



## Jay Gould Higgs

February 28, 1934 - September 17, 2020

Jay Gould Higgs, 86, passed away peacefully on Thursday, September 17, 2020, at Diamond Care Living, Riverside, California, surrounded by his loving caretaking staff and friends.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Mary Jane Higgs, and he is very grateful to finally join her in eternal life.

Born and raised in Key West, Florida, Jay was an only child who loved the ocean, fishing, and was devoted to his mother.

Jay always said that because he was an only child, he “wanted what he wanted when he wanted it.” Mary Jane Higgs both understood and loved that determination in Jay.

Jay and Jane met while Jay was serving in the USAF in Puerto Rico and Jay knew that Jane was the one. They married, and Jay completed his term of service.

They returned to Riverside, California, and looked for the perfect home. They settled on a home at the base of the Mt. Rubidoux cross, and they shared memories there for more than 50 years.

Jay enjoyed a successful career as a teacher, pursuing a Master’s degree, and becoming a well-respected principal in Rialto Unified School District.

Jay is survived by his loving sister-in-law, Adele Lusk, of South Bend, Indiana, and his adopted Hartzell family, friends, and neighbors on Glenwood Drive, and at Diamond Care Living. Special gratitude to Rose, Flor, Florante, Lourdette, Lita, Casey, John, and Bee, who made Jay feel so loved and cared for this last year.

# Events

---

**OCT**   **Visitation**   11:30AM - 12:30PM

**5**

---

Arlington Mortuary

9645 Magnolia Ave, Riverside, CA, US, 92503

**OCT**   **Graveside Service**   01:31PM

**5**

---

Riverside National Cemetery

22495 Van Buren Blvd., Riverside, CA, US, 92518

# Comments

---



“ Jay, you were a wonderful neighbor. I remember the many times we chatted. My mother enjoyed going out with you and Jayne to the casino adventures! I'm so glad you are with Jayne forever now.



**Beverly Rubio** - October 05, 2020 at 02:47 PM

---



“ I'm sure Jane was happy to have you back by her side. -Sam Knox

**Samantha E Knox** - October 01, 2020 at 11:28 AM

---



“ I remember my oldest memory with Jay and Jane--any early Halloween where I was dressed as a mummy. At the time, I remember being amazed at their cool camera that printed pictures immediately after they were taken. Jay was a kind soul who always watched over my house and my family. He and his watchful presence will be missed. What is, rest in peace. -Julian

**Suzanne** - October 01, 2020 at 02:08 AM

---



“ If there is anyone that I know is going to have a blast in heaven, it's you bud. Cheers to a life well-lived. Love, Joshua

**Suzanne** - September 30, 2020 at 11:23 PM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Suzanne - September 30, 2020 at 10:41 PM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Suzanne - September 30, 2020 at 10:40 PM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Suzanne - September 30, 2020 at 10:37 PM

---



“ Suzanne lit a candle in memory of Jay Gould Higgs



Suzanne - September 30, 2020 at 10:26 PM

---



“ I remember the first day I saw our house on Glenwood Drive. It was a very rainy Good Friday evening in 1986 and the cross on Mt. Rubidoux was lit up for the holiday. I fell in love. The next day, I put my bid in, and the following Friday, it was accepted. Little Samantha and I came back to the house that we would be moving into in November. We saw you and Jane in the front yard with Morgan, your Corgi, and introduced ourselves. You took us under your wings and when we traveled back to Saudi Arabia, you watched after our house. When my brother moved in and needed gardening tips, you watched after him. When Sam studied ballet and needed an audience for recitals, you joined in and watched after her. When my brother died and I needed a hand with young Julian for a day, you watched after him. When Sam and Julian had little birthdays, you would always join in and watch after them. When Julian got sick, I remember Jane's voice on our answering machine, asking how to help and best watch after him. As time went on, you and Jane needed help, and it was my pleasure to return the favors and watch after you. The last few months of Jane's life were so hard on you and her, and I was glad to be part of it and watch after both of you. Each day, it seemed as though you needed more and more help, and I always felt it was my duty and pleasure to watch after you...as you had done for me. When Jane passed, I know how lonely you were, so I was happy to cook for you and carry your dinner nightly, watch Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune...and watch after you. As things became more difficult for you, I was glad I was here to find you the care you needed, and send you to Rose and her staff to watch after you. It was my pleasure to bring you treats every week and continue to watch after you. We will never forget you, Jay, and will always call you our family. We were lucky to have you and thank you for respecting me and for sharing your gratitude for all we shared as friends and family. Love to you. Love to Jane. Enjoy your paradise. Suzanne.

Suzanne - September 30, 2020 at 10:26 PM

---



“ 1 file added to the album Jay's Photos



Suzanne Hartzell - September 30, 2020 at 09:29 PM

---



“ With love and respect. Julian, Suzanne & Chris purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Jay Gould Higgs.



**With love and respect. Julian, Suzanne & Chris** - September 30, 2020 at 09:23 PM