

## In Memory

### Jerome Martin "Marty" Sivesind Jr.

March 19, 1943 - May 9, 2024



Marty was born in Oklahoma on a military base while his father, Jerome Sivesind, served overseas in World War II. His mother was Eleanor Cravagan, and Marty was the eldest child with three siblings, Kristin, Elizabeth, and Erik. Marty settled in Lafayette and graduated from Acalanes High School in 1961. He went on to study history at San Francisco State.

In 1961 he also met Bonnie Richard and within two years they married. In 1970, Marty purchased Cherry's Express Moving and Storage and successfully ran the Oakland-based business for more than

two decades. His business took him all over the state of California, and as a result, his knowledge of the highways and backroads of this beautiful state, as well as its history, was vast.

Marty raised his family of five children with Bonnie in Lafayette. He was an active member of the community coaching the teams of his children, and had years of devoted volunteerism at Lafayette Little League and Las Trampas Pool. If he wasn't coaching, he was cheering on his kids and later grandkids with jolly enthusiasm and positivity.

An avid reader, his passion for learning never ceased and he enjoyed debating any topic with friends and family.

Marty died May 9th peacefully and surrounded by his loved ones after a brief but heroic battle with leukemia. He is survived by Bonnie, along with their children Jerome, Kjell, Catherine, Kari, and Elizabeth; and their spouses Sarah, Tisha, Sean Micallef, Eduardo Montero, and Ryan Siamas. He is also survived by 12 grandchildren, Padon and Grant; Victoria and James; Morgan and Roane Micallef; Isabella, Joaquin, and Jake Montero; William, Alexis, and Gavin Siamas.

He will be remembered as a loving husband, father, and Opa. A celebration of Marty's life will take place Sunday, October 13th in Moraga.

## In Memory

### Helen Constance "Connie" Chandler Mueser

January 18, 1937 - August 10, 2024



Helen Constance "Connie" Chandler Mueser passed away peacefully on August 10, 2024. She was born on January 18, 1937, in Salt Lake City, Utah, to Harry W. Chandler and Helen Mae Merrill Chandler. Connie was the eldest of five children, with siblings Craig, Steven, Douglas and Hal Jr., who passed away in infancy in 1938.

From an early age, Connie was a voracious reader, walking regularly to the library to check out the maximum number of books, then returning days later to resupply. She graduated from East High School, where she sang in their acclaimed choir. Connie continued her education at Brigham Young University, earning a degree in English literature with a minor in history. She also spent a year studying at the University of Utah, fostering a life-long love of learning.

After college, Connie and her roommate, Jess Nourse, moved to San Francisco in an intrepid search for new opportunities. She worked as a legal secretary, with phenomenal skills, where the finished product would be vastly improved over any original dictation as her writing skills were unmatched. It was essential that she typed so well because we could barely read her tight and microscopic handwriting.

In San Francisco, in an effort to meet new people, she joined the Young Republicans, and it was there that she met William "Bill" H. Mueser, Jr., a civil engineer. Though opposites in many ways, he doted on her for the next 60 years. Connie's mother famously remarked, "If this doesn't work out, you know we are keeping Bill." The couple married on July 7, 1962, raising two daughters, Heidi Michele and Erica "Riki" Sorenson.

In 1969, Connie and Bill settled in Moraga, California, where they became integral members of the community. Bill served on the planning commission, while Connie contributed to the establishment of the Moraga Library and served on the school board. She was a full-time mother who volunteered actively in the schools and remained politically engaged throughout her life, evolving quickly from Republican to staunch Democrat. Connie was an early advocate for women's rights, civil rights, and LGBTQ rights, inspiring her daughters to be accepting, independent and strong.

After her children were grown, Connie returned to work as a paralegal and office manager, where her intelligence, organizational skills, and ability to recognize talent made her an invaluable asset. Upon retirement, she returned to her books, volunteering at the Burckhalter Elementary School library in Oakland for nearly two decades, where she shared her love of literature with young children. She continued as an active member of her local book group for decades.

Connie had an abiding faith, which was central to her life. Raised in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, she later found a spiritual home with Bill at the Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church. She cherished the service opportunities, social connections, weekly sermons, and the church's remarkable choir.

