out to all that knew him 🥺❤️🔪🔪🔪🔪

April 4 at 12:16 AM



Adeniyi Williams posted:

I met Mark later in his life, but it didn't take long to see the kind of man he was. He had a genuinely kind heart, a positive spirit, and a way of making people feel welcome. He greeted everyone with a warm smile and a firm handshake, and he carried himself with a quiet goodness that left a lasting impression. Mark made a difference in the lives of those around him and in his community, simply by being himself. I feel grateful to have known him, and he will truly be missed.

April 2 at 9:41 AM



Barbara Betz posted:

I've known Mark since I was 17. Too many memories. I will always love him and miss him.

March 31 at 5:14 PM



Pamela B lit a candle in honor of Mark.

Mark is the greatest man I ever met and to have shared my life with. There are so many memories with Mark, but today I can only say how much I'm going to miss him and so many others are to. I will forever Love and Cherish his kindness and Love for people and many things that he brought to life each day. Love, Pam



March 31 at 1:15 PM



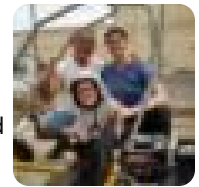
Tribute Wall

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Melissa Saunders shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



I have so many sweet memories of Mark. He used to show up at our house unexpectedly with an armload of groceries from Costco or plant flowers in our yard without our knowing. He loved taking care of us and was so thoughtful and generous with his time. Once, when I had a horrible migraine at work, he came to pick me up. I was so nauseous and vomited right into my lunch bag- it was miserable, but he cleaned me up and brought me home. I protested his help, but he insisted on taking care of me like a daughter. His time with us was far too short but his generosity of spirit, humor and playfulness live on. ❤️

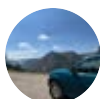
March 31 at 1:07 PM



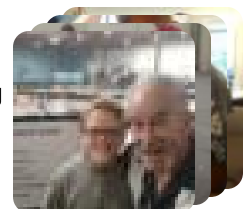
Denise Bister shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.



March 31 at 12:59 PM



Ben Saunders shared 7 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.



Mark was the coolest and most genuine person I had the pleasure of spending time with. He inspired me in countless ways, and is the reason behind so many of my present interests and hobbies. I hope that Mark is remembered for all of the amazing impacts he's had on friends and family, in my heart he will be remembered for how much he cared for me and inspired me. May he rest in peace, and finally be reunited with his parents and brother who loved him so dearly. Love you and miss you forever Mark.- Ben

March 31 at 12:45 PM



Melissa Saunders shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

March 31 at 1:07 PM





Denise Bister shared a photo to the **Tribute Wall** album.

March 31 at 12:59 PM





Ben Saunders shared 7 photos to the **Tribute Wall** album.

March 31 at 12:45 PM





Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mark by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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