



Harold Lee Groff

July 24, 1945 - August 15, 2024

Vineland, New Jersey

Vineland lost Harold Lee Groff on August 15, 2024. He was 79. Born in Vineland on July 24, 1945, into a German-American household that treated work as a language. From the start, he treated promises like tools: keep them sharp, do not lend them lightly.

He led a floor that smelled of piecework and care. A peat packing paddle chalked taught apprentices that shortcuts show. Colleagues still mention a peat packing paddle chalked.

He married Irene in 1967. They kept a house that stayed modest when the neighborhood did not. They raised two daughters through public schools and ordinary weather. After Irene died in 2017, he kept the routines that still made sense: the walk, the garden, the Sunday call.

Neighbors remember quiet help with a stuck mailbox or a heavy trash can. He preferred the hour before a town fully wakes. Vineland was home enough that he never rehearsed an introduction. The radio is still tuned to the station that played while work got done.

Services

A memorial gathering in Vineland with coffee afterward. In lieu of flowers, a gift to a local workers' fund, clinic, or neighborhood library is welcome.

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