

“The Passing of an Amazing Man”

The Friends of the Palomar College Arboretum Board were saddened by the passing of



Mr. Dick Henderson on February 19, 2015. Dick was one of our former Arboretum Vice Presidents, Community Liaison, Workshop Speaker and an incredible 13+ year volunteer as the Curator/Garden Manager of the Palomar College Cactus and Succulent Garden. He donated thousands of dollars' worth of drought tolerant plants to Palomar College.

Dick devoted countless hours to the Palomar College Cactus and Succulent Garden. Dick gave many free workshops, tours and talks to students, Palomar College employees, organizations and the local community. He often volunteered his time 5-days a week, 8 hours a day, especially on weekends. It truly was a labor of love for him.

Dick was a 3rd generation farmer near North Platte Nebraska prior to moving to California with his parents in 1956. He had over 40 years' experience growing and propagating cactus, succulent and native plants. He worked for Rohr Industries for 30 years.

He had a delightful personality, amazing knowledge of plants, and a kind and caring spirit. He loved nature, animals and outdoor activities, like backpacking and camping. Dick was a supporter and member of many wildlife and botanical gardens.

- Life member of the Friends of the Palomar College Arboretum.
- Life member Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society.
- San Diego Zoological Society member for 35 years. Volunteering at the San Diego Zoo and the San Diego Safari Park. (Old and new world succulent gardens).
- Member of the California Native Plant Society since 2002.
- Mr. Henderson lent a living rock cactus and other plants to the Palomar College and Vista Library for display.

Dick leaves behind 2 daughters Roxanne and Christine, son-in-law Gary, granddaughter Amber, and great-granddaughter Rene. He will be missed by all who knew him.