



Jerry Tucker Goldsmith

March 27, 1940 - May 4, 2023

Jerry Tucker Goldsmith, age 83, of Vancouver, WA, passed away on May 4th, 2023. He was born in Venice, CA. Jerry married Margaret in 2001, in Brush Prairie, WA. He retired in 2001 from SeaWorld as a Vice President and Corporate Curator of Exhibits. He is survived by his wife Margaret, sister Sharon, sister Stacey, son Ken, stepdaughter Julie, stepson David, stepdaughter Janis, 12 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents Elsie and James, his first wife Jeanne and his daughter Julie.

His family will be hosting a memorial service for Jerry on July 15th at Daybreak Park, from 11am to 1pm in Battle Ground, WA.

Jerry Goldsmith's Story:

Jerry was born March 27, 1940, in Venice, CA to James William Goldsmith and Elsie Jean Mandamaker. He was the oldest with two sisters, Sharon and Stacey. Jerry married Jeanne Louise Koski on June 10, 1963. They left for Alabama 10 days later for his tour in the Army. When they returned in 1965, they lived in Palos Verdes, CA. Their daughter Julie was born in 1971 and their son Ken was born in 1972. After 37 years of marriage, Jerry lost Jeanne, to cancer in 2000.

As a Marine Biologist, Jerry worked for Marineland of the Pacific for 20 years. He later worked for Sea World and moved his family to Escondido, CA. He worked at Sea World for over 20 years. Some of his highlights at work were

helping design the Coral Reef Exhibit, the Penguin Encounter, the walk-through Shark Tank and Discovery Cove in Florida. When he retired, he was a Vice President and Corporate Curator of Exhibits.

In 2001, Jerry married Maggie Ranieri. When he retired, he followed his lifelong dream to live in the desert. He designed the house that they lived in Borrego Springs, CA. The property included a casita for their guests and they enjoyed sharing the desert with their friends and family. In the hot months they traveled up to the Northwest to escape the heat and spend time with family. In 2011 they moved to Vancouver, WA., Maggie's hometown and where many of their family resided.

Jerry enjoyed telling funny stories and jokes and making people laugh. He was a great artist and cherished many art pieces that his friends and acquaintances made. He liked to draw comics of his friends and family, and many found them quite entertaining, even though they were not always appropriate. He enjoyed his time and the knowledge he gained about fish during his time at SeaWorld as well as the desert life he experienced searching for lizards and snakes of all kinds while living in Borrego Springs.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 04:26 PM



“ In the early 70s, I had the good fortune to meet Jerry Goldsmith and John Prescott at Marineland of the Pacific in their 'behind the scenes' area where they were busily transferring a giant octopus to another tank. It was quite a scene, those sucker studded arms flailing around! They were planning an exhibit and Jerry asked if I could develop some artificial Giant kelp.

It happened and I credit Jerry for having sparked my interest in the kelp idea and his continued support of its use. It has led to the prime product of my company. Thank you Jerry!

All the years since then he has been a good friend and I am very sorry for loosing such a good person though I know his spirit lives on.

All the best to you and yours Jerry!

Carl Gage

Carl Gage - February 08, 2024 at 12:00 AM



“ I hope for a strong tree to be planted for Jerry as he was always a good friend.

Carl Gage - February 06, 2024 at 12:00 AM

B'

“ *The world was made more beautiful because of Jerry. Many will enjoy his creations for years to come. His smile was infectious and we will miss him.*

Bonnie Graf Hyra--Hami High Winter '59 - July 25, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DZ

“ *So sad to lose such a good friend. I'm sure Jerry and Don are walking together on a beautiful beach once again. Debbie Zumwalt*

Debbie Zumwalt - July 21, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ *His Kindness and friendship was so personal. A wonderful example of mankind.*

Michael and Diane Marika - July 14, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TW

“ *In loving memory of a wonderful uncle. We will miss your presence in our lives. Love Tim and Maria Walter*

Tim and Maria Walter - July 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ *This photo was taken in Todos Santos, Baja, Mexico. We conducted a workshop for a swim through aquarium there. A wonderful team of friends: Dave Powell, Dave Manwarren, Dennis Meritt, Linda Malek, John Rupp, Jerry (of course), Me, my wife Gloria, John Swanson, and Maggie.*

Just one of wonderful memories of time with Jerry...

Tom Otten - July 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ We, Pat and Ed Bloom, had the honor and privilege to know Jerry for over 50 years! (Yes, that means we are in our 80's!) Our love of putting together an aquarium brought us together with input from the best aquarist in town! We not only shared that interest, but another, not at all connected with fish, Star Trek,! Jerry even got Ed on the set with him, at Paramount. He got a couple of autographed pictures that he gave to Ed. Those were treasured and hung in our Star Trek guest room until we moved to Idaho. Now they are on our bedroom walls where we think of Jerry often doing this for Ed. He was a special friend and we thank God for him our times together.