Connie loved the symphony, ballet, opera, and theater. She was also an avid fan of the original Oakland Raiders, the Golden State Warriors, and Stanford Cardinal sports teams. Holidays were particularly important to her, and she is revered for her Christmas fudge, which she shared widely with neighbors and friends, and the rice pudding that remains a beloved Christmas Eve tradition.

In their retirement years, Connie and Bill traveled world-wide, ever planning their next sight-seeing/cultural adventure. France was Connie's favorite, so trips included a Paris layover whenever possible.

Connie was always kind and gracious, whip-smart, and keenly engaged in current events. She adored her grandchildren, Zachary, Kacey, and Michael. She was their biggest fan and best shuttle driver, and loved to spoil them whenever possible, with their favorite frozen waffles always on hand. Connie's daughters, Heidi and Riki, remember her as a model of independence, strength, gratitude, and love.

Connie is survived by her daughters, Heidi Michele Mueser and Erica "Riki" Mueser Sorenson; her son-in-law, Andrew Lee Sorenson; her grandchildren, Zachary William Sorenson, Kathryn "Kacey" Chandler Sorenson, and Michael Andrew Sorenson; her brother, Douglas Chandler; and sisters-in-law, Jaylene Chandler and Sharon Chandler. She will be interred in Salt Lake City, Utah, with her husband, Bill, near her brother Steve and her parents, at Wasatch Lawn Cemetery.

## Letters to the editor

### Lafayette City Council election

Dear Editor,

As a forty year resident of Lafayette, I urge voters to re-elect Carl Anduri to the Lafayette City Council this November. Carl continues to demonstrate talents that make him an effective community advocate and problem solver. Not only is Carl intelligent and hard-working, but he is thoughtful, ethical and fiscally responsible.

I have witnessed Carl's impressive and balanced leadership qualities while serving with him on Lafayette's Environmental Task Force and observing his work on the City Council and as mayor. I am particularly impressed with Carl's careful, responsible, inclusive approach to all problems, his excellent organizational skills, extensive background knowledge and clear and thoughtful communication skills. For decades, he has demonstrated a clear commitment to and forward looking vision for Lafayette.

We are lucky that Carl has agreed to continue to serve our community by running for re-election. I look forward to benefiting from his experienced judgment and leadership for years to come.

Sincerely,  
Janet Thomas  
Lafayette

### Read the Eventbrite Privacy Policy Before Using

I have recently encountered some websites where, in order to register to attend a free event, one must use the Eventbrite platform. When you engage with the platform, its privacy and cookie policies are right on your screen – just a click away. I urge peo-

ple to look at those policies before providing your personal information. There is a saying about the internet: "If you're not paying, you're the product." Meaning your personal data. Eventbrite isn't the only platform or app where this issue arises. Be smart about your privacy.

Nick Waranoff  
Orinda

### A wonderful place called the Nature Area

Over 12,000 students, their teachers and parents have experienced these wonders.

There are six ecosystems within the Nature Area.

Oak Woodlands, Grasslands, Mixed Woodland, Riparian, Wetlands and Chapparral are located in the 18 1/2 acres.

Each ecosystem contains a Native flora and fauna that Identify the ecosystem.

There are 2 ponds and 2 creeks. There are 5 Native trees over 400 years old and historical ruins from the Wagers' time.

There are over 80 Eagle scout projects completed on the site.

Unfortunately, the NATURE AREA has been closed to access since 3/8/23.

We can continue to encourage OUSD to accept the \$ 1.5 to get the tree work done.

A team of very dedicated and skilled volunteers can restore the pond, restore the trails, clean up the kitchen, dining room and craft area.

This is a very personal issue for me since I have been the Naturalist at the NATURE AREA for 46 years.

Toris A. Jaeger, Naturalist  
Orinda

Opinions in Letters to the Editor are the express views of the writer and not necessarily those of the Lamorinda Weekly. All published letters will include the writer's name and city/town of residence — we will only accept letters from those who live in, or own a business in, the communities comprising Lamorinda (please give us your phone number for verification purposes only). Letters must be factually accurate. Lamorinda Weekly reserves the right to refuse publishing a letter submission. Visit [www.lamorindaweekly.com](http://www.lamorindaweekly.com) for submission guidelines. Email: [letters@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:letters@lamorindaweekly.com).

### Public Safety

**Emergency response:** 911  
**Police Dispatch:** 24 Hours  
925-284-5010  
Nixle: Text your zip code to 888777 or [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)  
**Lafayette Police Department:** 3471 Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
925-283-3680  
Chief of Police, Ben Alldritt  
925-299-3221  
Police Department Tip Line  
94549Tip@gmail.com  
Police Department Traffic Issues  
94549Traffic@gmail.com  
**Moraga Police Department:** 329 Rheem Blvd., 925-888-7055  
Chief of Police, Jon King ext. 7049  
**Orinda Police Department:** 22 Orinda Way 925-254-6820  
Chief of Police, Ryan Sullivan  
925-254-6820  
[Orindatip@cityoforinda.org](http://Orindatip@cityoforinda.org)

### Lafayette Police Department Incident Summary Report Aug. 4 - Aug. 17

Alarms 42  
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 14  
Traffic 179  
Suspicious Circumstances 7  
Suspicious Subject 20  
Suspicious Vehicle 10  
Service to Citizen 38  
Patrol Req./Security Check 24  
Public/School Assembly Check 11  
Supplemental Report 21  
Vacation House Check 12  
Welfare Check 15  
Ordinance Violation 2  
**Vehicle violations**  
Auto Burglary 7  
3500 Block Terrace Way  
900 Block Mountain View Dr.  
1000 Block Carol Ln.  
Hit And Run Misdemeanor  
1000 Block N Thompson Rd.  
1800 Block Reliez Valley Rd. (2)  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
400 Block Florence Dr.  
800 Block Avalon Ave.  
900 Block Hough Ave.  
Reckless Driving  
Pleasant Hill Rd./Deer Hill Rd.  
Oak Hill Rd./Lafayette Cir.  
Reliez Valley Rd./Fairholm Ct.  
Reliez Valley Rd./Pleasant Hill Rd.  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
300 Block St Marys Rd.  
3300 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Police Department  
Dianne Ct/Diablo Oaks Way  
Pleasant Hill Rd./Wb Sr 24  
Vehicle Theft  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Carol Ln.

**Other criminal activity**  
Fraud Credit Card Felony  
1000 Block Woodbury Rd.  
Fraud False Pretenses  
3300 Block St Marys Rd.  
300 Block Shire Oaks Ct.  
800 Block Moraga Rd.  
Identity Theft  
500 Block Silverado Dr.  
1800 Block Ivanhoe Ave.  
Panhandling  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)  
Petty Theft  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (5)  
Petty Theft Pickpocket  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Shoplift  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (6)  
3600 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Warrant Service  
1700 Block Toyon Rd.  
**Nuisance to the Community**  
Disturbance-domestic  
400 Block Castello Rd.  
Deer Hill Rd./1st St.  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./Dewing Ave.  
3200 Block Quandt Rd.  
Loud Music  
600 Block Lancaster Dr.  
Loud Party

900 Block Janet Ln.  
Augustine Ln./Glenside Dr.  
3200 Block Lucas Cir.  
600 Block Lancaster Dr.  
Public Nuisance  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Mt. Diablo Blvd./1st St.  
1st St/Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
1000 Block Dewing Ave.  
Foye Dr./Moraga Blvd.  
Eb Sr 24 At El Curtola Blvd.  
Vandalism  
60 Block Lucas Ranch Rd.  
El Curtola Blvd./Old Tunnel Rd.  
3300 Block La Caminita  
**Other**  
Animal Cruelty  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Assault W/ Deadly Weapon  
Olympic Blvd./Reliez Station Rd.  
Fireworks  
1000 Block Leland Dr.  
Harassment  
900 Block Leland Dr.  
3400 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Loitering  
4000 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
3400 Block School St.  
Terrorist Threats  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.  
Trespass  
50 Block Lucas Ranch Rd.  
Unwanted Guest  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd. (2)  
Violation Custody Order  
3500 Block Mt. Diablo Blvd.

### Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report Aug. 6 - Aug. 18

Alarms 11  
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 14  
Traffic 73  
Suspicious Circumstances 3  
Suspicious Subject 10  
Suspicious Vehicle 1  
Service to Citizen 25  
Patrol Req./Security Check 16  
Public/School Assembly Check 11  
Supplemental Report 16  
Vacation House Check 0  
Welfare Check 11  
Ordinance Violation 2  
**Vehicle violations**  
Excessive Speed  
Rheem Blvd./Center St.  
Moraga Rd./St Marys Rd. (2)  
Ivy Dr./Moraga Way (2)  
Corliss Dr./Lynwood (2)  
Moraga Rd./Moraga Way (2)  
300 Block Rheem Blvd.  
St Andrews Dr./  
Country Club Dr. (2)  
Moraga Way Ifo Station 41  
Moraga Rd./Ascot Dr.  
Moraga Way/St Andrews Dr.  
200 Block Rheem Blvd.  
Moraga Rd./Lucas Dr.  
Reckless Driving  
Moraga Rd./Via Granada  
Corliss Dr./Camino Ricardo  
Campolino High School  
Moraga Rd./Campolino Dr.  
Rheem Blvd./Moraga Rd.  
Tc - Property Damage  
300 Block Tharp Dr.  
20 Block Hour Fitness  
Vehicle Theft  
10 Block Ross Dr.  
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.  
**Other criminal activity**  
Grand Theft  
Tjmaxx  
Identity Theft  
1100 Block Cedarwood Dr.  
Panhandling  
Rheem Blvd./Moraga Rd.  
Petty Theft From Veh  
1000 Block Country Club Dr.  
**Nuisance to the Community**  
Loud Music  
Canyon Club Brewery  
Moraga Country Club  
Loud Noise  
70 Block Shuey Dr.  
Public Nuisance  
500 Block Moraga Rd.  
1900 Block St Andrews Dr.  
Vandalism  
Moraga Commons Park  
300 Block Rheem Blvd.

**Other**  
Battery Domestic Misd  
400 Block Rheem Blvd.  
Elder Abuse  
300 Block Rheem Blvd.  
Unwanted Guest  
St Marys College



### Orinda Police Department Incident Summary Report July 28 - Aug. 10

Alarms 40  
911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 6  
Traffic 94  
Suspicious Circumstances 6  
Suspicious Subject 7  
Suspicious Vehicle 11  
Service to Citizen 63  
Patrol Req./Security Check 45  
Public/School Assembly Check 2  
Supplemental Report 23  
Vacation House Check 0  
Welfare Check 7  
Ordinance Violation 5  
**Vehicle violations**  
Accident Injury  
10 Block Claremont Ave.  
Accident Property  
20 Block Ridge Ln.  
Hit And Run Misdemeanor  
Camino Sobrante  
Camino Sobrante  
70 Block Van Ripper Ln.  
50 Block Moraga Way (2)  
Reckless Driving  
Lombardy Ln./Van Ripper Ln.  
Eb Sr 24 At St Stephens Dr.  
200 Block Glorietta Blvd.  
Camino Pablo/Camino Encinas  
Moraga Way/Orchard Rd.  
Tc - Minor Injuries  
100 Block Camino Pablo  
Tc - Property Damage  
Moraga Way/Overhill Rd.  
**Other criminal activity**  
Burglary  
Camino Sobrante  
Commercial Burglary  
200 Block Village Sq  
Identity Theft  
100 Block Ivy Dr.  
Police Department  
Petty Theft  
50 Block Brookwood Rd.  
Warrant Arrest  
Camino Sobrante (2)  
3000 Block California  
St-berkeley  
200 Block Orinda Way  
Theatre Square  
**Nuisance to the Community**  
Disturbing The Peace  
Moraga Way/Camino Pablo  
Drunk In Public  
10 Block Camino Sobrante  
Loud Music  
10 Block Rio Vista  
20 Block Heather Ln.  
Loud Noise  
30 Block Meadow View Rd.  
Camino Pablo/Ardilla Rd.  
Public Nuisance  
100 Block Oak Rd.  
10 Block Lost Valley Dr.  
Orinda Way  
**Other**  
Failure To Obey  
Orindawoods Dr./Kite Hill Rd.  
Police Department  
Fireworks  
Moraga Way  
Mentally Ill Commit  
50 Block Stanton Ave. (2)  
10 Block Camino Encinas  
60 Block Moraga Way  
Transient Contact  
Camino Sobrante (2)  
Moraga Way (3)  
Bart Orinda Station  
Camino Pablo/Camino Sobrante  
Trespass  
10 Block Camino Sobrante  
500 Block Orindawoods Dr.

### Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 200 words) to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com), and include "Celebrations or Remembrances" in the subject line.