

Life is like baseball, there are wins and there are losses. We all make errors. Some people will be our fans and others won't. One thing is certain, as long as we can stay in the game, the better chance we have of being a HIT. Gene stayed in the game and tried to learn from his experiences. Like all of us, he made mistakes and experienced wins, as well as losses. Some people loved him...and others not so much. Regardless of what life threw at him, he continued to step up to the plate for nearly ninety-one years. But (sadly), unlike baseball, in life we leave without ever knowing our final score.

*As long as we walk this earth we are all **Humans In Training**. We are tasked with trying to learn from our mistakes and become better people.*

Rest in Peace

Doyle 'Gene' Butler

September 10, 1928 -

August 29, 2019



Doyle 'Gene' Butler



September 28, 2019

Feather River College

Quincy, CA

September 10, 1928-
August 29, 2019

Doyle Gene Butler Life Tribute

Gene Butler by today's standards was a pioneer. He left the family farm in Blue Eye Missouri and headed for California as a young man in search of work and a new life.

Gene enjoyed success on the baseball field as a teenager. It has been said that he declined a baseball scholarship offer to the University of St. Louis and an invitation to tryout for his lifelong favorite team, the St. Louis Cardinals. Instead, he chose to leave home and head west in search of a new life.

Doyle 'Gene' Butler made Plumas County his home for the next seventy-four years. In the summer of 1945 he went to work at the Meadow Valley Lumber Company. He worked the next 48 years in the saw mills in and around Plumas County; he retired in 1993, at the age of sixty-five, as the Sawyer for Sierra Pacific in Quincy.

Gene's love affair with playing baseball continued after arriving in California. He played for various town and mill teams until the fateful day in August of 1948 when he lost his right index finger in a mill accident.

He was a proud veteran who served in the Korean War as a Combat Construction Specialist from 1950 to 1952, followed by 2 years in the U.S. Army Reserves

After his military service, Gene returned to Plumas County. In the spring of 1953 he married Ellen Brown, his longtime sweetheart. In June of 1958, Ellen gave birth to their son, Tony Butler. In 1960, their marriage ended with Ellen and Tony moving to Sacramento. Gene remained in Quincy and stayed single for several years. In December of 1967 he married Linda Jackson and they raised Steve and Dave Green, her sons from a previous marriage.

As a young adult, Gene was known as a 'rabble-rouser'. He enjoyed life after work in the bowling alley and taverns. He always held strong opinions and was known for his sarcastic sense of humor. Gene was comfortable in his own skin and had no problem throwing shade at just about anyone. Not everyone loved Gene Butler, but those who knew him well admired his dedication and loyalty.

During his 74 years in Plumas County Gene volunteered much of his personal time to the community. He spent more than 20 years as a fireman for the Quincy Volunteer Fire Department and more than a decade to coaching youth baseball. Gene and Linda were great supporters of the Quincy Trojans and Feather River College Golden Eagles.

On August 2004, FRC dedicated the outdoor basketball courts in their honor. Butler volunteered for more than 40 years helping prepare and administer athletic events. He lined baseball and football fields, was on the football yardage chain and kept the clock at basketball games. As a sports fan, Butler had no problem instructing referees and umpires on the finer points of officiating. His voice was frequently heard over the crowd chiding an official about a call on the floor. He could never be accused of not rooting for the home team.

Gene lost his wife Linda of 47 years in 2015 and held her in his heart everyday thereafter. Initially, after Linda's passing, Gene was lost, but to his credit, he learned to manage his life. It was said that a friend told him shortly after Linda's death that "the way to honor your wife is to keep your life together and handle your business". That we can't do anything about the past "all you can do is try to be a better man today". That was not easy for a man that just lost a wife who literally did everything for him for almost 50 years. Gene became that better man. He learned to ask for help with the things he didn't know and learned to show appreciation to those who helped him.