Pat and Ed Bloom - July 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ My dear cousin Jerry and I shared a great love of all things Star Trek. He was even invited to tour the bridge on the set of Star Trek The Next Generation (NGE). That is still one of my all time favorite TV series. The cast from NGE came to Sea World for a very special tour by Jerry. To be extremely kind to me, he gave me the nickname of 'Seven' from the character 'Seven of Nine' in the series. She and I are in no way similar looking but I sure liked that nickname, and the fond sentiment, and always signed cards from 'Seven'.

Jerry - you were such an inspiration to me. You always had a kind word and warm smile. I love and miss you very much.

Love, Seven

Teri Mandemaker - July 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TO

“ If it was not for Jerry Goldsmith, I have no idea where I'd be today. In 1969 I was living in Redondo Beach, going to school, working in a paint store, and being a recreation leader, hoping not to get drafted. In my free time, I built an aquarium in my uncle's woodshop and made a slurp gun to collect some local fish. I learned that Marineland sold filtered seawater for ten cents a gallon, so I went to Marineland, found the back gate, and asked if I could buy some seawater. The person I was talking to was Jerry. He asked me what I wanted it for, and we started talking. He asked me if I would like to do this kind of work at Marineland. I said something stupid like, " You mean I would get paid to do what I love?" He said yes, but first, I would have to interview with John Prescott, and if John thought I was OK, then I'd have a job. Somehow John gave the OK and I got the job! Jerry was a great mentor and a wonderful friend. It was an incredible time to work with Jerry at Marineland. Jerry for a time lived with Ken Norris when Ken was at Marineland. I couldn't get enough of the stories Jerry would tell about Ken and his collecting trips to San Blas for sawfish. It was no surprise to me that he named his son Ken.

When I left Marineland and continued on, Jerry was always there to support me and give advice. I had long before begun working with mammals, which Jerry only tolerated. Over the years, Jerry visited Point Defiance Zoo and Aquarium multiple times, and we so appreciated his visits and whatever he had to share with us. One time we got to stay in the house he designed in Borrego Springs; that was a piece of art. So many stories over so many years; what an incredible loving guy Jerry was. I feel honored that I got to call him my friend.

Tom Otten - July 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Jerry was first a friend, second a mentor and third a colleague. I miss our rambling chats. We teased each other relentlessly.

I was at SeaWorld Orlando when Vivian was in a terrifying accident in San Diego. Jerry arranged for me to be flown back immediately. And, without hesitation picked up Vivian's Mother and took her to the hospital. He waited at the hospital until I arrived and he knew everything would be okay.

Jerry may have been an artist but he did not know or understand the color wheel. While building the tropical reef at SeaWorld San Antonio he went through 20 gallons of latex paint trying to color match the artificial corals or create a new dazzling color. I found him not happy and swearing at the paint...each of his attempts ended in dirty baby diaper colors...no matter which colors he used.

During our time building SeaWorld San Antonio we all learned to NEVER let Jerry drive us anywhere...stealing his keys was a game.

Jerry and I always talked about pumping up the volume of color in a coral reef to counter the diatoms that muted the colors. His favorite refrain: Make the Easter Bunny jealous!

I would take Jerry out otter trawling in Mission Bay and longlining for batrays off of Point Loma. We were hauling in a longline off of Point Loma when he repeatedly and in an urgent voice asked if there should be that much water in the boat. He was more of a dry land/beachcomber sort of aquarist.

Jerry was in Orlando, Florida working on an Aquarium project when he approached me for help. He was a bit worked up. He was flying back home the next day and needed something more than jeans and a work shirt for his impending nuptials. I piled Jerry into my truck and took him to a men's store. I had to keep him from buying an outfit that the Easter Bunny would have been jealous of.

Jerry was true and great fun.

*Best Fishes,
Ray*

Ray Davis

Ray Davis - July 07, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ *Jerry said when setting up an aquarium, use the brightest colors possible. Good advice, I follow that every day.*

Lydia boddy - July 06, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *We love you and miss you Jerry Pops!*

Bug, Aiden and Eren

Janis Akseki - July 04, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ *Jerry loved his grinch palm christmas tree*

margaret goldsmith - July 03, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *Fun times we had!*

Janis - July 03, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *Enjoying the beach together!*

Janis - July 03, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JA

“ *A few grandkids enjoying the beach with grandpa and grandma.*

Janis - July 03, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ *We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory*

A Memorial Tree was planted for Jerry Tucker Goldsmith - May 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM